

Paul's Ponderings



Paul Stasi,
Executive Director, CRM

I truly believe that our purpose at CRM is the mission of RESCUE. It is putting love in action, to save the lost. Many in the world suffer from human degradation which results in substance use disorder, poverty, and homelessness. They need help. We help through meal ministry, shelter care, and residential recovery by providing holistic transformation that enables a successful, sustainable and productive lifestyle.

OUR MISSION: City Rescue Mission exists so that Homeless and Needy Men, Women, and Families, have their lives transformed Spiritually, Physically, and Mentally for Productive Lifestyles.

To fulfill this rescue mission of the Mission we must begin with who it is that we are helping: Homeless and Needy individuals and families are those who are below subsistence level, have life controlling problems, and/or are circumstantially homeless.

Transformation is defined holistically as:

- A. Spiritually
 - Personally believe in and becoming a follower of Jesus Christ
 - Re-connecting with Christ
 - Discipled into Christ-Like Living
- B. Physically
 - Restoring and maintaining Optimum Health
 - Securing and Holding a Job
 - Living Independently
- C. Mentally
 - Recovering from Life destroying Habits
 - Relapse Prevention
 - Education and Job Skills
 - Emotional Healing
- D. Escaping Homelessness (for those served in the shelter).

A. What does CRM transformation look like?

- Sharing the saving and transformative power of Jesus
- Pastoral Ministry
- Discipleship
- Recovery & Freedom
- Counseling
- Healthcare and Nutrition
- Life Skills
- Workforce development
- Housing

B. Productive Lifestyles is the outcome. This is defined as:

1. Employment
 - Self-Sufficiency
 - Purpose
 - Boosting Self-esteem
2. Being a positive member of a family/community
3. Being a faithful Christ-follower

By giving a "hand-up, not a handout," our hope is that everyone who comes to us for help can lead a successful and sustainable lifestyle.

Thank you for helping us make this possible!

Gift Horses and Your Giving



You may have heard the phrase don't look a gift horse in the mouth, meaning you should accept a gift as-is because you might be surprised (or disappointed) if you look at it more closely.

What if you thought about that idea differently, especially when it comes to giving?

You may have appreciated assets that can make a difference for the organizations you love. When you look this gift horse in the mouth, you'll find:

Your gift of stock helps you steward wisely. Your appreciated assets can be a tool for stewarding a legacy of generosity, opening the door for conversations with your loved ones about values, giving, and the causes close to your heart.

Your gift of stock makes your giving go further. Donating appreciated stock, bonds, or mutual funds can make your gift up to 20% larger because you avoid the taxes you would have to pay from selling those assets and donating the cash.

Examining the "gift horse" of your non-cash assets a bit more closely will show you some unexpected ways to support your favorite charities.

For more information, please contact Angela Washington at (904) 421-5147 or awashington@crmjax.org.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

City Rescue Mission is in need of the following:

- Homes of Hope Roof \$15,000
- Clothing, shoes, and accessories for men, women, and children *Urgent Needs*
- (2) 5,000 BTU Window AC units with heat \$500 each
- Refrigerator New \$1,000
- Electric stove New \$800
- Microwave New \$300
- New Life Inn Campus Kitchen exit doors \$10,000
- McDuff Campus exit doors \$22,000

Contact: Angela A. Washington
awashington@crmjax.org
(904) 421-5147

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CRM CITY RESCUE MISSION

New Life NEWS

JUNE 2024



DUAN
Duan blames no one but himself for the choices he made – which took his life down a destructive and dangerous path. Thanks to our generous support of our Christ-centered care and guidance, we were here for him when he decided to change his ways and seek a new beginning.

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DUAN'S STORY

The Best Decision of My Life

At 6 years old, Duan saw a man get shot as he got off the school bus. He witnessed another murder at the age of 16.

While these events offer graphic insight into the environment where Duan spent his youth – and could easily be blamed for his destructive life choices – he takes full responsibility for his actions.

He experimented with substances to fit in with those around him. He struggled to hold a job. He did what he deemed necessary to survive. Finally he was incarcerated.

“I was following the wrong script... going down the wrong path. But it was a decision I made to live that way,” Duan says.

After 15 years behind bars, Duan returned home... got a job... and found himself resuming the same sordid lifestyle. “I felt myself going backward instead of forward,” he says, “and if I didn't get help, I was going to end up dead or back in prison.”

That's when he made the best decision of his life.

Duan was familiar with the Mission. He'd seen it as he roamed the downtown streets but never gave it much thought. Now he understood its significance: a place of hope and healing for people who long for a new beginning. He joined our LifeBuilders Residential Recovery Program.



At first Duan had conflicting emotions – he was “nervous, afraid and relieved” all at once. But soon, in our faith-based surroundings unlike anything he'd ever experienced, he welcomed the love and guidance of our Christ-filled staff and counselors and opened his heart to the Lord.

Duan had always believed in God but never took time to go to church or read His Word. “But here you don't just read the Bible,” he says, “they explain it to you and help you understand what it means. It has opened my eyes to a lot of things about myself, God, and other people, and I'm feeling Him moving in my life now.”

Duan is also learning how to maintain his sobriety... budget his money... and master other important life skills that bolster self-sufficiency. We also helped him secure a job as a downtown block ambassador, where he embraces the opportunity to make a positive impact on his boyhood community. “We pick up trash or cut the grass or trim hedges or pull weeds,” he says. “We help people take care of their homes.” He plans to continue the work he loves, find an apartment and live a sober life.

Today, Duan says, “The Mission changed me. They made me realize my past is my past and doesn't define my future.” He knows he can set his own path with the decisions he makes – and with God's help, they'll continue to be good ones.

Your generous support and faithful prayers make new beginnings possible for people like Duan who are struggling with life's challenges – and they are grateful. “I am thankful to the Mission because they accepted me, they didn't judge me and they really care about how I live my life... they really care.”



City Rescue Mission's 16th Annual Champion's Challenge Golf Tournament

TPC SAWGRASS STADIUM COURSE

AUGUST 26, 2024

12:30 P.M. SHOTGUN START

PLAY GOLF FOR A CAUSE!

Enjoy a day of golf at the iconic TPC Sawgrass Stadium Course in Ponte Vedra Beach, FL and help transform the lives of those experiencing homelessness, hardship, and addiction right here on the First Coast.

Each registered player will enjoy a full afternoon of golf, complete with lunch, dinner, awards ceremony, golfer swag bag, and silent and live auctions in the beautiful TPC Sawgrass Clubhouse.

Registration fees include on-course concessions, bag tags, and all of your forecaddie gratuities and golf fees!

Sign up as a team (4 players), an individual player or become a sponsor of this event!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Angela Washington at
(904) 421-5147 or

CRMDevelopment@crmjax.org



WE NEED SILENT AUCTION ITEMS!

Do you own a business and could donate items for our Golf Silent Auction? We would greatly appreciate your help to make this year's golf outing a success.

9th ANNUAL



A Time to Grow

Our 9th Annual Difference Maker's Gala was an evening to remember. With the help of our difference makers, we gathered at the SouthBank Hotel to celebrate 78 years of service to the community. We kindly ask that if you were unable to attend or make a donation, that you prayerfully consider how you may be able to support our mission.



THANK YOU to our sponsors!

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