

SEPTEMBER 2025

HOPE *Rising*

THE NEWSLETTER OF PHOENIX RESCUE MISSION

Kim's New Pants

After going through the recovery program at the Changing Lives Center, and staying on to do ministry training, Kim had to buy new pants.

You might wonder why she needed new pants. She hadn't changed sizes, but there was one major difference. The knees on her jeans were worn out!

"When I get to talk to other people on campus about their experiences, I just naturally want to get down on my knees," she says. "I just want to be at their level and understand. Because I understand what it's like to lose everything and just feel like you're not worth it, because you've got no one there."

Love Changes Everything

That's what every bottle of water and every "Hope Tote" hygiene kit our Case Managers hand out is all about – showing people on the streets that we see them, that they are loved, and that we believe they are worth taking care of.

Your support makes that possible – and it's that very same support that helps people like Kim take the next step into a changed life.

Kim came to the Mission after an abusive relationship and devastating addiction tore her life apart. Before that, she was living her dream life. She ran a health and weight management business that was doing so well she was featured on national television shows.

Continues inside ▶▶▶

"I'm still grateful for cold bottles of water. I love shouting that from the rooftops." – Kim

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Rescue Mission™

Transforming lives. Transforming the Valley.



Kim's New Pants

continued from cover

But addiction and homelessness don't discriminate. Even as successful as she'd been, Kim ended up homeless and alone, living in a shed and digging through dumpsters trying to survive.

"It was just the same cycle over and over for years," Kim says.

Hope in a Bottle

Desperate for help, Kim came to the Mission's safety office, and someone offered her a bottle of water. It tasted like a second chance.

"I'd been drinking out of hot garden hoses for months," she says.

That night, out of the heat, Kim got to eat a nourishing meal and go to sleep with her head on a pillow.

"That was the start of everything," she says.

"Everything" turned out to be a whole new life!

Kim went through our year-long recovery program and is living in freedom and new life. She has a deep, personal relationship with Jesus, is healthy, happy, and thriving. She's even reconnected with her family and has been sharing God's love with them!

"I've had a lot in life, and I've had very little. And now, I'm just grateful," Kim says.

Thank you for giving so generously to Code:Red so that people like Kim can be rescued, one bottle of water at a time!

"I'm so grateful . . . I'm just generally in tears of joy all the time," Kim says. "My mom and I cried the other day about how now she's searching to have her own relationship with Jesus."

Showing Up for as Long as It Takes



Homelessness in the Valley is rising. The 2025 Point-in-Time Count revealed that 9,734 people are now experiencing homelessness in Maricopa County—a 3% increase from last year. Even more troubling, the number of people living unsheltered jumped by 28%. More of our neighbors are sleeping in cars, tents, or on sidewalks. Behind every number is a person struggling to survive the heat, find their next meal, or escape trauma and addiction.

At Phoenix Rescue Mission, we respond by showing up—every day, across the Valley. Our outreach teams made over 56,000 contacts last year, offering cold water,

hygiene items, and critical care. These moments of connection often begin with small gestures and lead to trust. Trust then leading to the belief that change is possible.

We know recovery isn't instant. It can take multiple conversations, months of consistent connection, and a community of support to rescue people off the streets. But when someone is ready to say "yes" to change, Phoenix Rescue Mission is ready too.

This work is only possible because of supporters like you. Thank you for walking with us—and with them—until lasting hope takes root.

What the Numbers Don't Tell Us

This year's reports confirm what we've been seeing at the Mission for a while now: the need in the Valley is growing.

But that number doesn't show how much worse things could be without the support of partners like you. Last year, we rescued 1,270 men and women from the streets – almost 56% more than the year before.

This year, we have continued to grow to meet the need. And, because of you, we will keep showing up for as long as it takes.

That's why your continued partnership matters. Behind every number is a person—and every rescue is a reflection of your compassion and your faithfulness to our collective mission.

God bless,



Ken Brissa
Chief Executive Officer



Be Part of the Peer-to-Peer Movement!

We've heard from several of our partners that they want to share their passion for the Mission with their family and friends, but they just don't know the best way to do it. Peer-to-peer fundraising is a wonderful way to invite others to join you in rescuing and saving even more lives.

4 Reasons to Try Peer-to-Peer Fundraising

- 1. It's Personal and Powerful**
People give to people. When your friends see you championing a cause—especially one that helps people in need—they're far more likely to give.
- 2. You Make a Real Impact**
Every dollar you help raise provides life-saving care for vulnerable men and women across the Valley.
- 3. It's Easy to Start**
You can personalize your page in minutes. Then just share your page by email, text, or social media—it's that simple.
- 4. You Multiply Your Generosity**
By inviting others to join you, you'll help raise more money for a cause you care deeply about.

Are you ready to start your own fundraiser and help save lives?

Just go to: phxmission.org/startafundraiser and we'll walk you through every step of the process. With just a few clicks, you'll be ready to share your page.

World Homeless Day is October 10th



This October, we're launching our first World Homeless Day campaign—a powerful movement to raise awareness and help children, families, and neighbors get off the streets and into new life.

Right now, over 9,700 people across the Valley are experiencing homelessness—and over half of them are unsheltered. But through the compassion of people like you, hope is breaking through—because of you... hope has arrived.

Your support fuels our Street Outreach teams, Hope Totes filled with essentials, and recovery programs that guide people toward lasting change.

Last year alone, your generosity helped rescue 1,270 people from the streets—almost 56% more lives impacted than the year prior!

This fall, you can be part of something even greater. Whether you give, start a fundraiser, or simply help spread the word, your involvement will help more neighbors take their first step toward freedom and new life.

Because everyone deserves a chance to come home.

**Learn more and get involved:
phxmission.org**

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Transforming lives. Transforming the Valley.

We provide Christ-centered, life-transforming solutions to people facing hunger, homelessness, addiction and trauma.

To mail a gift: Phoenix Rescue Mission
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