

RESCUE NEWS

ESCAMBIA AND SANTA ROSA COUNTIES



THANK YOU FOR
GIVING DANIEL
a life-changing
GIFT THIS
Christmas!

DON'T MISS...

3 "I am redeemed and forgiven."

4 Give a meal. Spark a miracle!

4 New Women's Wing

12 DAYS OF GIVING BACK



The Bible tells us it's more blessed to give than to receive, and what better time to experience the joy of giving than the Christmas season! It's also a wonderful time to teach children the importance of giving, or to partner with a friend or family member to give back.

Read on to explore **12 Days of Giving Back** and get inspired to share the miracle of Christmas this year:

*You help make
Christmas
miracles possible*

Get ready... the busiest time of the year is upon us! I imagine your calendar is filling up quickly. But **before the year ends, please save a few moments for our neighbors who are homeless.**

I know you agree no one should live in a car... in a tent... or outside in the cold. Certainly not a child. Being homeless means living with constant fear and uncertainty. It's a terrible way to spend any day... much less Christmas Day. If there's anyone in need of a miracle, it's them.

You can make a Christmas miracle possible for a neighbor who is homeless by giving \$2.58 to provide a hot meal at Waterfront Rescue Mission. It may not seem like much – but each meal you provide can be someone's first step toward recovery and a new life. Where you see a meal, a hurting neighbor sees a miracle.

With your support, no one along the Gulf Coast has to be hungry or homeless this Christmas. People like Daniel (whose story is on page 3) can find the miracle of hot meals, safe shelter, and Christ-centered care at Waterfront this holiday season... and all year round... thanks to you!



Fredrick Henderson
Director of Pensacola
Mission

DAY 1 Provide Food	DAY 2 Donate Clothes	DAY 3 Donate Blankets
DAY 4 Write a Christmas Card	DAY 5 Create a Care Package	DAY 6 Help Serve Meals
DAY 7 Help Sort Donations	DAY 8 Help With a Waterfront Event	DAY 9 Attend Chapel at Waterfront
DAY 10 Fundraise at Your Church or School	DAY 11 Pray for Individuals at Waterfront	DAY 12 Spread the Word

To learn more about ways you can share the joy of Christmas with Mission guests, give us a call at **(888) 853-8655** or visit us online at **waterfrontmission.org**!



New and Improved Medical Respite Program

This fall, Waterfront opened Arukah Medical Respite Dorms, providing a space for homeless individuals needing a safe, clean environment to recuperate immediately following a hospital discharge. Our Pensacola Mission has two medical respite dorms, one designated for men and one for women. There are 10 beds in the male respite dorm and 7 in the female dorm.

Waterfront is partnering with local hospitals to facilitate this program. If you or someone you know has medical experience and would like to get involved with this program, please contact our volunteer coordinator at **volunteer@waterfrontmission.org**.

“I am redeemed and forgiven, made new.”



Daniel grew up in a good family, and his mom always took him to church. But as a young teen, he started down a path of substance abuse that continued long into adulthood. “I was the bad kid. I wanted to do what I wanted to do no matter what.”

Even after Daniel became a parent, a pattern of substance abuse continued. His life became a series of one devastating event after another. The mother of his child passed away due to an overdose... then Daniel ended up in prison, unable to care for his son. “I destroyed every relationship I had pretty quick.”

With few people he could call on for help, when Daniel was released from prison, **he became homeless... living in his car and couch surfing to avoid ending up on the streets.**

Then he got in a bad accident that led to a coma and multiple surgeries on his leg. “The doctors told me I’d never walk,” he says. But Daniel eventually went from a wheelchair to a walker to a cane – all while experimenting with drugs to manage his pain.

Daniel started seeing a church pastor for counseling for his substance abuse, and that’s **when he found out about Waterfront.**

The day he walked through our door, everything changed for Daniel.

After detoxing, Daniel went through our LifeBuilder Recovery Program, where he learned his most important lesson: “Faith isn’t about religion – it’s about a relationship with Jesus Christ.”

After graduating from our LifeBuilder Recovery Program, Daniel has kept busy working full-time at Waterfront Thrift. **He now sees himself as a productive member of society.** “Even though it’s simple work that I do, it’s meaningful for me.”

He’s also grown spiritually here, and has been involved in a Bible study outreach at a local prison. His goal for the future is simple: “To try to help just one more person.”

This Christmas, Daniel is experiencing all the joy this season has to offer – because YOU believed in the power of a fresh start and the promise of God’s unending love. “All the glory goes to God, for everything that He’s done for me.”



“Waterfront showed me how to follow Jesus on my own... HOW TO UNDERSTAND WHAT THE BIBLE MEANS TO ME.”

Hope for Her: *New Women's Wing*

In September, Waterfront Mission of Pensacola added a women's wing to its facility, which means it can now provide overnight housing for up to 49 single women each night. The Mission offers access to restroom and shower facilities, clean clothing and laundry services, warm beds, meals, and support from chaplains and other Mission personnel. Most importantly, the women who stay at Waterfront will be safe and secure from the dangers of sleeping on the streets.

Waterfront is dedicated to equipping every woman who walks through our doors with the tools and short-term support necessary to rebuild her life. This support includes enrollment in applicable Waterfront programs such as our Veteran's Care Program and Working Homeless Program, or connecting the individual with other community providers to address additional needs.

For more information, please visit waterfrontmission.org/hopeforher.

Give a meal. Spark a miracle!

It's hard to find a reason to celebrate Christmas when you're homeless or hungry. **YOU can give JOY and spark a miracle** with a gift to lead someone to join our long-term recovery program and experience a new life! It all starts by providing a meal for \$2.58... because where you see a meal, they see a miracle.



\$2.58
for 1 hot meal



**CAN SPARK
A MIRACLE**



**That leads
to new life!**

Please Send Your Christmas Gift Today!

Give the **GIFT** of Time...

Volunteer with Us This Holiday Season

You can get involved in so many ways:

- Decorate our Mission for Christmas
- Pack Christmas presents
- Sponsor a Christmas movie night
- Prep Christmas meals
- Serve at our Christmas banquet

We'd be so grateful for your help! Sign up to volunteer this holiday season by contacting our volunteer coordinator at volunteer@waterfrontmission.org

