

## THE PERFECT SOLUTION

My name is Robert and I'm 29 years old. I was born in San Luis Obispo, California. I had a normal childhood, growing up with two older sisters, an older brother, and two loving, supportive parents. My life changed rapidly at age fifteen after my mother passed away; that's when I got my first taste of alcohol.



*The perfect solution for Robert was the mission's Life Recovery Program.*

After graduating from Santa Maria High School and Chrysler Academy, I moved to Santa Maria and began my career at Santa Maria Chrysler dealership. As an automotive technician, I made a good living, but found myself gradually drinking more and more every day. I started losing everything I had worked so hard for - work ethic, self-control, self-respect, and my career. By that point, I felt hopeless and realized that I needed help.

My sister found the perfect and most respected solution - the Central Coast Rescue Mission. I've been sober for a month and never felt so alive and at peace now that I'm closer to God and have a great support group. I'm blessed that I'm a part of this program that has truly changed my life and has given me a second chance to have a relationship with God.

My program counselors and mentors saw that I needed God's love and forgiveness. And, I needed to forgive myself and others that I felt had hurt me. One of my key life verses now is, "And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your father in heaven may forgive your sins, but if you do not forgive, neither will your father who is in heaven forgive your sins." Now I get it... If I don't, God won't!

## GIFTS OF GRACE

We are so blessed by our ministry partners - here is just one of the wonderful gifts that we received in one day from our generous donors, partners, and support team - fresh fruit, bottled water, and soap/washcloth "washarros" made by the children at New Vision Church.



# ALL ABOUT DISCIPLESHIP!

This year, the Central Coast Rescue Mission is rolling out a new model of outreach that takes a more close-knit partnership approach with churches in the area. We recognize, as much as we can reach people in need with food, the Gospel message, and other assistance, we want to provide the opportunity for churches to care for the people that we reach.

Psalm 68:6 says, “God sets the lonely in families.” The local church is that family, and this fall we are beginning our newest church partnership with Santa Maria Four-square Church.

Santa Maria Foursquare Church’s new pastor, Tim Mossholder, has a heart to see the primarily Hispanic neighborhood surrounding the church reached for Christ. We are linking up with their Spanish-speaking congregation, headed up by Pastor Joel Arreola, to see that personal connections happen at our rebooted Monday community meal.

Each week, Spanish-speaking volunteers will sit with guests at the dinner, ask them about their lives, and look for opportunities to give them encouragement. The ladies pictured with Volunteer Coordinator, Audrey Perry, will be a point of connection for the Hispanic population. Volunteer groups from other churches and businesses

will have the opportunity to welcome the guests, serve a great meal, and meet other needs such as clothing and hygiene assistance. Together, we work and pray to see hope restored in this broken neighborhood.



# MORE THAN A VOLUNTEER!



Nimon is a new volunteer at the mission’s thrift store on North Broadway in Santa Maria. He came to us a month ago needing to do some community service hours. Now he is holding down a job and he does his community service at the store.

Nimon believes in the work the rescue mission is doing for the program men. He also likes the quality of donations we receive and the good deals in the store.

He has learned the value of hard work and helping others. Last month when one of the poor ladies who live on the streets near the store needed some shoes and new socks, Nimon was there to help. He had just received a shoe donation her size. In even this little act, Nimon has proved to be a top volunteer!