

MACON RESCUE MISSION
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Mercer Athletes Serve at the Mission

Thank you to Caley Cranford (see below, on right) and her fellow student athletes for serving dinner to our residents! Their kindness and smiles showed so much love to the domestic violence victims and homeless that we serve. We appreciate Caley's faithful volunteering in the Dove Center as well—she is a huge blessing!



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The Mission Bell

WWW.MACONRESCUEMISSION.COM
NEIGHBOR HELPING NEIGHBOR



Because You Care -
We Can Share

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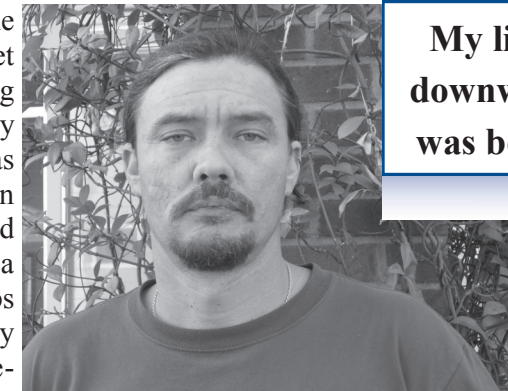
Your Support Helped Leroy Find Grace

He is now reunited with his wife and dogs, and drug-free

My name is Leroy. I am 38 years old. I am a carpenter by trade but I enjoy fixing all types of things. I am from Miller, GA, where I live with my wife Melissa and two dogs Max and Tinkerbelle. We are not well-off but God sees that we always get what we need.

I came to the Mission to get help for drug addiction. My addiction was starting to ruin my life. I had already lost a few good jobs and almost my marriage because of it. My life was starting to spiral downward out of control and I was beginning to feel hopeless.

I first heard about the Mission when me and my wife drove her first cousin here for treatment a few years ago. It made a big difference in his life. He is now in college and doing well. Ironically, he is the one who drove me here this time.



Since I have been here at the Mission I have gotten closer to God than ever before. I know He is there for me and has been even when I didn't deserve it. It is only through His grace and mercy that I am alive today to write this testimonial.

My life was starting to spiral downward out of control and I was beginning to feel hopeless.

I am now hopeful and eager to get started on a new life drug free.

I cannot say thank you enough to the Mission, its staff and Mr. Jackson for giving me an opportunity to help myself and get my life back together. I feel like my life is moving in a positive direction again because of them and my stay here. I pray God blesses the Mission and all the wonderful people I have met here. I will never forget it.

And Jesus Christ our Lord was shown to be the Son of God when God powerfully raised him from the dead by means of the Holy Spirit. Through Christ, God has given us the privilege and authority to tell Gentiles everywhere what God has done for them, so that they will believe and obey him, bringing glory to his name.
Romans 1:4-5 (NLT)

SERVING THE LEAST, THE LAST AND THE LOST.

INSIDE:
• Dove Center Update
• Photos
• Letter from the Director
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March Statistics

Program Days of Residence:

Men	1,242
Women	198
Children	310

Mission Ministry

- ◆ 5,250 residential meals served
- ◆ 31 lodging nights provided for transients
- ◆ 62 meals provided for transients
- ◆ 148 hygiene kits provided with a total value of \$1480
- ◆ 1,155 diapers dispersed with a total value of \$770
- ◆ 29 baby food items provided
- ◆ 139 Gospel tracts distributed
- ◆ 383 food boxes distributed with a total value of \$15,320
- ◆ NA/AA meeting participation was a total of 694
- ◆ 26 chapel services conducted by volunteer ministers



Thank you to the Junior League of Macon for awarding us a grant to purchase life skills curriculum for our Dove Center residents! These resources will help our women overcome their past and move forward to starting a new life. Above: Julie Adair, Dove Center Director, receives grant from Sarah Adams, Junior League Community Grants Program Chair, 2010-2011 Right: All Junior League grant recipients.

From the Director's Desk

My dear friends in Christ,

God created each and every one of us with unique individualized gifts. There is no other creature walking this planet created with a free will and in His image and likeness. We are to be the "best we can be", when we strive for holiness we are our happiest! We are comforted knowing He is there for us. He walks with us on our journey through life as we search for our Spiritual North Star.

Today's depression is not economic but spiritual. Less and less of us are going to church, we are being entrapped by the evil forces of the modern world. We have lost sight of the deeper meaning of what we live for. Instead of using the gifts our Lord has given us to better serve and glorify Him, we have become slaves of these materialistic objects. Look around us. Have we been trapped by the kind of car we drive? The kind of clothes we wear? The laptop computer? The biggest and the best flat screen 3-D TV and home theatre? How about the iPhobia, the iPod, the iPad, iPhone or the iThis and the iThat? I am no different than anyone else – guilty as charged!

Good habits are contagious and bring holiness to us. On the flip side bad habits are just as contagious! God gave us the ability to say "Yes" and the ability to say "No" and to know the difference! To say "No", we have to have the understanding of the deeper "Yes" -- our acceptance of our Lord and Savior. Don't forget we can change our habits!

God Bless and have an inspirational April!



Care to Share Needs

- ◆ Gently used strollers
- ◆ Toilet Paper
- ◆ Twin-Size Blankets
- ◆ Canned Goods
- ◆ Diapers-sizes 3, 4, 5, 6
- ◆ Kleenex
- ◆ Baby Wipes
- ◆ Deodorant Soap
- ◆ Bleach
- ◆ Paper Towels
- ◆ Shampoo/ Conditioner
- ◆ Laundry Detergent
- ◆ Deodorant
- ◆ Disinfectant Wipes (Clorox)
- ◆ Disposable Razors
- ◆ Wash Cloths/Towels



Above: March 25th representatives of the Mission and Dove Center attended the Southern Organization for Human Services Luncheon sponsored by Mercer. Pictured is the keynote speaker, former Department of Human Resources Commissioner Beverly (BJ) Walker. Her experiences have lead her to understand that public assistance is the last stop for people in need and that Human Services is the emergency room for our society.

Your Generosity to the Dove Center Provides a Home to Resident Children

It doesn't take long for residents to feel safe and comfortable here



"Home, Mommy, home!" Those three words startled me as I was driving a Dove Center client back to the center after her appointment at the Department of Children and Family Services (or as we say, DEE-FAX). I turned and looked at the sweet, very vivacious, little three year old sitting in the back seat, staring out the window, and then I turned and looked at his mother who was grinning at me. As she grinned, she explained, "He calls the Dove Center home. Every time we leave to go anywhere and he gets tired he wants me to take him home and home is the Dove Center."

It shouldn't have surprised me, but I was amazed. When this little one first came to the Dove Center with his mother, his precious little face expressed fear more than anything else. If we needed to see his mom for just a few minutes he would run to her saying, "No Mommy, don't go!" We realized that every time he saw one of us, his mother was leaving with us. So, to combat his fear, we started showing up and just sitting and chatting with everyone without asking anyone to leave. Little by little he started trusting us and realized mommy wasn't leaving him.

I've watched these two become comfortable and feel safe here. I've watched as his mom partici-

pates in all of our classes, counseling sessions, GED, and is obtaining work experience. I've watched her son learn how to make friends and play with other children. He loves telling me "I went to school!" (Of course, we all know he means daycare, but he feels like such a big boy!).

We try to encourage and help everyone who comes to the Dove Center. We give them a safe and caring environment while they are trying to heal from the scars they carry on the inside as well as the outside. Can you imagine what the little ones must go through when there is nothing but meanness and arguing and violence in their short little lives? It always makes me think of Jesus when he said "Suffer not the little children to come unto me, for such is the kingdom of heaven".

Please continue to help us as we help women and children of all ages through a critical, pivotal point in their lives. If you would like to help the Dove Center specifically, just designate **Dove Center** on your gift. Whether your gift is a check, toiletries, paper towels (we really go through them!), toilet paper, diapers, laundry detergent, diaper genie refills, or your prayers, we are grateful to you all for your loving support. May you all have a blessed Easter season as we celebrate our salvation through our Savior's death and resurrection!

As we proclaim that Jesus died and arose from the grave that we might accept him and have eternal life, we all realize that we are not home yet! Happy Easter!

- Julie Adair | Director
- Renee Barreth | Director of Women & Children Services
- Vernice Chappell | Evening Supervisor



Musella Baptist Church invited Dove Center Director Julie Adair to speak to youth on teen dating violence. We are so thankful to be invited out to this small country church--teen dating violence happens everywhere and all teens should be aware of it!

For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all people. This has now been witnessed to at the proper time. Timothy 2:5-6

Julie Adair, Dir. of Dove Center accepts gifts from Macon Professional Women's Sertoma Club President Jeri Loomis. Julie was glad to share with the club about the Dove Center and the services provided.

