

GOSPEL CENTER RESCUE MISSION

restoring lives since 1940

THE VISION

445 S. San Joaquin Street • Stockton, CA 95203 • (209) 320-2310 • gcrms.org

JUNE 2020



Faith Restored

With the gentle hand of God, it was the birth of Al Wilson's grandson that turned around his life. His own childhood was a cycle of abuse, drunk parents, and poverty. Born in Calaveras County, Al lived most of his life in Amador County. A Miwok Indian, he lived on the reservation as a tribal member and worked on the reservation for many years, eventually becoming homeless and working side jobs throughout Amador County. He finally was offered a job working as a ranch hand - where he was able to both work and live.

His journey to the Gospel Center Rescue Mission was not the usual path. His first introduction was when his daughter Ashley came to the Mission and entered the

New Life Program. With an impending warrant against her, she knew that her soon-to-be-born son would be taken by Child Protective Services (CPS) and moved into the foster system. She reached out to her dad. Working with CPS, he was granted custody of the newborn. While Ashley served her two month sentence, Al took this sweet little baby back to the ranch. And there, he fell in love with his grandson, Al Henry Lee Wilson.

Once his daughter was out of jail and regained custody of the baby, she encouraged her father to

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218 East Sonora Street

Today we spotlight one of our nine active Mission Campus renovation projects – 218 East Sonora Street – a former residence that has potential as a six-bedroom dorm or two three-bedroom apartments.

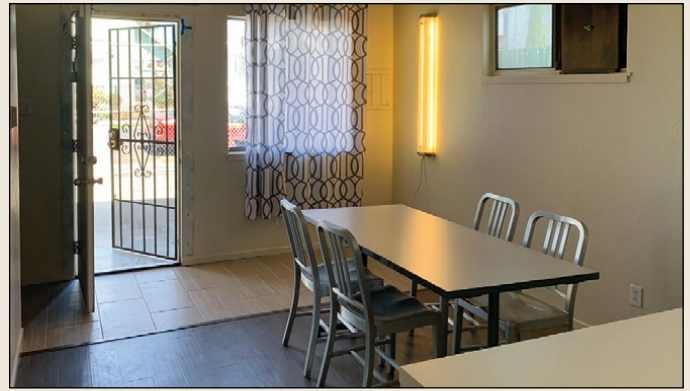
This property became available for purchase last fall and is within our Campus, with a private Sonora Street access. An easement at the rear of this property connects our Men's Recuperative Care Center to the main Campus. The easement was "conditional," surviving only during the current ownership and would not pass on to the next. With the potential loss of the easement and our desire to broaden our campus, we purchased the property. We took possession of the property on March 1, 2020.

Enter COVID-19. When the California Stay at Home Order went into effect March 19, we made a quick decision to renovate this property into a temporary COVID-19 positive isolation facility for women and children. Because of your unrestricted financial support and under the project management of our amazing COO Britton Kimball, the interior was renovated in about two weeks. Approval to occupy was obtained by the City's Fire Marshall. ***Other than hospitals, to our knowledge, this is the only positive COVID-19 isolation resource in San Joaquin County.*** With the help of an anonymous donor and RB Environmental, new windows, roof, siding in the front and rear, and exterior painting is now being completed.

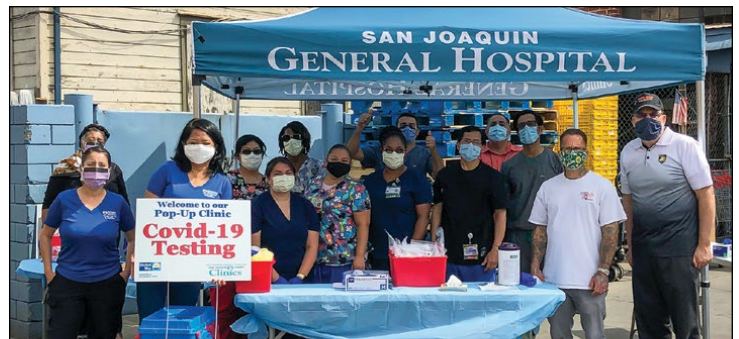
Moving forward, we anticipate using this facility for increased New Life Program Phases 2 & 3 or on-campus staff housing. This resource could also serve again for temporary pandemic isolation.

We look forward to you scheduling a campus tour to see this, and the other 8 projects as potential stewardship opportunities for your financial blessings. Call (209) 320-2310 to schedule your tour.

Wayne G. Richardson



COVID TESTING



This past month, GCRM students and staff members were tested at the Mission for COVID-19 by San Joaquin County Public Health. We are deemed a sample population with regard to the homeless. In addition, Stockton Shelter and St. Mary's Dining Hall staff members were also tested. This was made possible with funding from United Way of San Joaquin and San Joaquin County. So far, no positives! Praise God!

Donations Needed

We are actively seeking items to keep our staff and students healthy during COVID-19 Sheltering.

Cleaning Supplies • Clorox Wipes • Kleenex
Toilet Paper • Paper Towels • Feminine Hygiene Products

Current GCRM Renovation Projects



New Life's Women's Home active construction site!

- 1 Playground***
(Stockton Rotary & RB Environmental funded)
Projected Finish: 7/1/20 (Signage Remaining)
- 2 Men's ELG Bathrooms & Showers***
(City/HUD funded)
Projected Finish: 10/1/20
- 3 Electric Panel Box***
(City/HUD funded)
Projected Finish: 10/1/20
- 4 New Life Women's (118 Beds) Home***
(Former Alustiza Hotel \$6m project)
Projected Finish: 10/17/20
- 5 Kitchen Renovation***
(County & City/HUD \$490K funded)
Projected Finish: 10/17/20
- 6 Dining Room Renovation***
(County & City/HUD \$490K funded)
Projected Finish: 10/17/20
- 7 Student & Staff Housing***
(218 E. Sonora)
Projected Finish: 12/31/20
- 8 Kid's Water Park Construction**
Projected Finish: 12/31/20
- 9 New Life Men's (178 Beds) Home**
(Former Victorians)
Projected Finish: 12/31/23

*Fully Funded or Pledged. #Over 90% Funded or Pledged.

THANK YOU!



We are thrilled to have received from an anonymous donor, a wheelchair van with only 58,000 miles on the odometer. The van will be a huge benefit to our Recuperative Care Staff who pick up and drop off clients during admissions intake and for appointments at area hospitals and doctors offices. A special shout out and thank you to Board member Rev. Fred Jantz who cultivated and obtained this important donation!

GCRM HAPPENINGS



Congratulations to our May 2020 New Life Program Graduates, and thank you to David Madura, NCS Development Founder, GCRM Boardmember and Keynote speaker for his encouraging words to our students.

UNITED WAY VIDEO

United Way of San Joaquin County recently released a video on Homelessness and the work of the Gospel Center Rescue Mission. We are blessed to be working with United Way and thankful for their desire to help promote the Gospel Center in this way. To view the video, visit our website's homepage at gcrm.org.

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Happy Father's Day!

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enter the program at Gospel Center Rescue Mission. It was time for him to address his own addiction problems and turn his life around. He left the security of the ranch and was overwhelmed with the grace of the Mission Staff – the way they welcomed him with loving, open arms. He speaks highly of how the Mission Staff builds people up, giving them value and teaching that we all have choices. In his words, “They give chances here and do not turn people away.” Being at the Mission would also allow him to spend more time with Ashley and little Al.

After completing the two year New Life Program, his faith in God has been a source of strength. He especially enjoys the counseling at the Mission and the Sunday services at First Baptist Church. Now with the “Shelter in Place” orders, he has been attending via internet, which has been challenging. He misses the relationship with the church members, attending with his fellow Mission friends and is anxious to get back into the routine of a Sunday Worship service.

Al believes that once he entered the New Life Program, he became a better person. Now working as a houseman in the Men's Shelter, the Mission has become his safe place to grow. He has learned that relationships – especially with his Lord and Savior – are so very important and has worked hard to restore and maintain his relationships with people in his life. The Gospel Center has become his family and in his own words, “The best thing that has ever happened to him.”

“When Al tells his story, I can hardly believe it,” says Andrea Mountjoy, Director of Donor Relations and GCRM Graduate. “Since being here he has been a stellar student and taken his job seriously as a



Al is one of over 30 children who call GCRM home.

houseman. Those qualities cannot be ignored. But, most of all, above all else, he is a wonderful father and an even better grandfather. It is an amazing sight to watch him with little Al and see his dedication to be the male role model in his life.”

He now is proud to be an example to his friends in Jackson, Amador County who are trying to stay clean and sober. Al, with tears in his eyes said “I thank God every day for this place. This is my family now, and I am so very thankful. And my grandson, well, he is everything to me!”

Not everyone can say they have a wonderful, supportive, loving father. As we all reflect upon the fathers in our lives this Father's Day, let's be reminded and thankful that the Gospel Center Rescue Mission, with the help of our Heavenly Father, is creating life changing results for men in our community. They are sons, fathers and grandfathers who are breaking cycles, becoming responsible, drug and alcohol-free employed men, in relationship with Jesus Christ.