

## Growing & Thriving

Born in Stockton and raised in the country outside of Lodi, Nevin Roe grew up living an ideal childhood. His dad was a hardworking mechanic, and he had a stay-at-home mom who babysat other children. He described it as the 'white picket fence home, right around the corner from the neighborhood school'. He was an active and athletic kid who loved skateboarding, waterskiing, football and baseball. Nevin said, "I had a really good upbringing."

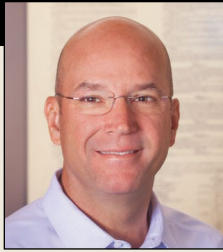
Nevin excelled in football and baseball and aspired to play in high school. Yet injuries from his active life began to fog those dreams. At age 13, doctors found a hairline fracture on his heel, followed by a similar injury on the other heel, leaving him in a cast for two years. The summer before high school a skateboarding accident brought on another injury, a broken elbow socket which took him out of football and baseball his freshman year. He never really came back from his injuries. Now with a body aching from injuries, and without the team sports he loved, he began taking what he knew would make him feel better - prescription drugs, which led him to drinking, smoking weed and doing cocaine. Nevin even began dealing drugs.

A car accident in 2006 set Nevin's life on a downward spiral. He said, "I needed a break - a break from myself. I was doing way too much. Spending too much money, drinking, driving and crashing cars." During all this, he got married and they had a baby boy. Yet his fast-paced, drug infused lifestyle took its toll, and he lost his family - an unfortunate result that usually transpires when feeding a

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## A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

# Happy November to you and yours!!!

As we head into the end of the year and the wonderful season of Thanksgiving, I am very thankful for all that God has done and is doing through The Mission. 15 million meals served since 1940, 11,065 students graduated from our New Life Program since 1995, 24,335 occupied beds in our Bill Brown Building serving women with children since December 2019, 761,904 occupied beds in our Emergency Lodging Program to anyone that needed a bed over the past 22 years, 100,000 occupied beds in the ONLY shelter to provide a Recuperative Care Program in San Joaquin County since 2010 and 4,500 occupied beds in the ONLY COVID positive shelter for the homeless that continues to provide care to those that have no other place to go in San Joaquin County. And all of those numbers continue to grow! All of these numbers represent the lives that have been touched by the hope that Jesus Christ brings to us. I am looking forward to all that He has in store for this season, next year and the years to come. I am truly grateful for all that God has provided through your generous giving.

I hope you have been following along with the construction of our new Women's Recuperative Care building, located at 218 E. Sonora St. It is completed and we are grateful. We expect to have many homeless women housed in it by the time you are reading this.

I am so thankful for each and every person involved at The Mission, from our students to our staff and especially for you, our donors. Because without your gracious giving, none of this would be possible. God has truly blessed us through you, our friends and family of The Mission.

I could write pages and pages of all the things that I am thankful for. But mostly, I am thankful for you. We wouldn't be able to impact and restore the lives of so many homeless individuals including so many moms with children. Because of your help, they are on a new path with a hope and a future.

It's the season of giving, so if you feel led to give a year-end gift, we would appreciate it greatly. Please fill out the white envelope that you received with this newsletter if you feel so inclined. We would be blessed by a gift of any size.

May God bless you and yours abundantly this holiday season.

Happy ThanksLiving!!!

God Bless,

*David Midura*

David Midura, CEO  
GCRM



## Christmas Toy Drive

**DECEMBER**  
**1<sup>ST</sup> - 18<sup>TH</sup>**

*Donate NEW and unwrapped toys for the Mission Kids!*

**Drop toys off at**  
SASS! Public Relations  
628 Lincoln Center  
Stockton, CA 95207  
Mon-Fri: 8:30am - 4:30pm

Delivery to GCRM  
by Journey Transport



**COAT  
&  
SOCK DRIVE**

**SPREAD THE WARMTH THIS SEASON**

**Nov. 1 -** Donate gently used coats and new socks.

**Dec 31** Visit [LincolnCenterShops.com](http://LincolnCenterShops.com) for drop-off locations.



**NEW LIFE**

*Lincoln Center*  
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH  
**GOSPEL CENTER**  
RESCUE MISSION

drug addiction becomes more important than family – even your children. Trying to get back to a drug-free life, Nevin went to rehab and was clean and sober for a short time. Then the unexpected, tragic death of a good friend set him back and he started using drugs again. He was in another relationship and had another child, hoping this might help turn his life around. When he woke up in jail, with a DUI on his record, it woke him up. He needed to get help. After he got out of jail, he called Tony Machado, who got him into the Gospel Center Rescue Mission.

Nevin came to The Mission in March of 2022. “I had lost my way. The person I am now is the person I should have always been. At The Mission they teach people how to run a day-to-day life – discipline and structure. They meet you where you are in your life. The people living the street life and the people on the inside of the ‘Jesus Saves’ gate at The Mission are all God’s children. The Mission staff loves everyone unconditionally. When you step inside those gates, as a New Life Student, they work to meet your individual needs,” said Nevin. “When my best friend of 23 years was killed by a hit and run, the staff not only made sure I went to the funeral, they stayed with me. They were there for me, they guided me, and I made it through that rough time. God really works in the lives of the students and staff at The Mission. My faith was confirmed while I was there.”

During his time at The Mission, Nevin worked in the kitchen a few days a week, and occasionally blessed the students and staff with his Nonna’s special spaghetti gravy, which he kindly shared with us. Now graduated from the New Life Program, he is doing construction work; remodeling homes, welding and painting. Occasionally, he is able to hire students from The Mission.

Nevin concluded, “If you find yourself out of control and need a break, The Mission staff will help you get back on track. They have an exit program that helps you thrive, and they encourage you so you do thrive. They teach you how to live and set you on a good path. I now have my friends at The Mission who keep me accountable, my children are back in my life and I am sleeping well. My life is good.”

## Nonna’s recipe from Italy

- Whole clove of garlic – mince it down as fine as you can – mash to mush
- Cook in olive oil until its translucent – throw in one red onion and caramelize
- Add a carton of fresh mushrooms and two chopped red bell peppers
- In a separate skillet cook Italian sausage
- Add sausage to the garlic, onion, mushrooms and bell peppers
- Add six cans of stewed tomatoes, four cans of tomato sauce, two cans of tomato paste and two to three cans of water
- Add your seasonings – basil, parsley, Italian seasoning, bay leaves
- Cover and turn down to low and simmer
- Simmer for four to six hours stirring every ½ hour
- Sauce is perfect when it turns from bright red to crimson

## GCRM HAPPENINGS



### I scream, you scream, we ALL scream, for Ice Cream!

The New Life Students, the Mission Kids and staff enjoyed an ice cream social on a hot afternoon in September. With the staff serving up the bowls of ice cream – with lots of fun toppings - the kids played games and had so much fun!



### A Visit from the Firefighters!

Staff, students and kids were treated with a visit from the Stockton Fire Department. The firefighters answered a lot of questions, gave tours of the truck to the Mission Kids and offered safety tips.

# 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. Love your neighbor as yourself.” Matthew 22:37,39*

## GRADUATION

More than 150 guests gathered under the big tent at The Homecoming Graduation Celebration on Sunday, September 11th. It was a very exciting day, with fourteen graduates completing the New Life Program, walking across the stage to get their certificate, and being recognized for their accomplishment. Dianna Clay, Distinguished Alumni Graduate for 2022 and Mission employee, was the Keynote Speaker. She stood with and congratulated each graduate as they received their certificates. We pray God continues to guide and direct these graduates as they work towards changed lives!



From Left to Right (Back Row): Britton Kimball, Kalliope Casaday, Cody Walker, Nevin Roe, Yan Hach, David Midura. (Front Row): Jackie Perez, Renee Mobley, Katherine Dickerson, Dianna Clay, Emily O'Meara, Mavis Allen, Carmie Vincent.

## Donations Needed

***We are in need of Hygiene items for men and women***

Regular sizes of body wash • shampoo  
conditioner • lip balm • disposable shavers  
deodorant • emery boards (not metal)  
hair ties, underwear for women (small & medium)  
feminine hygiene products • socks • journals  
children's books • and 'one size fits most' bras.

*We thank you for any donations.*  
For donation drop-off, call (209) 320-2310.

## Thanksgiving Turkey Donations

We have a lot of ovens to  
roast turkeys! Please  
consider donating a frozen  
turkey, or the funds to  
purchase one or two!  
Call (209) 320-2310 for  
details.

