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portRescueMis

A Publication of Bridgeport Rescue Mission

THANK YOU FOR GIVING Maribel **A NEW**

Because of you, she has joy in her heart this Easter!



Don't miss...

- 2 Help our hurting neighbors this Easter
- "I'm not alone anymore."
- Help meet our Easter needs



"I'm going to make it because I'm not alone anymore."

A aribel's childhood home was dark and dangerous, filled with addiction and abuse. "My mom was a violent alcoholic, my father was a drug dealer and I was molested from the age of 7 until I was 13."

Maribel bore deep emotional scars, and before long, she began numbing her pain. "I turned to drugs to forget everything that had happened to me."

Her addiction led her to the streets, where she was assaulted again and again as she struggled to survive.

Then she had children of her own and their happiness became her greatest concern. She placed them in good homes and set about changing her life so that she could be a part of theirs.

She stayed clean for two years and was learning to live in a new way. Then her daughter died and Maribel's grief brought her new life crashing down around her. "I felt like I was going crazy and I relapsed," she says. "I knew I needed help, but I didn't know where to go."



"Now, I have hope for the future."



That's when a compassionate stranger referred her to our New Life Program, and Maribel had an encounter with God that would change her forever. "I went to church for the first time in my life, got on my knees and asked Him for help."

Since then, our Bible studies and devotions have helped Maribel grow strong in the Lord, while individual and group counseling have helped her process her emotional pain. "I'd never told anybody what I'd gone through before. But here, I felt comfortable talking about it, and that released my pain and gave me peace."

Today, Maribel is becoming the kind of mother



she longed to be, and she plans to help other hurting women find the new life she's found in Christ. "I'm a new Maribel."

With Jesus' love in her heart and hope for the future, Maribel is grateful for your support this Easter. "I'm going to make it because I'm not alone anymore."

A Message from LARRY FULLERTON

THE GIFT OF Eternal Tife

Easter is such an incredible time of year, isn't it? A day when we're both humbled by the sacrifice Jesus made on the cross and lifted up as children of the King. It still amazes me that God goes to such great lengths to make you and me part of His family!

That's why we're committed to making local men, women and children feel welcome here at Bridgeport Rescue Mission. We invite them to be part of *our* family... and share with them the eternal hope that Jesus freely offers us *all* when we accept Him as our Savior.

This Easter, you are sharing the blessings of love and community with everyone who comes through our doors. Through your prayers and financial gifts, you give them the strength to overcome their current challenges and start on a path toward new life.

Thank you for making this Easter a season of rejoicing. I hope your own celebrations are especially meaningful, knowing how lives are being transformed through your generosity and God's unending grace.

Larry Fullerton Executive Director

HELP OUR HURTING NEIGHBORS THIS EASTER



Help make a new beginning possible for <u>more</u> men and women this Easter!

- **♥** A hot meal for \$3.25 often the first step to a new life in Christ
- An overnight stay in our safe housing
- Christ-centered care & healing in our life-change programs
- Give now using the enclosed reply card and envelope.
- Give online anytime at **BridgeportRescueMission.org.**

Easter ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

Life transformation starts with YOU!



100,000 meals \$3.25 for a meal!



4,200 nights of safe housing



45 men & women in our life-changing programs (on average)



30 hours of education & counseling per week

Thank you for blessing those in need this Easter!

HELP MEET OUR EASTER NEEDS



Easter is a day of joy and celebration. But right now, far too many of our neighbors are struggling with the rising costs of housing and food. They're turning here... and YOU can help welcome them with love! Between now and Easter Sunday, we're preparing to provide thousands of meals and pantry boxes and offer basic necessities like safe housing, clean clothing and faith-based care to those in need.

Drop off donations at our Donation Center located at 1069 Connecticut Ave. Unit 2B, in Bridgeport.

No time to shop? Donate now! **♦ (203) 333-4087 ★ BridgeportRescueMission.org**

URGENTLY NEEDED ITEMS! Drop off any of these items by Friday, April 7: SPIRAL SLICED HAMS BUTTER CANNED VEGETABLES INSTANT MASHED POTATOES DESSERTS (store-bought)



Your partnership transforms lives

We're so grateful to all of the corporations and businesses who provided financial support and volunteer services over the holidays. Whenever you partner with the Mission, you bring compassion, generosity and hope to those in need. Thank you for your commitment to help save and transform lives!

Bannow Larson Foundation Bizmark Compass Diversified Connoisseur Media M & T Bank **TIX Foundation RD Scinto Northeast Private Client Group Webster Bank Anthem Blue Shield Good Sparrow Foundation Penske Automotive Group Bartaco** Anholt, USA CCI Alphabroder/Prime

Interested in partnering with us? Call Lisa Chester at (203) 236-2311.

"Just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life." - Romans 6:4, NIV