



# Redeemed

A Providence Rescue Mission Newsletter

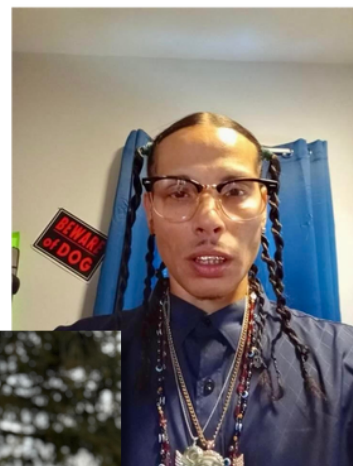
**My name is Santana, and I grew up in Puerto Rico. I moved to New York in 1994, but my family life was very disruptive and dysfunctional. I always knew that something felt “off”, but I couldn’t really figure out what the truth was. Eventually, I found out that the man my mother said was my father was not my true father. She had been lying to me my whole life. All I needed was real love from my mother, and I wanted her to apologize for how much she hurt me. I didn’t feel like I belonged anywhere, so I decided to go out on my own when I turned 13.**

Though now I can see that God carried me through every stage of my life, I had to go through some tough times. **I turned to drugs to help me cope with being alone.** I started struggling with PTSD and my mental health. **I fell into the wrong crowd because I was looking for the acceptance and love that I never got growing up.** I didn’t believe in God, and I felt like I was better off figuring things out by myself.

Seven years ago, I made the decision to get clean because I knew my drug use was negatively impacting my life. I thank God that I have been able to stay clean. I moved to Rhode Island three years ago to try and reconcile with my mother, but it didn’t work out. I didn’t know where to turn or what to do. **My doctor gave me some information about the Mission and told me that they had a shelter there.** I didn’t know if there would be any long-term solutions for me there, but I decided to go for just one night and see what happened.

Once I got there, I quickly learned about the Road to Recovery Men’s Program. When I heard about it, my heart started racing and I knew I was supposed to sign up. **I felt like God had sent me there to clear up a lot of issues in my life that I was confused about.** Once I started, I could see the work that God was doing in me, and I didn’t want to give up. Now, 11 months later, I am so glad that I stayed. The Mission brought me back to church and reestablished my relationship with God. When I started applying the lessons I learned in the classes and in counseling, I started to see a difference in myself. I see now how His grace carried me through all those difficult times that I couldn’t see my way out of. **God has given me the family that I have been looking for my entire life at the Mission. I don’t take any of my blessings for granted now.** I never want to go backwards to where I came from, and I know that starts with fixing myself and the issues that brought me here.

**I’m almost finished with the program, and I am currently completing my internship as a resident assistant in the shelter.** I love helping people because I can relate to where they have been. I want to show them that this is not all there is for them. There is more to life than dealing with drugs, trauma, and other life altering issues. I want to show everyone who comes here the love of Christ. Your donations are making a difference in helping people just like me. I am an example of the life-changing work that the Mission does! **Thank you to the Mission for helping to completely change my life and thank you for donating from the generosity of your heart!**



# From the Desk of the Director

***"We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure."***

***-Hebrews 6:19***

Dear Mission Supporter,

I am so excited to be writing what is the first edition of our newsletter in our 25th year of existence! **I am anticipating another wonderful year in ministry as we look back on how far the Lord has carried us since our establishment in 1999. Praise God!**

Our emphasis for the season ahead is to convey a message of hope: both to our donors and to those that come through our doors. We are living in a precarious time in which many are not sure what is next. Financially, spiritually, and demographically, our society has changed so much in the last 25 years. **However, our message remains the same: Christ has the power to not only meet the physical needs of our community, but to offer life change from the inside out.** He still sets the captive free, provides hope for those in need, and reaches even those in the direst circumstances with His unending love.

This is exciting news because when you, a friend of the Mission, decide to make a generous contribution out of the goodness of your heart, you have the hope and assurance of knowing that despite the changing times, your donation is still making a tangible impact! **We are still sheltering, feeding, and providing for the community on a larger scale than we could have ever imagined.** I am blessed to be just a small part of what God is doing, knowing that each and every one of you are the reason we have made it thus far! Thank you! I want to encourage you to read through the testimonies and stories of encouragement featured in this issue to understand how far your contributions truly reach. I also want to invite you to be a part of what God is doing here in 2024! **If you're interested in taking a tour or even volunteering with us, please reach out at (401)-274-8861 ext. 201. I look forward to seeing you here!**

Blessings,



Sean M. Carew  
Executive Director



Yes, Sean! I would like to give the gift of HOPE in 2024 with my gift of: ☐ \$37.50    ☐ \$58.75    ☐ \$78.50    ☐ \$110.25

☐ Other: \$\_\_\_\_\_ to help as many guests as possible

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☐ Pay by Cash

☐ Pay by Check: Please make all checks payable to  
Providence Rescue Mission  
Mail to: PO Box 72753, Providence, RI 02907

Scan Here  
to Donate Now!



☐ Pay by Credit Card:

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_

Exp: \_\_\_\_\_ CVC: \_\_\_\_\_



**PROVIDENCE  
RESCUE MISSION**

*Serving Christ, Serving our Community*

Many of you may remember Steve's testimony from his time in our Road to Recovery Men's Program. Steve graduated from the program in 2018, and God has been at work in his life ever since. We're thrilled to share a wonderful update with you!

**Steve:** Two years after I completed my time in the Mission program, I knew I was called to be at the Mission for a while longer. I oversaw running the kitchen operations. I worked to prepare the meals for our overnight guests, staff, and volunteers.

**Macrina:** I was volunteering at the Mission, helping to oversee the food pantry and clothing room.

**Steve:** Macrina and I started to become friends, but I had trouble with the idea of wanting to get married. I wasn't sure how to have a relationship and marriage God's way. We both prayed and fasted to discover what God's will was. When I came to the Mission, I was a suicidal alcoholic living in a tent. I had seen God do a miraculous change in my life before, and I had no idea that I was about to see Him do it again.

**Macrina:** I knew that God was showing me that Steve needed someone like me. I felt in my heart that God was calling us together.

**Steve:** God changed my heart and showed me that I didn't have to go through life alone. We became closer and sought counsel on how we should proceed.

**Macrina:** We got engaged in May 2021, and were married in December 2022. Sean Carew helped us a lot, and counseled Steve on how to be a Godly husband. He made sure that we knew if we needed anything, he was there.

**Steve:** I truly believe that my time in the Mission program helped me sort out a lot of the deep issues I had and has enabled me to be a Godly husband today. The counseling, the Genesis Process, and the classes all helped me to reestablish a foundational relationship with God that changed everything.

**Macrina:** We really had to seek God first. Steve is such a blessing to me and my 14-year-old son, Abraham. He is the only father he has ever known. Abraham knows that he can go to Steve for anything.

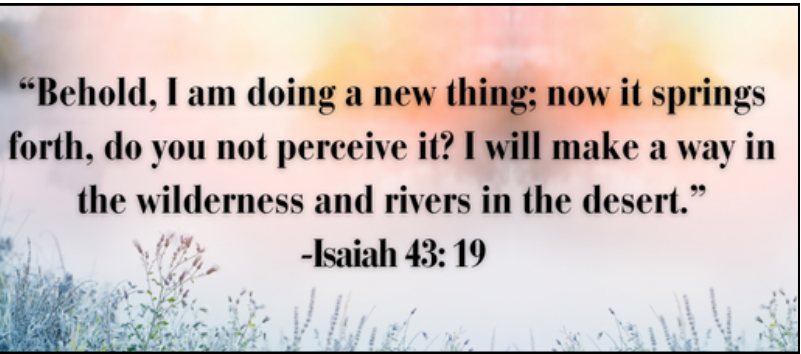
**Steve:** He is a blessing to me as well, and I love being a father figure to him. God continues to guide Macrina and I every day, as a couple and as parents. God has provided for us in ways we could have never imagined! I am seven years sober now, and I currently work for the Mission as a maintenance supervisor. I tell all the disciples on the program, "If you let God guide you as you complete the program, He will show you what to do. Seek His will, not yours." Macrina and I have a goal to buy a house, and we know God will show up for us as we move towards that goal.

**Macrina:** We want to continue to tell others how God has blessed us, and how He has that love for them too.

**Steve:** I want people to know that the donations that they give to the Mission are planted on good soil. We are living testimonies of that! The discipleship programs, food distribution, and emergency shelter are all such a blessing to thousands of people.

**Macrina:** The ministry runs on the kindness of people's hearts, and we have personally witnessed how much the Mission transforms the lives of many. It is amazing how God brought Steve and I together from two totally different worlds! It is such a blessing to be a testimony of what can happen if you seek God first, pray, and believe.

## Steve and Macrina



Follow  
-US-

Keep up to date on everything  
happening here at the Mission!



PROVIDENCE  
RESCUE MISSION

## Quarterly Statistics

Meals Served:  
13,200

Chapel Attendees:  
7,440

Nights of  
Safe Shelter: 7,600

## *Code Blue: Thank You for Saving Lives!*

Your contributions have been blessing the ministry more than you can imagine as we have spent many days and weeks in Code Blue Status! Beyond our day-to-day operations, when the temperature drops below 32 degrees, we operate under different parameters. **Our doors are open 24 hours a day, with no exceptions. No one is turned away under any circumstances.** We know firsthand just how dangerous cold and icy conditions can be when you are out on the streets. One night without shelter can truly be the difference between life and death. **Our community knows that they can send anyone, anytime for a delicious meal, hot shower, and a safe place to spend the night.** You are directly enabling us to show the love of Christ by providing safe shelter for those who are most vulnerable with your generous contributions. Thank you for being a true blessing!



What a blessed Christmas season we had here at the Mission! **We were able to provide more than 950 families with gifts to open at home with their children.** Our community was so grateful, and we reached so many souls with the Gospel as well! Praise God! **We also hosted more than 400 guests here on Christmas day.** Our team prepared a homemade holiday dinner, and both our guests and disciples were blessed with gifts, prayer, and fellowship. Thank you to our volunteers who selflessly took time out of their holiday to serve those in need, and thank you for all of your generous contributions that made such a wonderful celebration possible!



## *Help Us Prepare for Easter!*

It is hard to believe Easter is just around the corner! As we do every year, the Mission will be serving our traditional Easter dinner. We expect over 500 guests to join us! Neighbors in need will gather at the Mission for a special Easter Chapel Service and a traditional family-style holiday dinner complete with all the trimmings! We will also be providing Easter Food boxes to over 15,000 families in our community. We need your help to get ready as we prepare to provide hundreds of nourishing meals, warm clothing, toiletries and other essentials. These items may not seem like much, but even basic necessities can make a huge difference to those struggling with homelessness. Thank you in advance for your prayerful support!

