

## Called to Serve

There are sparkles in her eyes and her smile radiates joy as she greets each guest who enters the Gospel Center Rescue Mission. Dianna Clay knows both sides of The Mission door - the rough streets, yet once she stepped inside the doors, by the grace of God, she experienced the peace and security of a new life in Christ. Dianna's journey took her from being served by The Mission, to a clean and sober life now serving others in the name of Christ and on behalf of The Mission.

Since she entered the New Life Program in 1995, Dianna, our GCRM 2022 Distinguished Graduate, has never forgotten what it was like to 'be in their shoes' – remembering the benefits and services she received before she stepped inside The Mission and began the New Life Program. Graduating in 1996, she was soon hired at GCRM in the SSI program, working as a Payee Representative. In that position, she helped clients budget their money, find housing, and pay rent. With her great history and knowledge of The Mission, its programs and services, Dianna now oversees daily interaction with all clients – directing them to have their needs met, whether it is clothing, information on GCRM programs, direction on navigating social services, or simply being a listening ear. Dianna, if you will, is The Mission concierge.

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# Providing Shelter for Recovery

As we head from summer into fall, I am reflecting on all that God has done in and through The Mission and looking forward to all that He has in store. One of our biggest projects is the construction of our Women's Recuperative Care building, located at 218 E. Sonora St. It is almost complete and is coming along really nicely. You may have seen photos in our last newsletter of the framework of the building and now you can see the drywall and stucco are finished! We are making great progress and are excited to be able to help many homeless women once fully completed.

Our Recuperative Care Program (RCP) provides 24-hour shelter beds for people who are too well to be in the hospital, but too sick to recuperate on the streets. With the expansion of this building, we will be able to provide 20 more beds to homeless

women. Many of these women enter into our New Life Program (NLP) after their recovery and make significant life changes for the better.

This would not have been possible without the help and support of so many. Support from our generous donors as well as grants makes these amazing things happen. It really does take a village.

A special thanks to San Joaquin County, City of Stockton, City of Stockton Building Department, Public Works, and United Way.

God Bless,

*David Midura*

David Midura, CEO  
GCRM



For the past 25 years, Dianna has dedicated her life to serving others. In a Vision article from 2018, Dianna said "It's a part of my life – to be of service. I seize any opportunity to help, even when I am not at work. If someone asks me for help, I will do what I can. If I don't have an answer, I will find someone who does."

She is even involved with the community outside of The Mission. In January 2018, Dianna was recognized by the City of Stockton, the State Legislature, and U.S. Congress as Martin Luther King Person of the Year. At the MLK Celebration, she was honored for her service and commitment to the citizens of the community, an experience that made her feel appreciated and empowered.

Dianna describes her life at The Mission as a life changing experience. From the time she entered the program, to meeting and marrying a fellow student - her late husband, Benjamin Clay, to serving and fully understanding the needs of the homeless – her life has been filled with joy. She knows that God has always had a better plan for her life, and she lives it every day in service to others.

Dianna is just one of many people who have found their way through the doors of The Mission, that led to a pathway walking with Jesus! Please join us at the Graduation / Alumni Homecoming event and mingle with the graduates and their families; listen to their stories and be encouraged by the work being done here at The Mission through our New Life Program students, by the grace of Jesus Christ.

## *Distinguished Graduate* David Say

David Say, affectionately known as Day-Day, had just been named the Gospel Center Rescue Mission's 2022 Distinguished Graduate when he unexpectedly passed away in mid-January of 2022. This was the first year where a graduate from both the Men's Program and the Women's Program were being honored. Day-Day was a beloved member of The Mission family, and when he wasn't managing the Clothing Plus store, he could be found at the Jesus Saves gate to welcome Mission guests. A memorial service was held in the chapel at The Mission on Friday, January 21st. Although he is not with us for this celebration as our 2022 Distinguished Graduate, we know that he is celebrating in eternity, healed, and walking with Jesus.



## OUR PROJECTS



It seems as though every issue of the Vision newsletter displays at least one construction photo – and this month isn't any different. In addition to the Sonora Street House in the CEO message, we recently completed another project. Outside the Recuperative Care building, along Sonora and Hunter Streets, a beautiful block wall has been erected. Providing security and safety, the wall is the beginning of defining our space on the northwest side of the GCRM campus where our Recuperative Care house is located. As more projects begin, we will keep you updated. It is because of our supporters, like you, that we are able to continue the beautification and security of our campus.



# GOSPEL CENTER RESCUE MISSION

*restoring lives since 1940*

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

CAMPUS MEMORY VERSE:

— *“Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.”* Matthew 22:37 —

The honor of your presence  
is requested at the

## **GOSPEL CENTER RESCUE MISSION**

*restoring lives since 1940*

### **Homecoming Graduation Celebration**

September 11, 2022

BBQ @ Noon

(Graduation immediately following)

Keynote Speaker

Dianna Clay

2022 Distinguished Graduate

Gospel Center Rescue Mission  
445 S. San Joaquin St.  
Stockton, California 95203

**Please RSVP to Linda Lucero (209) 320-2310**

# DONATIONS NEEDED

KIDS SOCKS & UNDERWEAR  
KIDS BACKPACKS FOR BACK TO SCHOOL  
HYGIENE PRODUCTS

WE THANK YOU FOR ANY DONATIONS.  
FOR DONATION DROP-OFF, CALL (209) 320-2310.

## SAVE *the* DATE

Upcoming Graduation Schedule

**November 13**

*Lincoln Presbyterian Church*

Keynote Speaker

Bill Conley, GCRM Past President and Board Member