



# VICTOR VALLEY Rescue Mission

An Outreach ministry of



August 2011

Changing Lives for Good

## Vocational Training... It's not taking a chance... It's making a difference

Some estimates say the unemployment rate in the Victor Valley is as high as 30%. Of course, you will never see that percentage on any official publication. However, the Victor Valley Rescue Mission is making a difference in the lives of men through vocational training.

### Jim Dixon



I serve as an intern at the rescue mission. My duties vary from fellowshipping with guests and light maintenance work, to cooking meals for those in need. My internship has been not only rewarding, but a time of major personal growth. Everyday is a challenging and a learning experience. I have learned how to excel as an individual and how to train and disciple my fellow workers

to excellence. I am so grateful for this opportunity to learn, grow, and even fail at times.

### Ronald Good

Being an intern has taught me new responsibilities. The mission granted me something I've never really had before and that's TRUST. Because they believed in me, I have a greater belief in myself. I get to serve the disadvantaged and homeless at the rescue mission food pantry. Delivering food to homeless shelters and picking up donated items from local grocery outlets has strengthened my communication skills.



### Pastor Sherman Dumas – Program Chaplain

So many men enter programs totally destitute and leave with no skills to help them in a productive way. This is why the work we do at Victor Valley Rescue Mission is so important. The men that graduate our program are not only sober, but prepared to enter a different lifestyle.

Our vocational training and internships provide the opportunity to gain real-life job experience. Our interns are given schedules and deadlines to teach them efficiency. As I have worked closely with our interns, I have seen their determination to live and work in an excellent way.

The Life Recovery Program Learning Center gives the men assistance in interview preparation, building their resumes, and job searches. Life-Skills training is a major part of preparing them for the workplace. Many of our men who've spent time in the center are now working good jobs and some have found employment with the rescue mission.

It's an honor to serve these men and see the change in their lives through the Life Recovery Program.



## Mike Walls

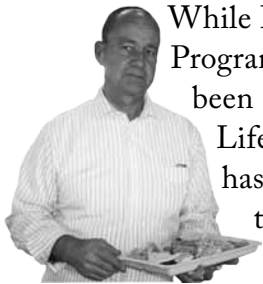
When I first came to the rescue mission, I was a real mess. I served at the Victor Valley Rescue Mission Thrift Store and there I found hope. I found friendly advice from the store manager, Bill Edwards. He showed me how to keep my mind on work and serving people. I realized that I didn't need drugs or anything else to do a good job or make a good impression. Upon completion of the program, I was offered a job at the thrift store and love every minute of it. Thank you Jesus and the rescue mission for saving my life.



## Greg Gauthier

I started the recovery program with no self confidence, self worth, or self esteem. I began volunteering at the thrift store 2 or 3 months into the program, and at the mission serving the homeless. After graduating, I was moved into a leadership role. After a short internship at Victor Valley Rescue Mission and one month at Central Coast Rescue Mission, I was blessed with a part time job at the thrift store that turned into a full time position. Through God's help and the mission's, I am regaining my confidence that I am not a failure and that there is hope.

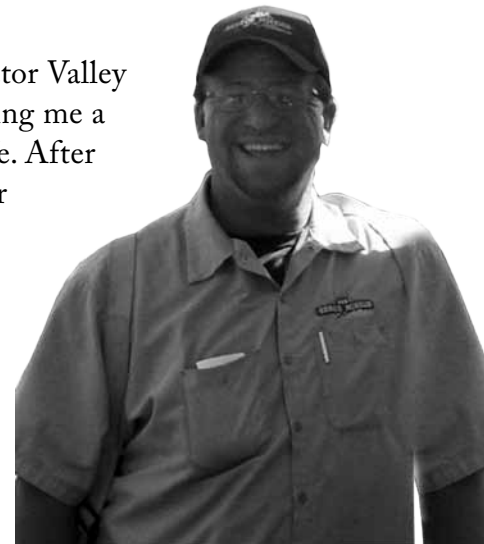
## Robert Peterson



While I have been in the Life Recovery Program, I have managed the Thrift Store, been a driver, and now a leader at the Life Recovery Program. Being an intern has prepared me for the workplace by teaching me what servant-leadership is.

## Chris Marek

I want to thank the Victor Valley Rescue Mission for giving me a chance to succeed in life. After completing the one year program, a job opening came up to drive for the Super Thrift Store. Using the training I received during my stay with the mission, I have now been a productive employee for over two years. I am entirely grateful to the staff of the mission for helping me to become who I am today.



## Thanks for Giving ... Again & Again

Our Third Annual Donor Appreciation Banquet will be held on Thursday, September 1, 2011 from 6 to 8pm at High Desert Church, 14545 Hook Blvd, Victorville.

This is our way of saying "Thank You" for your support. Please invite friends or family. Show up, sit back, enjoy yourself and allow us to show our appreciation as you enjoy great food, great entertainment, and hear the accomplishments and future plans of the Victor Valley Rescue Mission.

Please call the mission office by Friday, August 26, 2011 at (760) 955-6644, to reserve your seat.

### Make Your Gift Dollars Go Further

Does Your Company Match Your Charitable Donations?

It's easy to find out...

Just ask your personnel office if they have a matching gift program. If so, fill out the form and turn it in.

Your company could very well double or even triple your individual, tax-deductible contribution.