



LIGHTHOUSE RESCUE MISSION

'SHINING THE LIGHT OF JESUS IN OUR COMMUNITY'

THE LATEST FROM THE LIGHTHOUSE....

“What is the vision you would want me to have Lord?” is what I asked God, when I was appointed Director at the Lighthouse Rescue Mission. And the Lord answered me “Unto the least of these” over and over, until I said, “Ok I get it”. And as soon as I got it, there was Ella at our door asking for shelter.

As I let her in, I heard a still & quiet voice, that keep saying, “Unto the least of these”. Ella came a few days in a row trying to get a bed and for one reason or another she wasn't allowed to come in. About the third day I felt God tugging “just let her in”. When I did, I trusted God would let me in on His plan for Ella. Ella was very grateful for being allowed to come and I immediately felt that I had done the right thing. Little did I know God would bring such a bright light into her darkness. Since Ella has been here, she has blossomed into a joyful delight of a woman. She is our “go to” person when something needs to get done at the shelter. I would have never imagined how God would use us to help Ella and in return see a miracle from God.

During the Christmas season a special lady raises money to purchase the ladies and families gifts for Christmas, to be delivered by Santa himself. When we gave Ella the form to fill out she returned it with one sentence written on it “being here is enough of a gift”. I can honestly say a few of the staff members shed a tear. We filled out her form ourselves and she got gifts, but the gratitude she showed was truly a gift in itself to the staff.

Ella is in the process of getting her SSN benefits approved so she can move forward with her life after losing her husband and sole provider. We ask you to keep her in your prayers. Working here can be a very emotional job, but I believe God sent Ella to refresh our souls with hope and compassion in order to start the New Year running.

I thank all of you for caring about each and every resident that has called the Lighthouse home for a season in their lives. Please continue to pray for those seeking a safe place, that they may see the Lord directing them to the Lighthouse to receive His divine Light.

Sincerely,
Imma Briseno

Upcoming Events:

Annual Drive Thru Chicken Dinner

March 11, 2012

Contact office for tickets and info.....559-687-8317

THE BOARD:

Alan Adler
Tulare First Baptist Church

Kevin Blain
Blain Homes

Tim Dodson
Adair and Evans, CPA's

Greg Henard
Vineyard Christian Fellowship

Lynn Lampe
M. Green & Co.

Collette Lorenzo
St. Aloysius Catholic Church

Russ Siders
Sunrise Community Church

Stephanie Souza
Blain Homes

Louis Sparks
River of Life

Ray Van Beek
Tulare Community Church

Rhonda Wilbur
Tulare First Baptist Church

Dan Xavier
Walter Mortensen Insurance

Ella



The Buzz at the Lighthouse Rescue Mission

Since I became the Shelter Coordinator of the Lighthouse I had the opportunity to see what God is preparing the women's lives as they pass through. On Monday nights our ladies get the opportunity to go to the Healing Rooms which provides them opportunity to open up and get healing from physical and/ or emotional ailments. I believe that this is one of the most popular activities that we offer the ladies here. Once they have opened up and utilized the opportunity to get prayer for what they see as issues in their lives they rave about the relief, the cleansing they have received. We also offer Anger Management, many of our ladies have some type of issue with anger, some are dealing with personal anger issues or they have been on the receiving end of sometimes violent anger. Whatever it is, they benefit from the classes and often times during these sessions they see themselves; the first step in identifying one's need to change. Wednesday Nights we have Bible Study at the shelter and the ladies anxiously wait for this time of the week when they are taught more about the Love of JESUS CHRIST. During each resident's stay at the Lighthouse there is much exposure to the Gospel of Christ. We don't push any particular religion, but we do share what being a follower of Christ has done in our personal lives and the different direction our lives are now going since we made Christ our personal LORD and Savior. On Thursday evening the women attend Celebrate Recovery, the focus here is on dealing with any hurt, habit or hang up that one may be challenged with. This is really a special outing because it is not necessarily focused on drug addictions, but on anything that is a hindrance in your life. At Celebrate they don't force anyone to share, but once you are in your small group and hear about what someone else has gone through and what made it bearable for them you get a sense of togetherness. Suddenly everyone realizes they are not alone and each can survive. The leaders sincerely care about your life. Clearly, all the classes and activities offered at the shelter can be building blocks for the ladies. But, as with life, these programs are only successful if the ladies are willing to open up and allow the power of Jesus Christ to grab a hold of them. Many of our ladies come into the shelter because they have heard we are able to get them housing, a job or whatever else they feel is a dire necessity. Unfortunately, we don't have any job offers waiting and they don't get put at the top of the Section 8 list. Also the reality is the county doesn't recognize any of our classes as part of a rehab program. We do pass on any job leads or apartment leads that may come across our desk. However, the only for sure thing we offer is Jesus's Love and we give it away freely. –Michelle Terry

USE YOUR TALENTS

The Women's Auxiliary has been enforced since November 2008 and has been very active by promoting and providing the needs for the shelter.

Meetings are generally held every other month on the 2nd Saturday at the Administration Building at 9:00 a.m.

*AUXILIARY WOMEN & COMMITTEES:

Birthday Gift.....California Dairy Women
Michelle Faria
Coins for Caring.....Pam Beck
Marsha Watte &
Kay Dokken
Crafts.....Connie & Stephanie Toste
Beauty Treatments.....Sherry Taylor
House Needs/Supplies.Pam Beck
Fundraiser.....Mary Dlugonski
Computer Lab.....Kay Dokken
Gardening.....Sandra Gist Langiano
Newsletter.....Irma Briseno
Chairman.....Roni Wilbur
Shopping & Cooking.....Pam Beck
Thank You's.....Collette Lorenzo
New Member.....Terri Kasbergen
New Member.....Dee Pierce
New Member.....Carmen Jacobo
New Member.....Cindy Blanco
New Member.....Mary Jones
New Member.....Celeste Thomas
New Member.....Phylliss Schneider

We look forward to the participation and all of the support that all of our members provide the women and children at the Shelter.

We are always looking for new members to join the Auxiliary. If you have a passion to help women & children of the shelter please contact: Roni Wilbur @ 559-686-8486 or Collette Lorenzo @ 559-686-0333

***MEMORIAL MOMENTS:
Thanksgiving at the Shelter**



Thanksgiving Dinner



Manya Chobioan & Friends
& Family



Guests praying over
Thanksgiving Dinner

Christmas Time at the Shelter



Christmas Dinner



Kim Lorenzo & Friends
& Family



Guest enjoying a
beautiful sit down dinner



New Year's Christmas Tree



Santa & Mrs. Elf



Guests with Santa

Thank You

- *Garden School Can Food Drive
- *Sundale 7th Grade Leadership
- *Methodist Church for Birthday Parties
- * Marlene Luis for Christmas Gifts
- * Silvercrest Homes for Gifts
- *All Volunteers and Sponsors
- *Santa and Mrs. Elf
- *School of Martial Arts for Can Food Drive
- **** *Thank you to all that financially support the Lighthouse year round and for those that generously donated with a Year End donation, together we can see lives change in Christ.*
- *Giotto's Alarm Tech
- *California Turf Equipment
- *The Experience Gardener
- *Rotary Weekly Meeting Lunch
- * Grissom & Wallace Communications
- *Tulare Union Can Food Drive
- * California Dairy Women for Birthday Gifts
- *Secret Santa from a group of caring women

Did You Know??

- Coins for Caring is going strong. So Far Cherry Avenue, Mulcahy, Heritage, Roosevelt and Live Oak have ended their fundraisers and collected over \$2,100.00.
- In addition eight other schools have scheduled their fundraisers later this year. Thank you to all who are participating!
- Giving Back Lesson Learned*---Cherry Avenue re-gifted their \$25 dollar gift card back to the Lighthouse and Roosevelt gave theirs to a needy family for Christmas. Great job kids!!!!!!



Yellow Bracelets



Cherry School



Cherry School



Heritage School

- There are silent angels who send giftcards or money monthly specifically for nonfood supplies we are constantly in need of. This provides us with a regular means to balance out the various donations we receive. What a Godsend for the daily operation of the Lighthouse. Gift cards are also a strong resource when a family comes in with only the clothes on their backs, staff can go and immediately meet a need, especially for the children attending school.
- Sunday meals still regularly come in thank to Catholic Daughter's coordinated by Kathy Fagundes. The residents look forward to this kind and thoughtful gesture.

Donations to the Lighthouse In Memory of:

- Phyliss Watte
- Pauline Costa
- David Watte
- Damon Stanley
- Linda Long-Weeks

Donations to the Lighthouse In Honor of:

- Steve & Roni Wilbur
- Joe & Rhonda Horswill
- Jerry & Pam Silva

GREETINGS FROM THE BOARD....



Ray Van Beek
President of
Board of Directors



Irma Briseno
Shelter Director

A Note from Ray Van Beek,.....

The Lighthouse Rescue Mission, what an asset it has been to our community. I would like to encourage anyone who has not been to the shelter, to take some time and visit.

Irma and her staff do a wonderful job, and they deserve all the praise.

The shelter is not without needs, and everyone can help. One may choose to join the Auxiliary, which provide help with many of the needs for the Women and Children, as well as fundraising.

You may feel led to lead a Bible Study, or handy with a hammer and a paintbrush, just let Linda know.

Volunteer.... make the Lighthouse Rescue Mission be part of "your" life.

The Board has a vision for future of the Lighthouse Rescue Mission. We are very proud of what is being done at the Mission with the help of the many volunteers and the donations, but more can always be accomplished.

In closing I would like to express a need for more Board Members. We would like to add few more members to our Board to help with the vision. If you feel led, or have a name of someone please let one of our Board Members know.

Sincerely, Ray Van Beek, *Lighthouse Board Chairman*

ABOUT THE SHELTER....

We are a faith based shelter under the Tulare Association of Churches. We have a Board of Directors with three local pastors serving on the board in addition to local businessmen and women and concerned community minded citizens.

We offer temporary housing for single women and women with children. We have in-house recovery classes, parenting and anger management classes and fill in the rest of the nights with Bible studies conducted by women from local churches.

We are a facility comprised of apartments which help provide a home-like atmosphere. Women become family with one another and form life-long bonds.

I WOULD LIKE TO PARTNER WITH LIGHTHOUSE RESCUE MISSION, TO HELP THOSE IN NEED

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ St _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Enclosed is my donation of \$ _____ to help the needy in our communities.

Please note, we are a non-profit, tax-exempt, 501© (3) organization. Contributions may be tax deductible.

I would like to learn about volunteer opportunities

Please cut along dotted line and mail to LightHouse Rescue Mission P.O. Box 1453, Tulare, CA 93275

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LIGHTHOUSE RESCUE MISSION

111 WEST KERN AVENUE ~ P.O. BOX 1453 TULARE, CA 93274

TEL # (559) 687-8317 ~ www.lighthouserescue.org