

The Good News

Serving the homeless and needy in the South Bay area for over 100 years with "Soup, Soap and Salvation"

JUNE/JULY 2019

BEACON LIGHT MISSION
"Soup, Soap and Salvation" since 1902



Doors of Hope

Women's Shelter



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We offer open showers for any homeless man or woman on Mondays and Thursdays. Each person is given clothing, hygiene items and served a hot breakfast.

Thank you Harbor Church!

A Woman's Day of Pampering by the Harbor Church. What an amazing event the Harbor Church held for the women at Doors of Hope.... make-up, manicures, facials, haircuts, mini massages...along with a light lunch and heavy on the fun and fellowship. The women who attended were so grateful for the pampering. The single incredibly impactful comment by one of the women was "Thank You for letting me feel like a woman again. It meant so much to me."

Thank you, Cynthia Scott-Lima, Taryn Burgess and the women's ministry members of Harbor Church, for your continued support of us – and helping to restore dignity to women.



A Night with Friends "The Homeless"



Born in Watts, he grew up knowing what poverty, segregation, and what tough streets were all about. He also grew up with the word of God and believed everyone was his neighbor whom he should love and lift up whenever and wherever the opportunity arose.

Several weeks ago, he returned to the streets, sidewalks and alleys, behind Beacon Light Mission and Doors of Hope Woman's Shelter where the poor and abused are in abundance and striving to survive in their present conditions.

He reached down and shook their hands and introduced himself simply as "Mike". With the same concern and love he has had for the homeless, over the years, he talked with them. Not at them---BUT, with them. "How you are doing, "Mike" would ask and then patiently listen to their lament, complaints, testimonies, stories, etc. Then "Mike" would ask them, "How can we help you? What can we do to lift you up from here?". And again, he listened to their prolonged reply's. He made a note of their name and with a compassionate assuring tone "Mike" let them know that he would see what can be done for them. After bidding them a "good night", "Mike" moved to the next tent and started all over.

It was close to midnight by the time "Mike" finished walking and talking to the homeless along Broad Ave and the people "camping" in the alley behind the missions and we along with his staff gathered together in front of BLM/DOH for a debrief "Mike" explained that they would like to spend the night on the sidewalk with the homeless, if it was okay with us.

Continuing, "Mike" stated that they have done this for the last three years somewhere in his district because it gives him/them a chance to talk and listen to the homeless one-on-one, which gives him a clearer understanding and insight to their plight.

While standing there, a staff member suggested we have a time of prayer. Holding hands and bowing our heads "Mike" began praying and mentioned each man & woman by name along with their needs which had been described to him that night. All of us were touched by his compassion for

Once again Jerry (executive Director) and Laura (Director) along with Roy Barile (Board President) and Gretchen Goldsmith (Board member) attended the Annual Conference for people serving in rescue missions and life-transformation ministries.



This year their theme was 'Exodus'. As stated by Citygate, "There are so many parallels between Moses' efforts in trying to lead the Israelites out of slavery and the work that life-transformation ministry

leaders do in trying to lead people out of bondage—be it poverty, addiction, mental illness, destructive behavior, and more. Just like Moses, we deal with griping, complaining, our people wanting to go back to the old life, and even idol making. And just like Moses, we have those burning bush moments, Red Sea moments, manna from heaven moments, and times when we want to strike the rock rather than speak to it. Indeed, we have a lot in common with Moses.

We attended several general sessions and quite a few seminars – from addiction recovery, program development, building partnerships, donor relations to how to serve the walking wounded. We came back better equipped, with new vision and more hope.

We received a phone call from Delores Coleman with the National Council of Negro Women Inc. – each year this wonderful group provides beautifully wrapped containers for the Doors of Hope. On June 1 we drove over thinking we would pick-up 30-40 boxes. They just blew us away – over 100 containers. Filled with hygiene and so much more. A huge Thank You to Delores and this group – not only do they help Doors of Hope but so many other community groups as well....and with such warmth and welcoming. May the Lord continue to bless the work of your hands.



A story of the providence of God! We get up in the morning, the day is planned, we are focused, diligent and on point. Never thinking that what started as a simple ride in a truck would lead to an open door where you didn't realize the door existed.

Ray Owens arrived at the mission in November. Previously, Ray had been in and out of prison four times for drugs, became involved with gambling and eventually lost his money, his job, his family – his children. His mom was a major influence in his life and yet he during that dark time would not heed her warnings.



Ray was supposed to enter a program at the Long Beach Rescue Mission but believes the Lord directed him here. While at BLM Ray said listening to testimonies, going to church, just being here humbled him...and said to himself I can't sulk, I need to get up and get it together. So gradually he began the climb up. Started working through agencies until his hoped-for Metro job came through. He also began speaking to his family and reestablishing relationships. And then we witnessed the Lord take the broken pieces and watched them be put into place.

We rented a U-haul truck for the Doors of Hope and needed assistance with loading, etc. Ray volunteered. On our way to drop off the items packed in the truck, I started asking him a few questions – didn't really know him prior to that morning. So, we talked, and I discovered he was working, had a steady income – working hard getting his life back together, wanting a place to live that he could afford. BINGO! Just three days prior, Cathy Hetzer with Harbor Interfaith called and informed me there were three shared-housing rooms available did I know of anyone... requirements, the ability to walk up a couple of flights of stairs and the ability to pay \$xyz amount. Well, I did not know anyone who met the requirements at that time but right now I was sitting next to a man who did. Within a weeks' time Ray was moved in.... he stops by every now and then to say hi, let's me know how he is doing, and it is good to see him and how his life is moving forward.



CONTINUED FROM COVER—

the poor and lonely, along with his appeal to God for wisdom and resources to help them.

It was after midnight when we exchanged blessings and good-byes, and as I looked back, I watched as that small group prepared for a "Night with the Homeless."

It is our great pleasure to both introduce to you, and to thank Assemblymember Mike A. Gipson of the 64th Assembly District that includes the communities of Carson, Compton, Gardena, Harbor Gateway, Lynwood, North Long Beach, Rancho Dominguez, South Los Angeles, Torrance, Watts/Willowbrook and Wilmington; for his love and compassion for his and our neighbors...the people of the streets; who are temporarily experiencing homelessness. jhr



Online Shopping at...

amazon.com[®]

Now you can donate items to the mission from the comfort of your own home or office. We have created an **Amazon Wish List**. We have diligently searched for selected quality items that will last for the best possible prices within the amazon.com website.

Amazon Instructions:

Go to Amazon.com and in the upper right corner hover over the lists button and select **Find a List or Registry** and type in Beacon Light Mission or Doors of Hope Women's Shelter. There you will find their list of needs. "Check Out" as you normally would, selecting Beacon Light Mission or Doors of Hope Women's Shelter as your shipping address. The items will be sent directly to the mission. It's as easy as that! If you need assistance call Gina at (310) 830-7063. ☼

Current Needs

Mission Needs

- Men's Jeans (size 34-48) ***Urgent***
- Men's Underwear
- Women's Underwear (size 5-6-7)
- Razors
- Dish Soap

Food Needs

- Spaghetti
- Linguine
- Penne
- Rotini

Canned Food ***Large # 10 cans please***

- Chili Con Carne
- Green and/or red enchilada sauce
- Diced tomatoes
- Tomato sauce
- Corn

Other Food Items

- Vegetable oil & Olive oil
- Cornbread mix

We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that is qualified to receive tax-deductible donations.

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to minister the love and grace of Jesus Christ to the homeless in the South Bay by providing a safe and nurturing environment where they can receive food, clothing, temporary shelter, discipleship and spiritual encouragement in their present life circumstances.



Help and hope found here

In June with your help, we were able to...

serve 100 meals per day



assign 1260 beds



provide showers for 378*



*Open showers are for any homeless man or woman. Each person is given clothing, hygiene items and served a hot breakfast.

1499 Attended Chapel Service



Beacon Light Mission & Doors of Hope Women's Shelter
525 Broad Avenue
Wilmington, CA 90744

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I can do *all* things through *Christ*
who strengthens me.

Philippians 4:13

DONATION DROP OFF

You may drop off your food, clothing or other donations any time between 8:00am-6:00pm for both Beacon Light and Doors of Hope. Just go to the back gate of the Beacon Light Mission or Doors of Hope and honk your horn. Someone will come out and collect your donations.

Financial donations on our websites:

Beacon Light
www.beaconlightmission.org
Doors of Hope
www.doorsofhopewomensshelter.org

Or by mail to:
525 Broad Avenue, Wilmington, CA 90744