

Milestones

Recovery happens
in relationships.

SPRING 2026

A New Life Thanks to You

“ I used to think a drug addict and or an alcoholic
was someone who lived on the far edges of society...

That was until I became one. ”

— Erin

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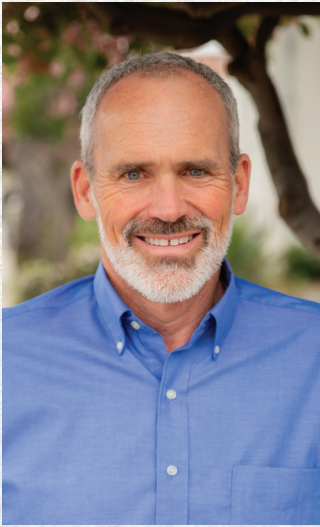
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Santa Barbara
Rescue Mission

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A NOTE OF FRIENDSHIP FROM ROLF GEYLING

Healing That Brings Families Together

ONE OF THE GREATEST joys in this work is watching families come back together.

Addiction and homelessness don't just destroy individuals. Relationships are fractured. Parents, children, siblings are impacted. Everyone connected to the life of the person experiencing homelessness or addiction feels the damage. Over time, trust is broken and distance becomes the norm. But by God's grace, that is not the end of the story.

Erin's story is a beautiful reminder of that truth. Her recovery didn't stop with her. Recovery made space for healing across her entire family. That kind of restoration is one of the clearest signs that something deeper has taken hold.

At the Rescue Mission, we see it often. A daughter reaches out. A father shows up. A sister forgives. Not because it's easy, but because hope has started to do its work.

That hope is the Easter story.

Easter reminds us that what was broken can be made whole. And every day here, we witness that kind of redemption — one relationship at a time.

Thank you for being part of that work.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Rolf'.

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!”

— 2 Corinthians 5:17

A New Life Thanks

ERIN GREW UP surrounded by faith, family, and structure. She played sports, volunteered, and had big plans for her future. But after leaving college, the pressure she had pushed down for years finally caught up with her.

What began as social drinking spiraled into addiction. One DUI became eight. Her life unraveled into narcotics, arrests, and dangerous situations that once seemed unthinkable. *"It kind of snuck up on me,"* she said. *"I never saw the line in the sand that I swore I'd never cross until it was behind me."*

“My life is full. I don't use the word 'emptiness' to describe my life today, as I did just seven and a half years ago.”

— Erin

Erin found herself far from the life she'd known. She was on the run, disconnected from her family, and convinced she was beyond saving.

"I accepted what I had become... a runner, a user, a thief."

The Moment Everything Changed

Eventually, Erin found herself caught up in a police sweep — and under arrest. She reached out to her family from jail. They hadn't heard from her in years. When her mom picked up the phone, Erin braced herself for the anger or silence. Instead, she heard love. She felt a flicker of hope for the first time in years.



to You

Her mom sent the application for Bethel House to her in jail. Erin decided to take the first real step toward rebuilding her life. She came straight here when she was released.

"I told them if they didn't take me, I was going to use and probably die," shared Erin.

At the Mission, something began to shift in her. *"One of the key factors was the Genesis program... working with a counselor, finding the root causes and traumas of why I chose to drink and use."*

Erin felt safe for the first time in years. She was surrounded by women trying to change their lives, just like she was. *"You have to get honest with yourself in order for this program to truly work,"* she said.

A New, Full Life

Today, Erin's life is unrecognizable in the best way. She runs a successful business, is engaged to be married, sponsors other women in recovery, and has restored relationships with her family.

"I can't believe this life I have today is mine. Think of a woman who is on Skid Row. That was me. And today I am a woman of integrity and honor."

It's because of partners like you that Erin had the chance to change her life.

Each \$93.15 you give this Easter will help someone else see that new life is possible... and begin living in it!



Erin (left) with her brother Thomas and sister Megan have all experienced God's amazing grace.

Her Family Changed by Grace

Erin isn't the only one in her family who's experienced renewal. Her story is part of something even bigger: a family learning to heal, one life at a time.

Her younger brother Thomas walked through our doors recently. For years, he tried to outrun his pain through alcohol, adrenaline, and isolation. But after a near-death experience and a diagnosis of stage 4 liver disease, he knew something had to change. That change began with a desperate phone call to Erin.

Erin took him in and cared for him during five harrowing days of detox. From there, Thomas entered the Mission's men's program, still uncertain if his life could be saved. But through the long process of healing — body, mind, and soul — he found hope. *"My life today is full,"* he said at his graduation. *"There is still so much more to experience sober."*

Thomas has opened his own LLC in Auto Body Painting, will have 3 years of sobriety this month, and a renewed relationship with his family. He talks to God every day and is deeply grateful for the second chance he almost didn't get.

His journey is different than Erin's, but no less powerful. This is what renewal looks like when it's real.

Their sister Megan, who graduated from Bethel House in 2016, is now a proud mother of two. She's thriving in this new season of life, grateful, grounded, and present.

Every story is different. But every changed life points to the same truth. Healing multiplies. Hope spreads. And through your support, new life continues.

Easter Feast Volunteers Needed

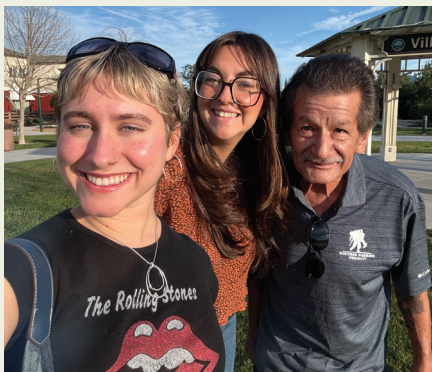
One of the greatest needs right now is at our Easter Feast. Our Feast is an unforgettable gathering where guests experience warmth, dignity, and celebration. If you've been waiting for the right time to serve, this is it. Your presence could mean a lot more than you know. We'd love to have you join us!

To learn more or to sign up, please visit sbrm.org/volunteer or email us at volunteers@sbrm.org



Homeless to Housed: An Update on Joey

WE FEATURED JOEY in our Easter letter but we have more good news. Joey's settling into his new place well, cooking up a storm in his kitchen. He's made friends with the people who live near him and in the shops around him. He remains connected to his case managers, Morgan and Katie. And best of all, he adopted a chihuahua named Sophie.



Joey is continuing his connection with his case managers, Morgan and Katie.



Joey loves his new dog, Sophie!



Joey loves to cook and share meals with friends.

“ I'm very happy. ” — Joey



Santa Barbara
Rescue Mission



Help Someone Begin a New Life This Easter

Your Easter gift of any amount can help someone change!

When someone is trapped in addiction or homelessness, change can feel impossible. But partners like you put real recovery in reach one day at a time.

Will you help someone else like Erin start a new life?

Each \$93.15 provides one full day in our 12-month Residential Treatment program, but your gift of any amount can make a difference.

Your generosity gives more than food or shelter. It gives someone the time, care, and Christ-centered support they need to start again.

This real, holistic recovery isn't quick. Your gift will help men and women build stability, restore relationships, and reclaim who God created them to be.

Every day in the program is a chance for someone to begin again. It can start with you.

Any amount you give will help someone else begin a new life this Easter!



Become a Partner in Hope!

Every dollar you give to the Mission helps to transform lives. But as a Partner in Hope, you can make the biggest impact all year long. Your monthly gift will help provide consistent, life-giving support for men and women in recovery.

Sign up now at: sbrm.org/partner



Offer New Life This Easter!

Your Easter gift of any amount can help someone else like Erin find healing and grace.

Yes, Rolf! I want to help someone get off the streets and experience lasting transformation! I'm giving an Easter gift of:

\$ _____



Santa Barbara Rescue Mission

If you would like to charge your gift by credit card, please use reverse side or give via our secure website at sbrm.org/hope
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Milestones

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