



RESCUE MISSION

FALL  
2021

# News

A Publication of Bridgeport Rescue Mission



## GRATEFUL THROUGH IT ALL: Pamela is especially thankful for YOU!

Your compassion &  
support change lives.



### Don't miss...

- 2 Be part of our *Great ThanksGiving Project* staff
- 3 "I found out who I am in Christ."
- 4 *Great ThanksGiving Project* Goes Coastal

BridgeportRescueMission.org



**Bridgeport  
Rescue Mission**  
1088 Fairfield Ave.  
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BridgeportRescueMission.org

Ed Morgan  
Interim CEO

Serving those  
who are hungry,  
homeless, and  
addicted in  
Coastal Connecticut



All stories and photos in this newsletter  
are of students, guests, volunteers, and  
staff at Bridgeport Rescue Mission.

## A MESSAGE FROM ED MORGAN

### GIVING THANKS FOR ALL GOD'S BLESSINGS

It might surprise you that in another year filled with hardships and uncertainty, the overwhelming messages I've heard since coming to the Mission are ones of gratitude and hope.

Despite the challenges we still face as a community – or perhaps because of them – we remain connected to each other in a spirit of love and generosity. **Your care and compassion have never been more evident here at Bridgeport Rescue Mission than right now, as we prepare for the Thanksgiving season.**

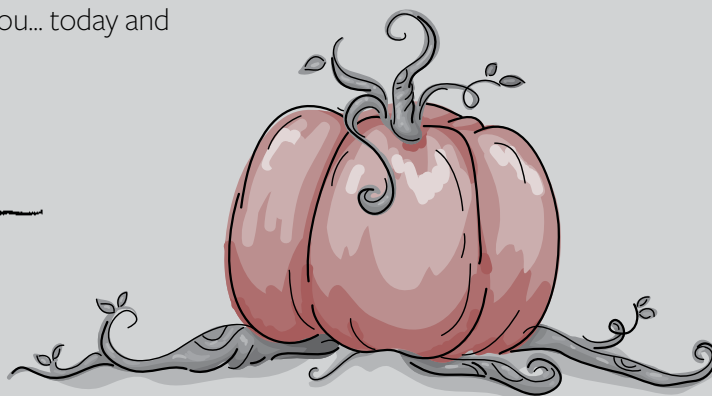
You have stepped up to help our hurting neighbors as God has called us to do: provided nourishing meals, safe housing, life-restoring guidance. More than that, you've prayed for our ministry and guests. Your love has made it possible for hearts to be restored and lives rebuilt. Now that's something to celebrate!

As you enjoy the holiday season with your loved ones, both near and far away, I pray God will fill your heart with joy, peace, and the comfort of knowing that lives have been changed thanks to your kindness.

We are grateful for you... today and every day. God bless!

In His service,

Ed Morgan  
Interim CEO



## You're invited to be part of our *Great Thanksgiving Project*

### Join a Distribution Team

Volunteers are needed to pack and hand out turkeys, bags of fixings, and warm coats and winter wear. With your partnership, struggling families, hungry children, and lonely seniors will receive everything they need to enjoy a traditional holiday meal and stay warm during the cold months ahead.

### Serve with a Corporate Team or Become a Corporate Sponsor

Teams from local businesses and organizations help us meet our tremendous holiday needs while having fun and building company spirit. If your group wants to make an impact, contact us today. Team slots fill fast!

### Give Financially

Donations of cash can be used where needed most and are especially appreciated at the holidays. An envelope is provided for your convenience. We're grateful for your kind generosity!

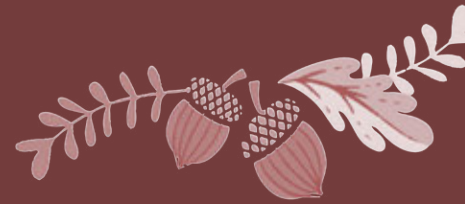
To learn more about the details and benefits of corporate sponsorship, contact Kim Fawcett at **203-333-4087, ext. 113.**



Visit **BridgeportRescueMission.org** or follow us on Facebook for the latest information on how to take part in our **Great Thanksgiving Project!**



**“I FOUND  
OUT WHO  
I AM IN  
CHRIST.”**



**W**hen Pamela learned the man she loved no longer loved her, she was heartbroken. And the substances she'd used only recreationally became a panacea for her emotions.

“They made me feel like I had no pain and no resentments,” she says, ignoring the danger of her self-destructive habit. Soon addiction took hold and life spiraled out of control. “It took my apartment... my jobs... my dignity... everything,” she says.

As she reached rock bottom, she found herself on the streets – cold, hungry, and fearing for her life. “It’s horrible when you’re alone out there,” she shares. “You don’t know what can be lurking around the next corner.”

That’s when she decided it was time to change her life. And she knew the only way was through the Lord.



I was looking for a solid foundation with God and I found it here at Bridgeport Rescue Mission.



In our faith-based New Life Program, we help individuals like Pamela uncover the root of self-destructive behaviors and learn positive ways to heal emotional wounds. “I started to understand about God and who He is and it strengthened me,” she says.

Our life-skills classes, work therapy, and career preparation lay the foundation for a bright and stable future. For Pamela, that means embracing the values of structure and responsibility that she can apply to her life-long goals. She plans to earn her GED and return to school for a business degree so she can develop a business of her own.

And especially important, through Christian fellowship and time spent with other residents, Pamela has embraced the joy of life without the influence of drugs or alcohol.

**As Pamela celebrates this Thanksgiving, she feels incredibly thankful for your compassion and support – and how it’s given her a fresh start in life.** “I’m alive. I’m happy. I’m content. I’m so grateful I found out who I am in Christ.”

# Great Thanksgiving Project

## Goes Coastal



Since 2008, friends like you have been providing holiday cheer and vital assistance to our neighbors in need through our **Great Thanksgiving Project**. Over the years, our outreach has expanded up and down the coast to include Stamford, Norwalk, Bridgeport, and New Haven, and in 2020 alone we served 5,000 families.

This holiday season, our goal is to reach **7,000** struggling families. That means we need a greater number of volunteers – and a greater level of financial support – than ever before. Please join us as our **Great Thanksgiving Project** goes coastal!

### Host a Virtual Turkey Team

Families, businesses, congregations, and groups of all kinds are encouraged to form “virtual” teams to collect “virtual” turkeys. Every \$20 your team contributes will be used to purchase a frozen turkey that will be used in our holiday meals or distributed to a family in need. Make your gifts online at **BridgeportRescueMission.org** or send it in the envelope provided.

As many as 7,000 turkeys are needed this year. Challenge your group to see how many they can give!

### Hold a Thanksgiving Food Drive

Encourage your business, congregation, or civic group to organize a food drive for the items listed below, which will be used in the thousands of meals and fixings bags we'll provide during the Thanksgiving season.

- 12- to 15-pound frozen turkeys
- Canned green beans, corn, & peas
- Canned cranberry sauce
- Stuffing mixes (not croutons)
- Canned gravy

*If you're not able to shop for us, your financial donations help too! Please send your "gift for groceries" in the envelope provided.*

### Give Financially at Thanksgiving

Please consider these vital opportunities to support our daily services, life change programs, and special activities throughout the holiday season:

- Send a gift today in the enclosed envelope.
- Become a Monthly Giving Partner.
- Pledge a substantial financial gift, payable October through December.
- Designate the Mission as the recipient of your workplace United Way campaign.
- Include the Mission in your will or estate plan.
- Encourage your company or congregation to become a **Great Thanksgiving Project** sponsor.

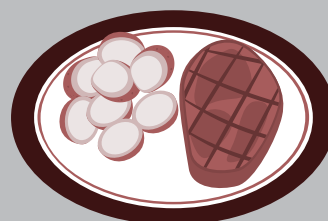
For more information, contact Kim Fawcett at **203-333-4087, ext. 113**.

Visit **BridgeportRescueMission.org** or follow us on Facebook for details and the latest updates on these **Great Thanksgiving Project** activities!

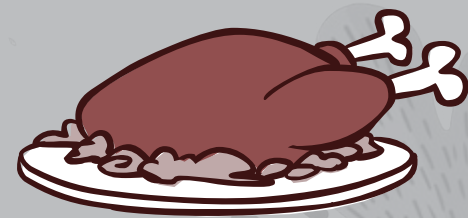


**How Your Gifts Will Fill  
Hearts with Gratitude...**

# This Thanksgiving Season



**277,000**  
Meals provided  
September - November



**150,000**  
Meals through our  
**Great Thanksgiving Project**