



# homewardbound

Your support helps guide lost souls home.



God is helping me forgive myself for past behaviors

by Kasey

I want you to know how much I appreciate your friendship and support.

**My name is Kasey.** I am at the Durham Rescue Mission because I have been addicted to pain pills since I was 17. I hurt myself playing tennis, had multiple surgeries and needed pain pills legitimately for a period of time. However, I got used to those pills, and they began to ruin my life. After a while, I built up a tolerance to the medication. I don't know why it took me so long to get help. All I can say is I will be eternally grateful to God for leading me to the Durham Rescue Mission. Here, I made a commitment to do something about my addiction. In the old days, I would steal pain pills from my stepdad and grandma. It was all too easy to get those meds. But that's now all a thing of the past.

**Today I am free in Christ . . . free to do the right thing.**

For a long time, I had a hard time forgiving myself. But

here at the Mission, I'm learning through God's Word, I not only have been forgiven, but that I am also free in Christ to do the right thing. In the old days, the devil had his hands on both of my shoulders. I felt like he was holding me in

**“ . . . I will be eternally grateful to God for leading me to the Durham Rescue Mission.”**

place so I couldn't move. Today, God has my back. Since I've been at the Mission, I have discovered it has been relatively easy to give up those drugs. I wish I had known that a long time ago. I'm grateful to so many people, especially to a friend like you who is reading my testimony. Thank you for hanging in there with me and for supporting a place that is bringing me hope for today and for the days ahead. God bless you at this Easter season.



Mission Statement of  
the **Durham Rescue  
Mission**

“Our mission is to meet,  
through the power of Jesus  
Christ, the needs of the  
whole person — spiritual,  
educational, emotional,  
physical, vocational and social  
— so those who are hurting  
may become fully functioning  
members of society.”

**WHAT IS A  
PLANNED GIFT?**

A simple definition is gifts from  
assets rather than from income.  
Remember the homeless in your  
estate planning. Prayerfully  
consider options for insuring your  
desire to help others for years  
to come.

- Put the Durham Rescue  
Mission as a beneficiary  
on life insurance policy
- Charitable lead trust
- Charitable remainder trust
- Donor-advised funds
- Appreciated stock gifts
- Real estate

For more information, please  
call Gail Mills **(919) 688-9641**,  
ext. 5028.



**An Encouraging Word  
from the Founders**

Dear Friend of the Durham Rescue Mission,

When folks come through the doors of the Durham  
Rescue Mission, each has an opportunity to become  
a new person. As these men and women embrace the  
love of our Savior, they soon discover old behaviors  
become a thing of the past and all things become new.

No longer are they in bondage. More than one person has reminded us to thank  
**you** for making sure there was an empty bed when they needed a place to sleep.  
However, many did not realize when they took that bed that they would also be  
exposed to the love of this Christian community.

**More good news . . .**

A person can come to us addicted, homeless, broke, with no job, no money in the  
bank and family relationships in shatters. But as they make Jesus the center point  
of their lives, they have the opportunity to enjoy victory over their addictions, find  
good employment and, often, reconcile with their families. In the process, they  
begin to take their eyes off themselves *and begin reaching out to others in a spirit  
of servant leadership*. Perhaps this is why the Durham Rescue Mission continues  
to be the number one homeless shelter in North and South Carolina, Georgia,  
Tennessee, and Virginia. We do not say that to boast. We simply say it because we  
want to remain the “go to” Mission for people who desperately need a loving touch  
from the Lord Jesus Christ. And what better time to share the good news of our  
risen Lord than at Easter? Thank you for your financial gifts and enthusiastic support  
of this ministry of rescue.

God bless you.

Sincerely,

*Ernie & Gail*

Ernie & Gail Mills, Founders

“Thank you for  
your financial gifts  
and enthusiastic  
support of this  
ministry of rescue.”



**After I lost my law  
license, I realized I was  
no longer the smartest  
guy in the room**

by *Reginald*

I have finally discovered my purpose for living  
. . . and I have never been happier in my life.

**My name is Reginald.** I can still  
remember the days when my lawyer  
buddies and I would drive by the  
Durham Rescue Mission and joke,  
“Hey, we ought to go in there, sign up  
and see what it’s like to be with those  
people.” Well, my friend, because  
of an ethical violation, I lost my law  
license, and I now find myself here at  
the Mission as “one of those people.”  
*Talk about a lesson in humility.*

Over time, I became homeless, relying  
on contributions from my friends. For  
many years, I worked simple jobs, but  
nothing professional like I had been  
accustomed to. Local hotels were my  
home. I was no longer the smartest

guy in the room, something I’d always  
believed about myself when I was  
practicing law. I admit I still have to  
fight that tendency even here at the  
Mission. But little by little, God is  
delivering me from that self-centered  
attitude.

**God bless you for your  
incredible generosity.**

I should’ve known better. For years,  
I had gone to church. I sang gospel.  
I was in a quartet. But I was simply  
playing church. To me, practicing law  
was more important than following  
Jesus. Now I can tell you *being a  
lawyer is not who I am*. I am a servant  
of Jesus Christ. Even if I never get

my law license back, it will be okay  
because this is the best time of my  
life. I am finally at peace with God and

**“To me, practicing law was  
more important than  
following Jesus.”**

with myself. At this Easter season,  
I want to say a special word of thanks  
to you. You give so much of your  
time, money and influence to make  
this Mission such a wonderful place.  
Please accept my deepest thanks for  
all you continue to do to help so many  
of us who have lost our way . . . *but  
who are now finding our way home.*



**The Easter season holds great promise for those in need . . . thanks to your generous support**

The entire staff at the Durham Rescue Mission thanks you for your  
overwhelming support of this ministry of rescue during the past several months.  
As challenging as life may be for many of us, it’s even more difficult for the  
men and women who come through our doors during the Easter season. They  
are the homeless, the ex-offenders, the addicted and the lost. The good news  
is this: those who choose to make positive changes in their lives are finding  
new hope, new opportunities and new life as they decide to walk with their  
Savior and Lord.

**God bless you for giving from a loving heart**

Thank you for continuing to reach out to so many who need a friend — a Friend  
whose Name is Jesus. We cannot thank you enough for your ongoing generosity  
as we do our best to live out our mission of touching the lives of the hungry, the  
poor and the homeless. To send yet another donation to help those in need,  
please use the remit slip enclosed. You may also give your gift on our secure  
website **www.DurhamRescueMission.org**. Thank you for being a friend of the  
Mission as *together* we reach out to the needy in our community during the  
Easter season and throughout the year. God bless you for being one who cares.



**“Thank you for  
being a friend of  
the Mission . . .”**



## Donations of:

- ☐ Clothing
- ☐ Shoes
- ☐ Furniture

... are needed for our thrift stores. Visit our website to learn drop-off sites. Call **(919) 401-1935** to see if pickup of large items is available in your area.

## Special Thanks:

To everyone who gave financially, volunteered and/or donated coats, food and/or Christmas gifts. See lots of photos of happy faces at [www.DurhamRescueMission.org/Facebook](http://www.DurhamRescueMission.org/Facebook).

## Annual Easter Community Dinner and Easter Basket Giveaway

We are preparing our Annual Easter Event on Friday, March 25, 2016. We need:

- **Easter Baskets for the children**
- **Volunteers to help set up and serve**

You can help by purchasing an Easter Basket and dropping it off at 1201 E Main St or by making an online donation at [www.DurhamRescueMission.org](http://www.DurhamRescueMission.org) and marking it "Easter Baskets" (\$15 will provide a lot of joy for an at-risk child).

To volunteer, please call **(919) 688-9641, ext 5025**, or sign up online by visiting [www.DurhamRescueMission.org](http://www.DurhamRescueMission.org).

NOTE: Deadline to help with Easter Baskets is Tuesday, March 22.



## MY EASTER GIFT

### YES, Ernie and Gail!

I want to do my part to continue to help those in need during the Easter season.

### Here's my gift of:

- ☐ **\$20.50** to provide **10** meals and other assistance
- ☐ **\$30.75** to provide **15** meals and other assistance
- ☐ **\$61.50** to provide **30** meals and other assistance
- ☐ \$\_\_\_\_\_ to provide as many meals and as much care as possible
- ☐ Please bill my credit card:
- ☐ VISA ☐ MC ☐ AMEX ☐ DISCOVER

### Durham Rescue Mission

P.O. Box 11368  
Durham, North Carolina 27703-0368

## chaplain's corner



by Reverend Rob Tart  
Chief Operating Officer

We read in I Corinthians 16:1-4 that Paul was doing social work as he was collecting money for impoverished Christians in Jerusalem who were suffering financially. They were poor because of persecution, overcrowding and famine.

God has a heart for the impoverished and weak. Proverbs 19:17 says, *He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord.*

As you give to the Durham Rescue Mission, you are giving to the poor and ultimately to God.

The causes of poverty are different for every family at the Mission, but the need is the same whether it be food, shelter, clothing, counsel, vocational training, job placement, transitional housing or all of the above.

Your gifts of finances, stocks, clothing, furniture, vehicles and/or time are all an investment in helping others in need. All of which help to further God's plan.

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ACCOUNT NO. \_\_\_\_\_ EXP. DATE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY / STATE / ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

► Please mail this completed form with your generous Easter gift, or you may donate on our secure website [www.DurhamRescueMission.org](http://www.DurhamRescueMission.org). Your gift is tax-deductible as allowed by law. You will receive a receipt. Any gifts received above our current need will be used to help care for people in need throughout the year.