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 NEIGHBOR HELPING NEIGHBOR



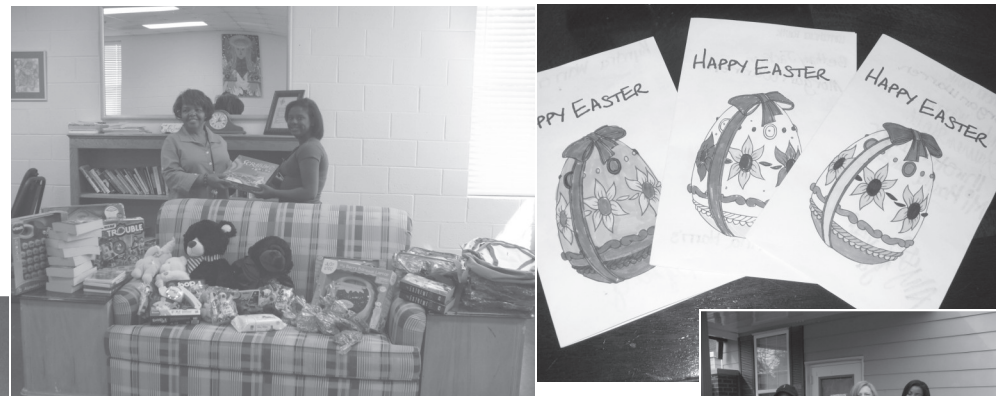
Because You Care -
 We Can Share



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YOUR support makes a difference!

Below: The Daughters of Isis were attending the Georgia Desert Conference 2011 at the Macon Centreplex. The picture is the “presentation of the shoeboxes” with donations for the Dove Center. What a blessing!



Above and Right: Several Girl Scouts from Troop 60612 gathered a generous toy donation and made Easter cards for the Dove Center. They worked hard on this project to earn their Bronze Awards. We are so thankful and the children of the Dove Center are too!



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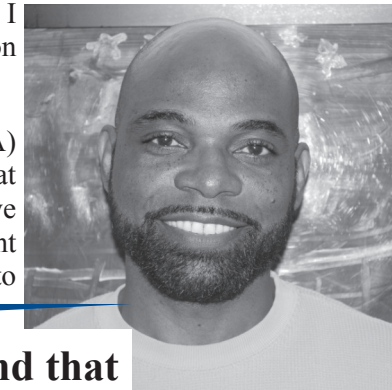
The Mission Was a Chance at Life for Henry

He learned about God’s love and began to trust others again

My name is Henry. The way I was living my life was out of control doing drugs. I was living on the streets before coming to the Mission. Until it happened to me I thought it would be easy to do, but I found out it was not. No matter how far drugs took me down it was hard to stop using them. I had no family or friends because I blamed them all for what was going on with me.

It was at a Narcotics Anonymous (NA) meeting that I let some people know what was going on with me. I couldn’t believe what happened next. These people went to work on my behalf to find me a place to stay, and that place was the Macon Rescue Mission. It blew my mind that I was not alone, it wasn’t who I wanted to help me, but who I needed the help to come from. The next day I was to report to the Mission, and that night one of the people from NA let me sleep at their house.

A chance at LIFE. I thought I would just get a bed, some food, water, a change of clothes but I got much more than I thought. The number one thing is finding out about God—how He loved me and could change my life if I let Him. I started learning how to trust people and that everyone is not out to hurt me. In the NA and AA meetings I am learning I don’t have to use drugs, I can live life without the use of drugs.



“It blew my mind that I was not alone...”

INSIDE:

- Story from Dove Center
- Photos
- Letter from the Director
- Statistics

The next day was one of the most important moves I ever made in my life at that time. That’s entering the Macon Rescue drug

Being here at the Mission has helped me get on top of my health, because I was unhealthy the way I was living. Instead of blaming others I had to take a good look at myself and find that I was to blame for everything. I am grateful that God saw it fit for me to come to the Mission, because that’s when God stepped in. I am looking forward to the future because I will have God in everything I do, that don’t mean I will be perfect but I will be better than I was. Because of my stay at the Mission I have a different outlook on life, and I would like God to use me to help others in need of help.

“For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.” - Luke 19:10

SERVING THE LEAST, THE LAST AND THE LOST.

From the Director's Desk

Mere days ago we celebrated what we Christians believe are the two biggest events in the history of our salvation. First, last Friday was Good Friday – the recollection of our Lord and Savior being crucified and dying for us. Then three days later Holy Easter, Jesus' Resurrection from the dead so that we too may rise up and live again in His honor and glory. Now the decision is ours as to how we choose to live and serve Him. It should be our mission to accomplish what those two days symbolize in our Christianity. We should not do it just for the great feasts we celebrate as Good Friday, Easter, Christmas or Pentecost, we should live a Good Friday and Holy Easter every day we wake up! And we may simply ask, how?

I recently read it truly is an easy task, just not so easy to accomplish. We need to LISTEN to God speaking to us.

God speaks to us in a symphony of ways. He speaks to us through creation. Surely, you have sat outside on a quiet evening with the gentle breeze blowing against your face and the sky filled with twinkling stars. God created all through his voice, we learn from his creation. God speaks to us through supernatural occurrences, the burning bush, the deliverance of the Ten Commandments. God speaks to us through the human voices of the prophets, ordinary men and women proclaiming divine words. He speaks to us through history. He expresses His love for us through these very events proclaiming He will not abandon us! God Speaks to us in so many ways, these are but a few. Our conscience, our scriptures, even our relationships. God sent us Jesus to add the voice to the word, now we just don't hear it, we see it and more importantly we can live it! ARE YOU LISTENING? May God bless you, Jeff



Right: Lisa Moore with Inglewood Baptist Church "Macon Impact" donated much needed toiletry items, paper towels, toilet paper, diapers, etc...



Above and Right: Take Back the Night—An empowerment march and candlelight vigil. Survivors, supporters and advocates were encouraged to help Shatter the Silence by speaking out about their own experiences with sexual violence. This is an annual event held on the second Thursday every April.



Below: Macon-Middle Georgia Chapter of Morehouse College National Alumni Association in partnership with AARP Georgia presented a donation to the Mission at a recent Jazz Benefit concert.



But you, God, see the trouble of the afflicted; you consider their grief and take it in hand. The victims commit themselves to you; you are the helper of the fatherless. –Psalm 10:14

April Statistics

Program Days of Residence:

Men	1,191
Women	193
Children	237

Mission Ministry

- ◆ 4,863 residential meals served
- ◆ 23 lodging nights provided for transients
- ◆ 46 meals provided for transients
- ◆ 105 hygiene kits provided with a total value of \$1,050
- ◆ 795 diapers dispersed with a total value of \$530
- ◆ 23 baby food items provided
- ◆ 86 Gospel tracts distributed
- ◆ 8 Bibles distributed
- ◆ 386 food boxes distributed with a total value of \$15,440
- ◆ NA/AA meeting participation was a total of 720
- ◆ 24 chapel services conducted by volunteer ministers

Care to Share Needs

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

From the Perspective of a 16 Year-Old Dove Center is a welcoming home during a difficult time

The following article is from a precious young teenager who celebrated her 16th birthday here at the Dove Center and went to her first prom while staying here. Her story is an honest one that comes from her heart. I am so glad that she is willing to share this part of her life with you, our supporters.

When I was first introduced to the Dove Center I wondered and thought to myself, "What is this environment going to be like"? When I came in I saw the place, it was so nice a big welcoming to me and my family. Everyone was being nice and greeting us and showing us around the place. They let us know the rules around here and what's allowed and what's not.

"My heart said it seems it's going to be real nice. But my mind said I don't want to stay here 'cause I don't know these people and people might judge me. Then my mother told me I had no choice because she wanted all her children together."

My heart said it seems it's going to be real nice. But my mind said I don't want to stay here 'cause I don't know these people and people might judge me. Then my mother told me I had no choice because she wanted all her children together. So, I looked at it a better way and said to myself, "It's a better environment for me than the one I stayed in". I'd rather be stable and comfortable than living like before.

After a while, I was happy with living here. I had no problems and everyone was acting like we were all a big happy family. We

always participated doing family events together and having fun with staff. We learned things about the bible we didn't know. We learned how to find the chapter, the verse, and sections in our children's bible. They gave us gifts out of the kindness of their heart, no matter of your conditions. Staff never treated children unequal. Unequal was not in this program because we worked as a team.

But, for one moment, I thought people would talk about me for the rest of my life. I had to ride the bus from here. I thought people would make fun of me and ask me so many questions. I had so many second thoughts and asking myself what would

they say to me. But it turned out to be really nice. No one said anything to me but my friends and it wasn't that bad. Fortunately I got the hang of it because I am a strong young lady and I could handle myself. The people that stayed in here with me and my family helped me get through it and making it to another day. When new people came I gave them a big welcome like they gave me and I made them feel like this is home. I kept people with a smile on their face and not looking at this place from the outside. It's a good program once you get the hang of it. I would recommend or tell anyone to come here because it



will help you in life and get you on your feet. It teaches you to be independent and what should go on in your household. This is a big welcoming to anyone.

Please continue to help us as we help women and children of all ages through a critical, pivotal point in their lives. During the last storms our Dove Center fence fell down and we have been without a fence for several weeks now. 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 (sizes 3, 4,5) laundry detergent, or your prayers, we are grateful to you all for your loving support.

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



Renee Barreth accepts donation raised through Mercer wellness event for Dove Center presented by President Underwood.