Zsanette moved to California from Florida with her daughter because her family lives here. She was intending to find a job or return to school, but her housing plans fell through. Her father’s home had been foreclosed on, and the only other relatives she could stay with didn’t have enough room.

That’s when she discovered just how expensive it can be to live in California. With her daughter in school, the family stayed in a hotel for about two weeks, but money just “wasn’t coming in fast enough,” and mother and daughter faced the grave risk of becoming homeless.

Zsanette found the help she needed by calling 211. Similar to 911, 211 is a help line that provides referrals to everything from addiction prevention to homeless shelters. Zsanette found out about the Mission’s Genesis House, a temporary emergency shelter and safe haven for homeless mothers and their children.

“As soon as I stepped foot in the door, it felt like home.” Zsanette and her daughter were given a room in the front of the house…one with a cross-shaped window made of glass blocks. “It was like confirmation from the Lord that everything was going to be okay,” she says.

This respite gave Zsanette the breathing room she needed to find permanent housing. With her daughter attending school in Pacoima, the little family takes three buses to get Zsanette and her daughter to school…she’s taking classes to become a physical therapist and personal trainer!

While they are loving their stay at Genesis House, Zsanette realizes it is only a temporary stop on her way to a healthier, self-supporting life.
I don’t think anyone has ever gotten out of bed in the morning and said, “Gee, I think I’ll be homeless today.”

People are here for a reason.

Some are simply seeking a hot meal or a night of shelter. Many more are looking for help and a refuge – a shelter in God that can save and restore lives ruined by alcohol, addiction, abuse and abandonment.

Matthew 7:7 clearly describes the refuge and shelter found here at the Mission: “Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.”

All in need are welcome here, just as they have been since our doors were opened 5 years ago.

But it is only with your prayers and your support that we can continue to be a refuge for those who knock. Thank you, and God bless you for all you do.

Better than most at half the price!

Dinnerware, glassware, furniture, toys, jewelry, electronics, entertainment centers and TVs to go in them! You’ll find a huge selection of new and nearly new items at the Mission’s new Granada Hills Thrift Store at 18167 Chatsworth Street (two blocks east of Reseda on the corner of Chatsworth and Lindley).

Open seven days a week! Monday-Friday from 9 a.m.-7 p.m., Saturday from 9 a.m. –6 p.m. and Sunday from 12 p.m.-5 p.m.

Hungry for Change?

We all want to end hunger and homelessness.

Here’s your chance to bring together your family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, people from your church, school or civic group to lessen the hardships hungry, homeless men, women and children face each day.

Serve a meal here at the Mission
Organize a drive
- Canned food
- Clothing, especially coats and jackets for cold weather
- Hygiene items

Your gift today to our 2014 Annual Thanksgiving Campaign will go a long way toward filling the Mission’s pantry and providing the care hungry, homeless men, women and children will need this Thanksgiving season and beyond.

Just a reminder: We really do need your help to cook and serve more than 21,420 meals. Please, give generously. Thank you!

21,420 meals. That’s 25,704 pounds of food – nearly 13 tons! That’s how much food Hope of the Valley Rescue Mission will serve to hungry men, women and children this Thanksgiving season.

Wow! That seems impossible. But with your help, it will happen.

It costs just $2.05 to feed one hungry person. Just $2.05 to provide an entire meal of wholesome, home-cooked food...a meal that could not only help that person end a life of homelessness, but a meal that could be the start of a new and better life.

Your gift today to our 2014 Annual Thanksgiving Campaign will go a long way toward filling the Mission’s pantry and providing the care hungry, homeless men, women and children will need this Thanksgiving season and beyond.

13 tons of food!
“This place is rebuilding my life!”

Manuel used to have a good relationship with his sister, but that changed when they both started using drugs. “It got to the point that she was afraid to live with me,” Manuel says. Eventually, his sister got a restraining order.

The police gave Manuel two options—move out or go to prison. “I had been to jail and I didn’t want to go to prison,” Manuel says. “I told one of the deputies that I had nowhere to go and she made a call to HVRM for me. She assured me that they had a shelter and I’d be able to stay there.”

Manuel rode his bicycle four blocks to Hope of the Valley Rescue Mission and stayed at our shelter for two weeks. It was then he learned about our House of Hope Recovery Program, and he knew it was for him.

“I had hit bottom, I was ready to get my life back.” Since joining the program, Manuel has begun to regain some of what he lost in his addiction. “I have people skills that I had lost while I was out using drugs,” he says. “They have me running the shower program… because I have good social skills. You have to talk to people with compassion. I tell people there that I was in their shoes and that this place has plenty of programs they can utilize to get the help they need.”

Manuel has also built close relationships with men in the program, something absent in his life of addiction. “The gentlemen in the house are like my brothers. We all help each other,” he says. “Before, it was all about me. There was no team.”

Since coming to the Mission, Manuel’s relationship with his mother, damaged by his addiction, has begun to heal as well. “My mom didn’t want anything to do with me,” he says. “Now she picks me up to have lunch. That is a blessing.”

Manuel credits the Mission with helping him grow spiritually too. “I go to a lot of meetings here and it’s building my relationship with God,” he says. “I’m grateful to the Mission for saving his life and transforming his future. “Overnight, I became homeless and this place took me in,” he says. “This place is rebuilding my life.”
“Nowhere to go…”

If you’ve ever been hospitalized, you know that you’re usually in no condition to care for yourself when you’re released. It takes days, sometimes weeks, to fully recover.

But for men and women who are homeless, that recovery is hampered or even prevented when they are released and returned to the streets.

“When I went to the hospital for major surgery I wasn’t afraid of dying. I was scared because I didn’t know where I was going to go after the surgery.”

For those with broken bones, dressings that need to be changed or medication that needs to be taken on a regular basis, receiving the care they need while living on the streets is extremely difficult, if not impossible. In addition, lack of sanitary facilities, inadequate meals and the inability to rest and maintain a schedule can turn a medical condition into a life-threatening situation.

The Mission’s new Recuperative Care Shelter is the first and only facility in the Valley where homeless men and women being discharged from the hospital can rest and receive the help they need to recover.

This very specialized shelter will be open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, providing a full array of services including nursing assessments and daily visits, medication assistance, wound care and transportation to and from appointments.

“We all agree that the streets are no place for a person who has just been discharged from the hospital,” says Mission President & CEO Ken Craft. “The new Recuperative Care Shelter combines compassionate care with real resources to address this urgent need.”

Join us Visit Us Online!

Get to know us better, learn about volunteer opportunities, read about the latest news and events and donate securely at www.hopeofthevalley.org.

Here’s my 2014 Annual Thanksgiving Campaign gift:

☐ $16.40 to help feed and care for 8 people
☐ $26.65 to help feed and care for 13 people
☐ $53.30 to help feed and care for 26 people
☐ $_______ to feed and care for as many as possible

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY / STATE / ZIP

E-MAIL

☐ Check enclosed ☐ Bill my credit card

☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD ☐ DISCOVER ☐ AMERICAN EXPRESS

CREDIT CARD 

EXP. DATE PHONE 

Donate online at www.hopeofthevalley.org or call (818) 392-0020.

Hope of the Valley Rescue Mission
P.O. Box 248
Sun Valley, CA 91353-0248

Please return this completed form with your donation. Your gift is tax-deductible as allowed by law. You will receive a receipt.