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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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.

8 S’s of Life Transformation

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
Saved

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

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

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

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.
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.

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

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

Serving

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!

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

Revenue
- $1,167,845
- $1,702,427
- $6,530,878

Administration - 8%
Development - 14%
Programs - 78%

Misc. Income - $530,852
Retail Sales - $1,167,845
In-Kind Gifts - $1,702,427
Public Support - $6,530,878