



OVERCOMING OBSTACLES

Shot 3 times. Addicted. Homeless. Ellis had no self-esteem and felt that no one loved him. His drug addiction had consumed every aspect of his life. Without a proper place to live and friends dying from overdoses, he never knew where his next meal would come. Deep in his addiction, he had lost respect for himself, and his family had lost respect for him, as well.

After the police raided his hotel room and took him into custody, Ellis began to think about what he really wanted out of life. There were so many days and nights wasted locked up in hotel rooms, getting high, and losing hope. He felt that this experience was God’s way of speaking to him to get his life back together.

Today, two years later, Ellis says “I wish I could thank the police officer that arrested me that day; he saved my life.”

Ellis entered The Rescue Mission’s long-term program for recovery, but what he found was much more than sobriety. He found people who truly loved and invested in him. He found new confidence in the Lord, and in turn, new confidence in himself.

After much hard work, Ellis graduated from the long-term program. “I will never go back to that. The addiction had me for so many years. If it weren’t for the Mission, I know I would be dead.” Ellis now has two cars, his own home, and his family and his children’s respect back.

“ If it weren’t for The Mission, I know I would be dead. ”

Ellis is a shining example of living out the purpose that God has created for him. His journey has come full circle! As a full-time employee at The Rescue Mission, he serves as an example for the current men in programming, guiding, encouraging, and leading them towards change for good. “It’s an amazing thing once you turn your life around.”



LOST BUT NOW FOUND



Kara had lost herself to drinking, as a way to numb the trauma around her. She was in an abusive relationship with an unfaithful man. Embattled in legal trouble, Kara went to jail and lost custody of her son. She was always looking for her worth - in her family, friends, and relationships. She could never fill the emptiness that she felt. Kara was lost, not knowing who she was as a person. Desperate for a healthier life, she could not escape from the vicious cycle of self-doubt, abuse, and addiction.

Kara made several attempts to stay clean through help from

several halfway houses. When she finally came to Charis House, she knew she was home. "This is where my healing is at." Alcohol had taken so much from her, but it didn't take away her hope.

“ I am getting to know myself... I have hope again; I am worth it. ”

She knew the importance of her recovery and truly surrendered. "I really dove in and wanted to do this right. My life depended on it." In the last six months of being at The Charis House, she started to find herself again. "It's been a

slow unveiling of who I really am." Kara felt more authentic to who God was calling her to be. "I am getting to know myself, and it's exciting, but sometimes scary-but I am so excited. I have hope again; I am worth it."

Kara wishes that donors knew the true impact they make on people's lives. That without donors, none of this life-changing work would be possible. "I wish they knew all the lives they change. Not just the individual; but everyone in that individual's life. All of my relationships are restored. Donors restore hope."

This year's impact and looking to the future

A note from Rev. Donovan Coley, CEO & Senior Pastor

2020 has been a year no one could have anticipated. This year has challenged so many and given so much for us to reflect on. To say the year has been difficult would be an understatement.

While this was one of the most trying years that will be discussed for generations, one thing has stayed constant, Jesus Christ.

At The Rescue Mission, we have always kept our focus on the Lord and trusted he would provide. No matter the circumstances or times, we have overcome and continued to serve those in need.

This year of turmoil has not caused that focus to change. While we might not serve our population as we once did, we are still providing them with needed services during these unprecedented times.

These services have stretched The Rescue Mission in ways we didn't think possible or ever foresee. However, by keeping our focus on Christ, we know we will get through this.

Your support during these times is so important. From financial gifts to prayers of protection, The

Rescue Mission needs you more than ever.

These are trying times, and without donors like you, The Rescue Mission could not continue. Please consider giving a gift this year, in whatever manner you can afford. Through the power of Jesus Christ and the help of your generosity, we will prevail!



Donovan A. Coley

Rev. Donovan A. Coley Sr.
CEO | Senior Pastor

THE RESCUE MISSION HONORED WITH ECFA FULL ACCREDITATION

This ECFA accreditation is based on the ECFA Seven Standards of Responsible Stewardship, including financial accountability, transparency, sound board governance and ethical fundraising.

Founded in 1979, ECFA provides accreditation to leading Christian nonprofit organizations that faithfully demonstrate compliance with these established standards. The Christ-centered ministries accredited by ECFA include churches, denominations, educational institutions, rescue missions, camps, and many other types of tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organizations.

"We are pleased to accredit a ministry committed to provide restorative care to men, women, and children experiencing a homeless crisis," said Michael Martin, president of ECFA.

Fort Wayne Rescue Mission Ministries joins a growing number of Christ-centered churches and ministries across America, supported by over 27 million donors that have earned the right to display the ECFA seal. Less than one tenth of one percent of nonprofit organizations in the nation are awarded this prestigious credential. When an organization is accredited by ECFA, it demonstrates its willingness to follow the model of biblical and financial accountability.

To learn more about this award, go to <https://www.ecfa.org/>



Reason for the **Season**

The 2020 Rescue Mission Christmas Catalog is your chance to make the Christmas season special for someone in need. Donations benefit the men, women, and children of The Rescue Mission

2020 CHRISTMAS CATALOG

Download and purchase items now at: fwrn.org/catalog

UPCOMING EVENTS

learn more about all events at fwrn.org/events

UNTIL NOV. 14th

2020
OneNight
WITHOUT A HOME

One Night Without A Home is a sleep-out event that allows participants to experience what it is like to be homeless for one evening.

Learn more at:
www.fwrn.org/1night20

NOV. 16th - 20th



National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week is an annual national event to raise awareness for those most vulnerable in our community.

Learn more at:
www.fwrn.org/nhhaw

DEC. 12th & 19th

2020
Gift Wrap

Come get your Christmas gifts wrapped and a tour of the new building. Donations are encouraged.

Learn more at:
www.fwrn.org/giftwrap

UNTIL 2021

Reason for the Season

The 2020 Rescue Mission Christmas Catalog is your chance to make the Christmas season special for someone in need.

Learn more at:
www.fwrn.org/catalog

FWRM.org



YOUR SUPPORT IS CHANGING LIVES FOR GOOD. During times like these, YOUR support is needed more than ever! Lives are being saved because of YOU! **Will you continue to support men, women, and children who are facing a homeless crisis by sending your best gift today?**



THE **Rescue Mission**

Payment options

☐ **Check enclosed**
(Payable to The Rescue Mission)

☐ **Charge to my credit card**
(Information below)

Card Type ☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD ☐ DISCOVER ☐ AMERICAN EXPRESS

Name on Card _____
(Please print)

Card Number _____

Exp. Date _____ Security Code _____

Total Amount Charged \$ _____ Signature _____

Give now at FWRM.org/newsletter

☐ **I also want to give to The Capital Campaign**

☐ **Check enclosed**
(Payable to The Rescue Mission)

☐ **Charge to my credit card**
(Information above)

Total Amount Charged \$ _____ Signature _____

Thank you for your support!

Your contribution is 100% tax-deductible.

Stay Connected

Email _____

I prefer to receive correspondence through: (check one)

☐ email ☐ postal mail ☐ other (please specify) _____

Please send me information about: (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Attending special events
- ☐ Volunteering
- ☐ Touring The Rescue Mission
- ☐ Planned Giving
- ☐ Monthly Giving

Double your Donation!

Does your organization offer matching gifts? Not sure? Find out at fwrn.org/match

Does your company offer a match but isn't listed? Let us know below!

Please pray for: _____
(name of your company)