Vo.19 No. 1 January 2019 January 2019 January 2019 Hiway 80 Rescue Mission - Men's Shelter - Women & Families Shelter - Tyler Gateway to Hope

You give him and many others hope Thank you!

P.O. Box 3223 • Longview, TX • 75606-3223 • (903) 759-8101 • Hiway80Mission.org 601 E. Valentine St. • Tyler, TX 75702 • (903) 363-9265 • Hiway80Mission.org/Tyler

A Fruitful Year To Come!

A Note From Rev. Eric Burger

Dear Friend,

I love to share stories with you in our newsletters about people whose lives have changed completely.

In this edition, you will read about Yolanda's brave journey to East Texas and how you provided for her and her family. You will also read about our faithful partner and friend Mr. Fry and his years of service. And you'll be blessed to hear about the joyful Christmas celebration you gave to those in need at Hiway 80.

When they first came here, our guests felt unloved, ashamed and hopeless. Now they are glad to be alive and are positive about life. They go around telling others, "If God can change me, He can change anyone!" They want others to know there is hope for everyone.

What an encouragement that is for us to keep on praying for those who are far from God!

Thank you for praying for those who come here. Most don't know God. But when they reach the safety of this place and can stop and think for a while, they know something has to improve in their life. They see God in the lives of others here and they want what they have. Those who seek the Lord find Him.

This year will bring more peope in need. With your help and God's blessing, lives will change. Thank you!

Road to a New Life Starts Here

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Rev. Eric Burger **Executive Director** Hiway 80 Rescue Mission

Our Mission At Hiway 80 Rescue Mission, we preach and teach the Word of God while winning souls to Jesus Christ. We accomplish this by providing food, shelter, clothing and the opportunity to hear and receive the Gospel.

Board Members

the states

Brian Bunt (President) David Detten (Vice President) Stephanie Vasso (Secretary)

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Elizabeth Murphy Elsie Livers, Director Emeritus Where do you go when ... ?



Where do you go with your five children when you're homeless? Yolanda went from hotel to hotel on support provided by her husband.

But what do you do when your husband goes to prison? This young mom found cheap rent and supported her family with a lowpaying job until the day she was evicted.

"I only had \$10 and my children."

In hopes of a fresh start and because the rent was cheaper in East Texas, Yolanda courageously left Fort Worth. She read about Hiway 80 on the internet and because she could bring her children, she called. "They said they would have a bed for us, so I stepped out on faith hoping that bed would be there when our bus arrived at the bus

station 11:00 that night. And they did!"

"The best thing about being at Hiway 80 was knowing I had a place to sleep every night. The setup for women and children was really comfortable."

Yolanda was given the immediate care she and her children needed — a first step toward independence. She said Hiway 80 encouraged

her to be accountable for her own decisions and provided her with the resources to become self-sufficient.

"It's quite a retreat to get your thoughts together in an environment where you feel safe. That was awesome for me."

About 6 weeks later, she was hired as an assistant manager at Goodwill, a job she loves. She's taken on responsibilities she never knew she could handle and now has a house next to her children's daycare and about a 5-minute walk to her job.

Yolanda found security, independence and confidence at Hiway 80. She found the new beginning she was hoping for.

You gave this family a place to make a new start. Thank you!



A safe place in the storms of life is a wonderful gift, but it is not the answer to the problems that cause a person to become homeless.

When life falls apart and a person feels they are sinking, Hiway 80 is a Godsend. We are here to save those who are "drowning" and teach them to swim.

help provide.

A shelter in the storm ... and then some

We all need to know how to survive in this world. Without wisdom a person will perish. That is why, with your help, we first provide emergency shelter, food and clothing in a safe, healthy Christian environment. Then we teach the Gospel of Christ, hoping our guests will reach out and hold onto the hand Jesus extends to them.

That person can then start to build their life on a stable foundation with Christ caring for them.

Our case managers personally guide each guest to make the most of the great resources you These resources include:

- Medical and healthcare referrals
- Assistance in obtaining housing and disability insurance payments
- Help to gather birth certificates, a driver's license or other identification
- Referrals for employment, work clothes and transportation
- Referrals for medical care and transportation to appointments
- Financial management classes
- Daily devotions and chapel services

Our goal for each guest is for them to identify and overcome the problems that brought them here and to build a fruitful life.

You have been generous. Hiway 80 provides 200 beds (sometimes more) for homeless men, women and children every night. Each one has every opportunity to establish a complete and joyful life. Thank you.

Years of Faithful Partnership

We were recently reunited with one of our most faithful friends, Mr. Edward Fry. For years, Mr. Fry and his wife were coordinators for all volunteer tutoring and worked closely with the East Texas Literacy Council. They trained and recruited volunteers interested in tutoring guests. By the time they stopped volunteering, they had both made a huge impact on so many lives here at the Mission.

Mr. Fry greatly impacted Greg, who has since passed away. Not only did he have problems reading, but also had anger issues. Mr. Fry prayed with him and taught him how to handle his anger.



Mr. Edward Fry celebrating the success of the men he tutored

The Frys were volunteers from 2011 to 2014, until Mrs. Fry got too sick. After she passed away, Mr. Fry continued grading Bible lessons for about another year, until his own health made it hard for him to get around. He then moved into an assisted living facility.

Mr. Fry was chosen as "client of the month" at his assisted living facility. Each "client of the month" gets a wish granted. Mr. Fry's wish was to come visit Hiway 80 again. This picture shows his wish coming true. The facility brought him here and we had a small celebration with guys he helped while he was tutoring.

David could not read when he came to Hiway 80. But by the time he graduated the program, he not only was able to read, but also filled out a job application and got a job!

The Mission was always a special place to the Frys, and they have been such a blessing to so many!

Thank YOU for a joyful holiday season!

Christmas is a joyful time at Hiway 80! <u>Thank</u> <u>YOU for making it possible.</u>

Our guests share the same suffering of loss. They have each been alone, hungry and afraid. They have felt like outsiders to the Christmas celebrations others embrace around them.

But we are a family here, a very big family, who gathered together to enjoy the celebrations with food, singing and worship. They were good days. Each child received a gift picked for them, and we all enjoyed seeing the children laugh and play. This place became a home for the holidays. Colorful decorations and cards you sent were on the tables and walls. God blessed us. Christ came to bring peace on earth and good will to all, and we feel it!

When you know God loves you, you can't help but smile. Thank you for making this season one to remember!











Road To A New Life Starts Here

3117 W. Marshall Ave. • P.O. Box 3223 Longview, TX 75604-5030 • (903) 759-8101

Dear Salutation,

Last year, you offered safety to those without the power or resources to help themselves.

They came fleeing abuse, addiction and miserable poverty. Some were hungry and homeless and living in terrible conditions. Our door was open because you were a good friend who cared. Thank you for that!

It was a good year. Hundreds came here in distress and began a relationship with Jesus Christ. Many more deepened and refreshed their relationship with God.

No wonder many prayers and songs went up from this place. The work was not always easy or immediately rewarded, but in time, it will be. Your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

Now we have a new year. Poverty and homelessness have not gone away. Many still suffer. As always, we trust God to show His love for us and each of the lost sheep He brings here. Thank you for your partnership.

Road to a New Life Starts Here

Rev. Eric Burger Executive Director Hiway 80 Rescue Mission

12627

To send a gift please tear off the card below and mail it with your gift, or donate online at Hiway80Mission.org. Thank you!

Yes, Here is a gift to help, someone in need.

Use it to provide meals, shelter, care and spiritual support to help someone find a new start.

123456789 N1901B

I've enclosed a gift of:

- \square \$21.10 for 10 meals and care.
- \square \$31.65 for 15 meals and care.
- \square \$52.75 for 25 meals and care.
- \square \$105.50 for 50 meals and care.
- \square \$168.80 for 80 meals and care.
- \square \$______to feed and
 - care for as many as possible.

To use your credit card or give online, please see other side. Please make checks payable to **Hiway 80 Rescue Mission**. Your gift is taxdeductible as allowed by law.



- BY CHECK made payable to Hiway 80 Rescue Mission
- BY DONATING ONLINE at Hiway80Mission.org
- BY CREDIT CARD (please fill out the information below)

Charge my: VISA VISA MC OD Disc	🗆 AmEx 🗾
\Box Make this a monthly recurring donation.	
Name (as it appears on card):	
Card #:	

Phone:

Signature:

Exp. Date: _____

Gift Amount: \$ _____ Card Security Code:_

lives ebbed away. Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble, and He delivered them from their distress. Psalm 107:5-6. NIV



P.O. Box 3223 Longview, TX 75606 Phone 903.759.8101 Hiway80Mission.org

□ I want to stay connected and receive occasional email updates. My email address is below:



The names and pictures of guests are occasionally changed to respect privacy.



Life Starts Here 601 E. Valentine St. • Tyler, TX 75702 (903) 363-9265

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Great Things Are Happening!



After 18 years as CEO and President of DLS Environmental/ SPX First Response, I have decided to answer God's call on my life to be the Donor Relations Coordinator for Hiway 80 Rescue Mission in Tyler, Texas. This developing, faith-based nonprofit organization provides services for the homeless population which include a 10-month recovery program with a follow-up

mentoring program and inter-connecting support systems with local churches to increase success rates.

After a few years of building brands and businesses in the East Texas private sector, I began volunteering as a chapel speaker with Hiway 80 Rescue Mission in Longview. I've volunteered and joined service organizations before, but nothing ever changed me like my work with Hiway 80 Rescue Mission. Since starting this volunteer work in 2007, I have become more and more drawn to this career path.

Over the years, I have met many guests here who remind me of myself. Perhaps this is what drew me in further. Many who find themselves without shelter and food also need encouragement, a kind heart and direction to show them the way forward. I think everyone needs that! This is what we do at Hiway 80 Rescue Mission.

The Road to a New Life Starts Here

Dennis

Construction Update:

Praise God! Construction on our new Welcome Center is underway! This beautiful new facility will include: a temporary dining room, a computer lab, classrooms, a counseling room and a reception area.

However, we are still working hard to expand! We are still in need of funds for a Respite Cottage that will hold up to 8 men who need continued care after being released from the hospital. We are also still raising the funds for a chapel and 3 Transitional Cottages for men working to become self-sufficient.

> For more information please contact Dennis LaMaster at 903-720-0095 or dennisl@hiway80rm.org



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Thank you for supporting the Hiway 80 Rescue Mission

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- BY DONATING ONLINE at Hiway80Mission.org/Tyler
- BY CREDIT CARD (please fill out the information below)

Charge my: VISA VISA			🗆 AmEx 📄
□ Make this a monthly re	curring donat	tion.	

Name (as it appears on card): _____

Card #: ____

Phone: ____

Gift Amount: \$ ______ Card Security Code:_____

Signature:

_____ Exp. Date: _____

They were hungry and thirsty, and their lives ebbed away. Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble, and He delivered them from their distress. Psalm 107:5-6. *NIV*



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