



rockford rescue mission  
rescue + recover + restore

# 2021 Annual Report

October 2020 - September 2021



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Rockford Rescue Mission shares hope and help in Jesus' name to move people from homelessness and despair toward personal and spiritual wholeness.

# Greetings from Rockford Rescue Mission!

If you know me, you know I love to envision possibilities and come up with new and expanded approaches to our ministry. But these past two years of pandemic have been more about keeping people safe and solidifying who we are and what we do. We have had to reimagine the way we serve meals, the way we shape our Crisis and Life Recovery Programs and our vocational training... even the way we conduct our chapel services.

Despite these challenges, Fiscal Year 2021 was also filled with hope. With fewer-than-normal residents and guests, our staff members and volunteers have been able to form deeper relationships. The prayer and financial support we receive from our community – individuals, churches, businesses and organizations — has remained vibrant and so, so encouraging.

In this report, we'll show you a few highlights from 2021, along with a new way we are framing the steps toward life transformation. Thank you for helping to make it all possible.

Partners in Hope,



Sherry Pitney  
CEO



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## **Board of Directors**

**Ann Dittmar**, Chair  
Retired: Attorney

**David Davitt**, Vice Chair  
Attorney: Schlueter  
Ecklund & Davitt

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Trust Officer: Midland  
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**Ronald Billy, Jr.**  
Architect: 1919 Architects

**Tim Clauson**  
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Director: Kids Around the  
World

**Laura Ortiz**  
Retired: ComEd Human  
Resources

**Warren Slabaugh**  
President: Heartwood  
Creations

## **Council of Elders**

**Rev. David Aldridge**  
Retired Pastor

**Rev. Lee McClanathan**  
Retired Pastor

**Rev. Peder Carlson**  
Retired Pastor

**Richard Todd**  
CEO, Todd Transit

**Rev. Gordon Hanstad**  
Retired Pastor



## 8 Stages Toward Life Transformation

People who tour Rockford Rescue Mission for the first time often tell us, “I had no idea so much happens here.” There’s a common mental picture of what a faith-based rescue mission looks like, but that vision often doesn’t go beyond an emergency shelter. We certainly are that — a place where homeless and traumatized people can find food, clothing shelter and hope. But we are so much more.

Through our Crisis centers, Life Recovery programs, Works! Center, and Hope Clinic, the Mission offers Christ-centered help and guidance. We’ve identified eight critical steps toward personal and spiritual wholeness. We call them our S-Stages: Saved, Sober, Stable, Schooled, Skilled, Secure, Settled and Serving.

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## 8 S’s of Life Transformation

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- SAVED** Making choices that will keep them from chronic illness and physical death, and making the decision that will keep them from spiritual death
  - SOBER** No longer controlled by stimulants or depressants
  - STABLE** Mentally and emotionally balanced and enjoying good health
  - SCHOOLED** Enriched with fundamental knowledge to be competent and competitive
  - SKILLED** Being academically credentialed and set on a career path
  - SECURE** Able to provide financially for themselves and their loved ones
  - SETTLED** Benefiting from having the same safe place of their own to stay every night
  - SERVING** Giving back to the community through missional living



**PERSONAL  
AND SPIRITUAL  
WHOLENESS**

# Saved

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In 2021, our Men's Crisis Center served **430** different men; our Women's Crisis Center served **351** women and children.

**Shelter:** Our Crisis Centers averaged **109** men, women and children each night for **39,838** total nights of lodging.

**Meals:** We provided meals three times each day, every day, for a total of **125,987** meals. That's an average of **345** meals served each day.

**Spiritual Transformation:** This involves breaking destructive lifestyles by introducing people to Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Last year, the Mission recorded **66** spiritual responses to this invitation! Chapel/devotional services were held regularly for all residents and guests.

**One-to-One Advocacy:** The Mission's staff conducted **6,884** case management sessions in one-to-one efforts to assist people toward personal and spiritual wholeness.



# Sober

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In 2021, despite limitations caused by the pandemic, our Men's and Women's Life Recovery Programs served **77** men and women.



# Stable

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Our in-house Hope Clinic handled a record number of appointments with **14,723** medical, chiropractic and dental appointments in 2021. That's an average of **283** visits a week.

We also have been a safe place for our residents and guests during the pandemic. Certainly, the Mission did not go untouched, but our health and safety protocols helped everyone feel cared for.



# Schooled

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The Works! Center served **272** people with education and career training, including **233** assessments and **387** career skills courses completed.

**Nine** people pursued a GED.



# Skilled

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The Works! Center specializes in vocational training.

In 2021, **129** guests in our Crisis Centers got credentialed in our Back to Works! Program.

**Thirty-eight** residents and guests earned food handler's certificates.

**Twenty-six** residents and guests completed vocational training programs.



# Secure

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Through the help of our Works! Center volunteers and staff, **123** crisis guests secured employment.



# Settled

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Of our **781** Crisis guests, **626** — **80 percent!** — secured stable housing.



# Serving

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We regularly hear from Life Recovery graduates or former Crisis guests who are joyfully serving others — sometimes through volunteer work and sometimes even through whole new careers.

**Five** of our Life Recovery graduates went on to take extended courses last year and today are serving/giving back at the Mission.

In our Art Therapy program, Life Recovery residents create Remade items which are then sold at our specialty retail shop, Nettie's Mercantile. The proceeds benefit Mission programs.



## Volunteers

In 2021, our **320** active volunteers logged **17,344** hours during **3,950** occasions.



## Thrift Store

At Thrift Store, the community gave **19,979** donations of clothing, household goods, furniture and more, meeting the needs of Mission guests, residents and the community — and raising **\$1,119,500** in operating funds for the Mission.



## Financials

Funding was received through financial gifts and in-kind donations (clothing, food and professional services) from individuals, churches, organizations and businesses. The operating budget was **\$7.9 million**.

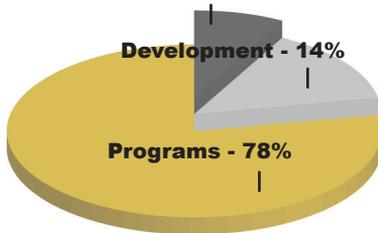
### Expenses

Your gifts are used in the most efficient and God-honoring ways. 78% directly helped hurting people!

Administration - 8%

Development - 14%

Programs - 78%



### Revenue

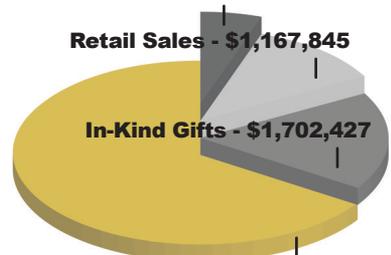
All funds received from friends who care for neighbors in need.

Misc. Income - \$530,852

Retail Sales - \$1,167,845

In-Kind Gifts - \$1,702,427

Public Support - \$6,530,878



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