



RESCUE MISSION

HOLIDAY
2021

News

A Publication of Bridgeport Rescue Mission

Thanks to you...

Carson

has been given a
life-changing gift
this Christmas.

Don't miss...

- 2 Celebrating rebirth this Christmas
- 3 "I had to get right with God."
- 4 Ways to share the joy of Christmas

BridgeportRescueMission.org

Celebrating Christmas with JOY for All People

In Luke 2:10, the angel says,
*"Behold, I bring you good tidings
of great joy, which shall be to all
people."*

During the Christmas season,
we hear a lot about joy. It has me
thinking about how joy is something
all people can have in their hearts.
This time of year, our greatest joy is
celebrating the birth of our Savior
and the eternal life we have been
freely given.

That joy is what fills our hearts
Christmas morning... and, hopefully,
every day of the year. It's the same
joy I see on the faces of the children,
women, and men who have come
to Bridgeport Rescue Mission and
experienced God's life-changing love
up close and personal. The joy YOU
help them experience through your
heartfelt prayers and support.

This Christmas, as you reflect on
the "reason for the season," I hope
you will remember our neighbors
who are hurting. As Carson's story
shows, your generosity offers help,
healing, and a chance to be held in
the arms of a loving God!

I am continually humbled by the
faithfulness of friends like you who
joyfully bless others. Thank you, and
may God fill your heart with peace
and love.

In His service,



Ed Morgan
Interim CEO

A delicious Christmas meal for our hungry and homeless neighbors... ... **STARTS WITH YOU!**

As you prepare to celebrate the joy
of Christmas, please remember our
hurting neighbors. It's been a difficult
year for so many in our community
– and the very best gift you can give
them is the help they need right now!

Just \$2.50 provides a meal and care for
one person.

That meal is often the first step
toward a new life through God's love.



\$2.50
for 1 hot meal



\$56.00
for 1 night of
safe housing

**CAN GIVE
SOMEONE**

**Healing
Hope
And a Second
Chance!**

Please Send Your Christmas Gift Today!

SEE HOW YOU HELPED CHANGE CARSON'S LIFE!



BRIDGEPORT RESCUE MISSION

Expanding Hope. Rebuilding Lives.


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

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Ed Morgan
Interim CEO



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



“I had to get right with God.”

Carson grew up in a dysfunctional family where alcohol was used liberally. He picked up the destructive habit and soon came to depend on it to feel comfortable around others. “I was real quiet, but drinking made me open up,” he says. Over the next few years, however, the practice escalated to addiction... and deeply impacted his life.

An experienced LPN, “I had good jobs, but I lost them all,” he says. And his relationship with his wife and son was severely strained. “I became a monster – this person who I didn’t even know.”


He was in and out of treatment, but couldn’t achieve lasting change. Finally, he says, “I had grown up in church, and I knew I had to get right with God to get myself together.”

In Bridgeport Rescue Mission’s New Life Program, he rededicated his life to the Lord. “I asked God to come in and help me with all my issues,” he says. Through Bible study, faith-based guidance, and life-skills classes, he felt his heart changing and his self-esteem improved. “Soon I was able to look in the mirror and say that I love myself.”


After Carson graduated, he returned to the Mission as House Manager, assisting other men in recovery and embracing every opportunity to share his own story of transformation. “I tell them I’ve been where they’re sitting now.”

Carson plans to continue this work he loves, “reaching out to other people – and their families – and helping change their lives.” He feels blessed God has restored his relationship with his own loved ones as well.

It’s going to be a Christmas filled with joy for Carson – and he’s grateful to you for this wonderful gift of a new beginning. “Since coming to the Mission, I am born again... I am changed... I am renewed. I am a child of God.”



**“At the Mission, God deals with
the whole person: the spirit, mind,
body, and soul.”**



Share the Joy of Christmas With Those in Need

During the holiday season, the needs are greater than ever for those burdened by poverty, homelessness, and spiritual despair. We pray for your continued and generous support.



Fill **Bedtime Bags** with these items – along with a note of encouragement – for a needy boy or girl:

small toy • bedtime story book • new stuffed animal • child's toothbrush and toothpaste • washcloth & mild soap*

**We suggest Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle, Goodnight Moon by Margaret Wise Brown, or Sleepy Time by Gyo Fujikawa.*



Shop for our **holiday food needs**. Visit **BridgeportRescueMission.org** for a list of items.

We Need Tons of Turkeys

This year, we need more than 7,000 turkeys for our **Great ThanksGiving Project** fixings bags and the thousands of meals we provide throughout the holiday season. Here's how you can help.

- 1 Purchase 12- to 15-pound frozen turkeys (as many as you can). Deliver turkeys to our Donation Center at 1069 Connecticut Ave, Unit 2B in Bridgeport, open Tue - Sat, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

OR

- 2 Donate "virtual" turkeys for \$20 each at **BridgeportRescueMission.org/the-great-thanksgiving-project**, or indicate your special gift on the enclosed reply card.

**Deliver turkeys and Bedtime
Bags to our Donation Center at
1069 Connecticut Avenue,
Unit 2B, in Bridgeport.
Open Tues.-Sat., 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.**

Your Year-End Giving Brings Joy to Others

These year-end giving options allow you to make an impact all year long and may also offer important tax benefits!

- Gifts of stocks, bonds, and other securities allow you to give without depleting cash reserves.
- Real estate or used vehicles can be used in our ministry or sold to support our outreach.
- Planned giving through a will or trust establishes a lasting legacy.

To learn more about corporate or year-end giving, contact Kim Fawcett, Chief Revenue Officer, at **203-333-4087, ext. 113**, or **KFawcett@BridgeportRescueMission.org**.

Year-End Matching Challenge DOUBLE YOUR HELP!



Through our \$250,000 matching challenge, your gift today doubles to provide twice the food, housing, and care... and two times the hope for neighbors struggling to get back on their feet.

DEADLINE TO GIVE: 12/31



Give online anytime at
BridgeportRescueMission.org