October 2026

Homeward Bound

Your support helps guide lost souls home

VICTORIA SAYS, "THANK YOU"

She never thought she would be homeless. When life caved in, YOU gave her a way forward!



Victoria will tell you she had everything — but gave none of it to God.

She worked hard, that's for sure. Victoria had the high-paying job, the home, the truck. In her mind, she didn't need anyone anymore. "I went through very tumultuous relationships," she says. "My first marriage was full of domestic violence. The other two? They wanted me for what I could give them."

Victoria learned quickly to look out for herself — but in the process, she became blind to the downward slide that was happening in her heart . . . and eventually, her life.

"I was a chronic marijuana smoker and gambler," says Victoria. Her faith fell to the wayside. And in the swirl of it all, she lost her welding job.

"After that, everything went into a spiral," she says.

Within three months, Victoria had no stable place to live. She went to stay with her mother and started looking for shelters. But

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Every $2.95 Thanksgiving meal opens the



Every $2.95 provides a meal and restorative care!

Victoria says, "Thank you — for donating your time, and your resources. It's very helpful and very needed."

Victoria's story . . . (Continued from pg. 1)

she found so much more than shelter.

FROM SURVIVAL TO STABILITY

When Victoria first stepped through the doors of the Durham Rescue Mission, she felt a humility and gratitude she hadn't experienced in a long time.

"I felt very grateful I didn't have to sleep outside. I just felt really humbled and grateful to be there," she says.

Victoria needed more than a roof. She needed to find her way back to stability — back to God.

"The Victory Program impacted my life," says Victoria. "It helped me draw closer to God, to learn about Him again. I've learned that He is the ultimate relationship."

She'd been in a backslide for more than a decade. She'd let money, relationships, and her own pride crowd God out. Thanks to you, she finally found what she'd been missing — and it went so much deeper than safe shelter and meals.

Still, through the process of rebuilding, Victoria has realized how dignifying the little things are.

"There are so many things that you don't appreciate until they're gone," she says. "When God gives you things, you should really not take Him for granted."

"I felt very grateful I didn't have to sleep outside."
— Victoria

Today, Victoria approaches life differently. More humble. More grateful. More certain about where she's headed. Thank you for helping her find her footing and keeping her out of homelessness.

"I feel hopeful about the future," Victoria says. "I'm in the Career Development program right now, and I want to get back out there, get a job, and be a productive person in society — but do it all with the Lord's guidance."

door to life-changing care!

REAL STORIES OF HOPE

What people in the community say about your generosity . . .

Men, women, and children who've experienced homelessness don't give thanks for their blessings *just* on Thanksgiving. They're grateful every day for the second chance, stability, and hope you gave them!



"Lives are built here. That's what your giving is doing at the Durham Rescue Mission. Give money. Give your time. Build up another person."

— Molly, a long-time volunteer

"The Durham Rescue Mission is a beautiful, wonderful Christian facility that can help you. Thank you so much. You have been a great, great blessing to men who want to better themselves."

— George



This Thanksgiving, a meal will show a neighbor in need you care!

Many men, women, and children in our community will have no family table to sit at this holiday season.

That's why we're gearing up for a massive fall outreach and plan to **serve over 50,000 meals** this Thanksgiving season to neighbors in deep need. We can't do it without you! Your gift of nourishing Thanksgiving meals will open the door to stability.



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Setting the table for the lost



ROB TART
President & CEO

There's something about a Thanksgiving table that gets to the heart of what this ministry is really about.

Most of us sit at a table every day. We don't think about it much — but you would certainly notice if your dining table was suddenly gone.

For a man sleeping in a car, a woman who lost her job and her housing in the same week, or a hungry child . . . sitting at a table is everything. Victoria knows this.

She came through our doors with nothing. Because of you, what she found here was more than shelter. She found a community. She found tools to live by. She found her way back to God.

That's the power of the table, the power of meals, and the power of your generosity.

You are pointing lost souls home by bringing them to the table. This Thanksgiving, I pray you feel the full weight of your partnership and what it means for our neighbors who have so little.

The table you'll help set *will* change lives. Thank you.

D. Robert Tart

A $2.95 Thanksgiving meal can change a life forever!

Thanksgiving should be spent around the table. Not in a tent. Not alone under a bridge. Not sleeping in a car.

This holiday season, men, women, and children across the Triangle will spend their Thanksgiving exactly like that. Addiction, trauma, job loss, and heartbreaking circumstances have pushed them into homelessness. Others have fallen on hard times and can barely put food on the table.

This Thanksgiving, Triangle neighbors with all kinds of stories will come sit at the table. Your gift can ensure they find not just food and shelter, but care that puts them back on their feet for good.

Every $2.95 Thanksgiving meal you provide now opens the door to Christ-centered programs that help hungry and homeless neighbors find lasting stability.

Please give your best gift now so men, women, and children can find freedom from what binds them.



LEAVE A LEGACY OF LIFE CHANGE



Gratitude is good for you!

Gratitude has a positive effect on our mental and physical health! Here are three ways you can practice gratitude with your loved ones:

REMEMBER GOD'S GOODNESS. Recall stories and memories, ways God has shown His faithfulness, and answers to prayer.

ACTIVATE YOUR GRATITUDE. Invite your neighbor over for dinner, volunteer for a cause you care about, or serve at church.

THINK FORWARD. Leaving a gift in your will to the Durham Rescue Mission is a lasting expression of gratitude. The holidays are a wonderful time to share this with your family!

For more info on how you can leave a gift for the Durham Rescue Mission in your will, contact Gail Mills at 919-491-2041 or email Mills@DurhamRescueMission.org.

YOU can restore a neighbor's life!

Giving is simple. Here are **3 EASY WAYS** you can lift someone out of homelessness and hunger:

1. MAIL your gift, reply form, and Meal Tickets in the enclosed envelope.



2. GIVE ONLINE at DurhamRescueMission.org/ThanksgivingHope.



3. SCAN the QR code to give now.

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