

# CENTRAL COAST Rescue Mission

An Outreach ministry of



August 2011

Changing Lives for Good

## True Recovery!

We celebrated a great achievement with ten men and their families. These men graduated from the mission's Life Recovery Program. The core components of the program are personal recovery, Bible study, life-skill coaching, and vocational training. Each year nearly a dozen men are able to make a positive step forward in life for having had opportunity to be part of true recovery!



**2011 Graduates**  
We are proud of you, men!

## A Family Reunited



Proud and Happy Moment  
for the Miller Family.

"I had a wonderful time. My older son, Shane was not looking forward to going to the graduation - he and his brother Travis have been pretty distant for several years now, understandably so. Well, he called me yesterday to tell me that he was glad he went and how much he enjoyed the event. It was not at all what he was expecting. Then he told me how he thought Judge Flores was such a good speaker. I couldn't agree more.

He has never understood why my husband and I do what we do for Travis, but told me that it all makes sense now because of the story told by the Judge about the two brothers (Bible Story of the Prodigal Son).

It touched me so, I cried like a baby after I hung up. My two boys were going through my head when the Judge was telling that story and I'm so happy that Shane now understands. What a life changing night for us, really!"



Albert used to be a Cook in Prison;  
He is now Serving Dinner to the poor.

Central Coast Rescue Mission has partnered with Power of God Christian Center in Santa Maria to expand the mission's food service operations out of the church's newly remodeled and certified kitchen. The mission will be able to expand its menu, improve quality, and provide further vocational training opportunities for men. Now men like Albert can work to serve hot, delicious meals to the poor in the mission's outreach efforts.

# Grateful and Giving Back

It would be the same old story if it wasn't so tragic...teenage boy parties with methamphetamine and soon develops an addiction. This is Matthew's story. And, 29 years later he is tired – tired of jail, tired of going right back to the old friends and places, and tired of dysfunction being the norm.

Matthew's parents split up when he was in Junior High. Partying was an easy way to cover the pain. Some years ago at another program, he thought he had the problem licked, but he fell hard again. Matt explains, "I had no spiritual family and I had no sponsor, so I had cut off all accountability and I fell."

Today that has changed. Being able to work at the mission's thrift store and to work as part of our facil-

ity team has helped Matthew. "It's been good to be able to work and not expect anything in return. It's something I intend to carry on even when I'm earning a paycheck again. Working for Jesus makes me want to work hard. That was hard at first for me, but now it seems the natural thing to do is to give back."



Matt attends the Lompoc Four-square church with his wife and children. He has taken on a lead role with Narcotics Anonymous and he is very, very grateful to go back to work for his employer. Matthew is responsible for remodel, repair, and maintenance for four hotels in the area. Matthew, we're proud of you and happy to see God at work in your life.

## Make Your Gift Dollars Go Further

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Your company could very well double or even triple your individual, tax-deductible contribution.

# Engaging Hearts and Minds in Recovery

Vocational Training is defined as, "a process that helps people with functional,... cognitive and emotional impairments or health conditions to overcome barriers to returning to employment or other useful occupation." I heard another person say it like this – "you better get off your backside and work, 'cuz no one is going to give you anything on a platter!" Either way it is important for a man in recovery to keep his heart and mind engaged in the process of recovery. We balance our schedule so a man can find the right amount of study, recovery support, recreation, and work.

Our main areas of vocational training are:

- Outreach – clients work with volunteers to serve meals to the homeless and working poor
- Thrift Store – clients are responsible for keeping the store a clean, well organized, and energetic place to shop
- GED training – clients who don't have their high school diploma have opportunity to study and prepare to receive the GED
- Facility upkeep – each client has an assignment to keep our mission facility well maintained and clean
- Life-Skill Training – clients create their resume, cover letters, and train for job interviews

