



RESCUE MISSION

HOLIDAY
2022

News

A Publication of Bridgeport Rescue Mission

The best Christmas
gift there is...

Michael

has joy and new life,
thanks to you!

Don't miss...

- 2 The Joy that Comes from Christ
- 3 "They took a chance with me."
- 4 3 Easy Ways You Can Help

BridgeportRescueMission.org

A Message from
LISA CHESTER

The JOY that Comes from Christ

Don't you just love the words of John 1:14? *"The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."*

As we rejoice over the birth of our Savior, it's such a blessing to know God fills our hearts with joy everlasting – today and every day. His faithfulness sustains us through every circumstance and His grace offers renewal in our lives... as well as in the lives of those we serve.

While we do provide Christmas gifts to the guests in our care, what's most important is that they know about Jesus' sacrifice and the gift of salvation that is freely given to us all.

Thanks to your friendship, we're able to share the "good tidings of great joy for all people" during the holidays and throughout the year. Your fervent prayers and ongoing support help restore lives – and wrap local men, women and children in God's loving embrace.

Just like Michael, whose story I've shared on page 3, God still works miracles in the lives of people all around us.

This Christmas, I hope your heart overflows with peace, joy and love as your blessings abound.



Lisa Chester

Lisa Chester,
Director of
Development

SHARE A CHRISTMAS MEAL...

You can help make this Christmas a time of celebration for our neighbors who are facing hunger and homelessness. With so many obstacles to overcome during this season of hardship, they need a helping hand and to experience God's love!



\$2.50
for 1 hot meal



\$56.00
for 1 night of
safe housing

**CAN GIVE
SOMEONE**



Please Send Your Christmas Gift Today!

\$250,000 Year-End Matching Challenge DOUBLE YOUR HELP!



Here's a huge blessing as we end this year: Thanks to a generous group of donors, **any gift you make until December 31 will be matched through our \$250,000 Matching Challenge!**

That's right... your gift today doubles to provide twice the food, housing and care. And that means twice the hope for many of our neighbors who are struggling with inflation, soaring gas prices and other hardships.

DEADLINE TO GIVE: 12/31

✉ Add your special year-end gift to the reply card and send it today.

🖱 Give online anytime at
BridgeportRescueMission.org.

**THANK YOU
for doubling your
impact during
our Matching
Challenge!**



**BRIDGEPORT
RESCUE MISSION**
Expanding Hope. Rebuilding Lives.

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BridgeportRescueMission.org



Serving those who are hungry, homeless
and addicted in our communities



**“They took
a chance
WITH ME.”**

Michael was raised by a single mother who worked several jobs, often forcing her to leave her son to fend for himself. “I veered off into the streets when I was 13, smoking weed and drinking,” he says. “Back then it was just for fun.” But as he grew older, it became his priority – and eventually cost him everything.

His marriage ended... he was separated from his son... he lost his car and home. He pawned his belongings until finally he had nothing left and felt he had nothing to live for. Then he met a stranger on the street.

“The man said he was sent from God to tell me my life has meaning,” Michael recalls. “He told me to get help.” Michael sought treatment with no lasting results. But when he learned about our faith-based

foundation, he knew where God intended him to be and joined our New Life Program.

Reading the Bible is new for Michael, and he finds encouragement in God’s Word. “It’s comforting to know everything’s going to be all right,” he says. He’s also gaining skills and values in work therapy. “Being here puts you on a schedule and prepares you for the real world.” And because he came with only the clothes on his back, he’s grateful for the essentials we provide. “In the blessing room, we can pick out clothes, and I feel good about myself.”

Michael recently completed our program, and we’re helping him find a job and housing. In the meantime, he has hope for his future, knowing he’s leaving his past behind. “There’s a quote that I live by and it’s true: ‘This, too, shall pass.’ Because everything does.”

Michael is excited to celebrate the restored hope he has been given this Christmas – and wants YOU to know just how grateful he is. “Now I have hope. I have faith. I have Jesus and God as my father. And I know who I really am.”

**“Bridgeport Rescue Mission took a
chance with me and welcomed me
with open arms.”**



3 Easy Ways YOU Can Help this Holiday Season!



GIVE FROZEN OR VIRTUAL TURKEYS



Purchase 12- to 15-pound frozen turkeys for our holiday meals. Or donate “virtual” turkeys for \$20 each at **BridgeportRescueMission.org**, or indicate your special gift on the enclosed reply card.

SHOP FOR HOLIDAY FOOD NEEDS

Visit **BridgeportRescueMission.org** for a list of grocery items.

DONATE GIFT CARDS



Donating gift cards for these merchants helps purchase holiday gifts – and year-round necessities:

Walmart * Target * Walgreens * Rite Aid

Please deliver frozen turkeys, grocery items and gift cards to our Donation Center at 1069 Connecticut Ave, Unit 2B in Bridgeport, Tue. – Sat, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

More Ways to Bring Joy Through Year-End Giving



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, contact Lisa Chester, Director of Development, at **(203) 333-4087 ext. 118**, or **lisa.chester@BridgeportRescueMission.org**.

*Thank you for making
this our best Christmas
celebration yet!*