

THE CARING PLACE

Serving South Florida Since 1922

March 2012

*“Today, I Am
Barbara And
Today I Matter”*



**Over 130 Formerly
Homeless Men & Women
Graduated in a Full Cap
and Gown Ceremony...**

More about our
Graduation on Page 3

Barbara’s Testimony
on Page 5

OPERATION HOPE TOTE

Providing Hygiene To Those
In The Greatest of Need



SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Valued Partner,

I want you to know how important you are in helping us transform lives and help the neediest of our communities. We were able to serve and help more men, women, and children last year because of our donors, supporters, business partners, and friends.

Every day I receive emails and phone calls from people who are in desperate need. Many never thought they would be in need of assistance. It certainly is a reflection of our economy, unemployment, and foreclosures. I'm so thankful that our Centers in Miami, Hollywood, and Pompano Beach were able to serve thousands and see many lives transformed. In 2011 we were able to:

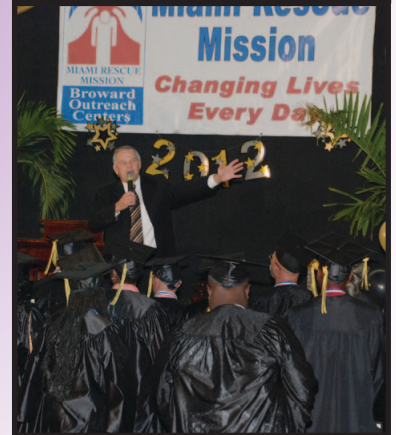
- *Provide nearly 725,000 meals*
 - *Provide over 360,000 nights of safe shelter*
 - *Have 12,500 volunteers serve over 76,000 hours*
 - *Provide over 100,00 hours of education*
 - *Provide over 150,000 hours in counseling and life skills*
 - *Help over 400 boys and girls in our out of school programs*
 - *See over 6,000 patients in our medical clinics*
 - *Help over 7,000 unemployed/underemployed with food, furniture, and clothing*
 - *Brighten the lives of thousands on special holidays*
 - *See over 700 men and women graduate our programs and enter the job market*
 - *Open three additional transitional houses for our graduates*
- ~ And much, much more.*

Your support makes all this possible. Our Vision is: "No One is Homeless" and together we can impact more lives in 2012. Right now we are in the middle of our Operation Hope Tote Campaign (page 6) which provides hygiene products to everyone that we serve throughout the year. On March 16th, we'll be celebrating the grand opening of our Hollywood Clinic (page 4) and then in April we'll have our "Thanksgiving in April" outreach.

The bottom line is that lives are being touched and transformed every day. We could not continue to help the homeless and needy without YOU. Our supporters are the Greatest People in the World.

*Blessings in 2012,
Rev. Ronald Brummitt*

Ronald Brummitt



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Welcome
From Our
President



On January 21, 2012, over 130 formerly homeless men and women took their first step into a brighter tomorrow during an emotional cap and gown graduation ceremony...

Hear about the event and excitement in their words throughout this newsletter.



"This is one of the happiest days of my life... I cannot believe that I am graduating and all of these people are here to cheer for me. They are my true family!" ~ Ramon, Miami Campus Graduate, pictured left hugging President Rev. Ron Brummitt

GRADUATION CEREMONY



Pastor Mary Alessi,
Metro Life Church



A Proud Graduate!



Pastor Steve Alessi,
Metro Life Church



Ron Book, Chairman
Miami-Dade Homeless Trust

Over 130 formerly homeless men and women graduated from the Miami Rescue Mission/Broward Outreach Centers in a cap and gown ceremony that was witnessed by well over 400 attendees. The graduation marked the first step in what has become a lifetime of redemption for so many.

This third combined graduation was the largest to date for the Miami Rescue Mission/Broward Outreach Centers. With more than 130 formerly homeless men and women graduating, the ceremony surpassed the amount of graduates seen in the last Miami Rescue Mission/Broward Outreach Centers' ceremony which took place in April of 2011.

"This is a celebration of their hard work, conviction and perseverance. To be part of their hope-filled lives and share their accomplishments is an incredible honor as we see thousands of lives changed on our three campuses in Miami, Hollywood and Pompano Beach," said President Rev. Ron Brummitt during the ceremony.

"This graduation and this program is all about getting my feet back on the ground, getting my life back. I am so blessed to be where I am today and I will never take my life and family for granted,"
~ Gail, Hollywood Campus Graduate



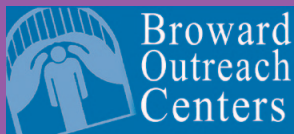
Those in attendance were treated to a heartfelt and inspirational afternoon that included performances by the Regeneration Tabernacle Choir, a group of over twenty men and women comprised entirely of the formerly homeless; Kevin Bowens the Quiet Minister; and a musical number from recording artist Mary Alessi. Encouraging words were given from current Miami Rescue Mission/Broward Outreach Centers staff, Keynote Speakers Ron Book of the Miami-Dade Homeless Trust and Metro Life Church Founder Steve Alessi as well as graduate testimonies that detailed their personal struggles from hopelessness to the bright future they stepped into today.

All of these inspirational stories could not have come true without your amazing support and dedication in helping those who need it the most. We are proud to say that with your help and that of the community, we are striving toward our vision: **No One is Homeless!**

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"For me, this graduation is something that marks a turning point in my life. I used to be ashamed of my everyday life, now I can finally hold my head high and be proud to simply be myself,"
~ Bill, Pompano Campus Graduate



Broward
Outreach
Centers

BROWARD OUTREACH

CHANGING LIVES IN BROWARD

Each and every day, amazing individual volunteers and volunteer groups are coming together to stand up for those in the greatest of need. Students from Miramar High School (pictured, right) did just that in anticipation of the Great Christmas Outreach where they helped wrap hundreds of presents for the homeless men, women and children who currently live at the Broward Outreach Centers. It just goes to show that wonderful volunteers are helping in a variety of ways every day of the year!



For too many people, the idea of healthcare is just a dream. This fact applies even more to the men, women and children who are homeless in our community. The Broward Outreach Center in Hollywood, a division of the Miami Rescue Mission, will take one giant step toward making that dream a reality with the grand opening of the *Hollywood Outreach Health Clinic*.

This Clinic is made available to the formerly homeless residents by volunteer doctors, nurses, physician assistants and lab technicians who have offered their amazing services. A big THANK YOU goes out to those who made it possible in providing healthcare to those in the greatest of need! You are invited to attend from 10:30 - 1:00 on March 16, 2012. Call (954) 620-4038 to RSVP for this amazing Grand Opening!



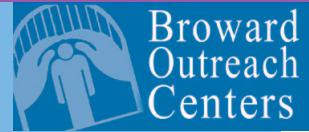
"I cannot believe how much my life has changed in such a short time. This is the place of miracles and every graduate here is a perfect example of the everyday miracles taking place on this campus,"

~ Dennis, Miami Campus Graduate



"This place transforms lives... coming to the Miami Rescue Mission was the best decision I ever made. I was an alcoholic living on the streets, now I am working and planning a landscaping business," ~ Anthony, Miami Campus Graduate

CENTERS REPORT



A FAMILY BROUGHT TOGETHER

“WHEN YOU LOOK AT YOUR LIFE, THE GREATEST HAPPINESSES ARE FAMILY HAPPINESSES” ~ THE JOYCE BROTHERS



“I drank myself out of my family, my husband, my son and nothing mattered to me but alcohol. I didn’t know the harm I was doing, I was numb.

I knew that I was going to become homeless and for three days I didn’t sleep. When I walked out of my house, I had only a backpack and I knew nothing about the Broward Outreach Center in Pompano.

My mother, thank God, was the one that put me out... through that tough love I am here today. Through that tough love I have my family back. I get hugs and I get kisses. And I love every minute of my life.

I prayed for God to carry me. I thought I’d have a cot for one night... I had a bed for three months.

Today, I look forward to every tomorrow, I spend a lot of time with my family. And today they are not afraid of me anymore.

Today, I went to see a play my son was in with my mother. We drove an hour and a half in the evening... that wouldn’t happen when I was drinking. Never!



Today, I am Barbara and today I matter.”

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“One day I was just tired of it all. But this is something that makes me feel accomplished. I completed the program from start to finish and it kicks off my new life,” ~ Angel, Pompano Campus Graduate, seen here receiving his certificate of achievement.



“To get my life back in order is something special, something great. I can’t thank the Miami Rescue Mission enough for giving me hope once again and making me able to wake up in the morning with a smile,” ~ Charles, Miami Campus Graduate

OPERATION HOPE TOTE



Filling this little bag can make a **BIG** difference in the life of a homeless person...

A HOPE TOTE is a small, purple bag that can be filled with inexpensive/unused items such as soap, shampoo, toothpaste, tissues, socks and even underwear. These simple, basic products help those living on the streets clean up and feel more like themselves. We know that when someone feels better, they are in a better position to make other changes like getting involved with our full-scale recovery programs.

Imagine providing the hope of a better tomorrow to someone who has been sleeping on the sidewalk for months!

How many bags can you fill today? Go to our website www.miamirescuemission.com and tell us how many Hope Tote Bags you want to fill today!



TRANSFORMING LIVES IN MIAMI

Lowe's Heroes descended upon the Miami Rescue Mission to surprise the Center with an amazing gift card donation for special projects, updates and repairs to be used at the Center for Women & Children. The gift was part of this Coast to Coast campaign, benefitting Non-Profits throughout the United States in the month of December.

The giving did not stop there, as Lowe's Heroes brought along awesome Christmas ornament starter kits complete with wood pieces, hammers, aprons and goggles so the formerly homeless children who reside at the Center for Women & Children could build their own, hand-made ornaments, with a little help from the expert Lowe's volunteers!

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"My life was wreckless and pointless. Every week and morning was the same until I came here. Now I'm going to college and I can look forward to each morning, excited to wake up again,"
~ William, Miami Campus Graduate



"Remember when you go out, it's about walking in your shoes and getting people to walk in the right shoes. I applaud you. I congratulate you and I wish you all the very best," ~ Ron Book, Chairman Miami-Dade Homeless Trust

PATRICK'S REDEMPTION

“NOBODY CAN GO BACK AND START A NEW BEGINNING, BUT ANYONE CAN START TODAY TO MAKE A NEW ENDING” ~ MARIA RODRIGUEZ

“I came to America from what would amount as a small town in the Bahamas, with my family. The allure of big city life was too much for me and I quickly started doing drugs, spending time with the wrong crowd and turning my back on the spiritual values that made me and my family strong.

Eventually I grew up, starting a family of my own. But the direction of my life was too high of a cost for my wife who finally gave me an ultimatum after so many problems: *get help or get a divorce.*

I found the Miami Rescue Mission and was very apprehensive at first because of the rules, regulations and culture. I quickly saw others who were making their lives better, succeeding in ways I had hoped.

Now, because of this life-saving program, I am clean and sober, once again reunited with my wife. The future is brighter than ever for me, as we continue to build our photography and printing business that we have worked so hard for. It is not only the business aspect I am looking forward to in my new life... I plan to further my studies at Miami-Dade College in addition counseling so I might be able to help those who are going through the same problems that marked much of my life.

This is a beautiful day for myself, my wife and all of the graduates. There are so many stories here of redemption and joy today, I will remember this day and the significance behind it for the rest of my life. This is the greatest blessing I have received.”



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“Remember that this is your testimony, your history. This song, this graduation and this future... they are all for you. Take all of your experiences and move forward; you will always be better for it”
~ Pastor Mary Alessi,
Metro Life Church



“It's okay to limp, just do more with your limp, more with your scars in your life than others that didn't go through what you went through. Do more with that to live the Champ Life,”
~ Pastor Steve Alessi,
Metro Life Church

Miami Rescue Mission, Inc.
Broward Outreach Centers
Rev. Ronald Brummitt, President

Administration Miami: (305) 571-2215
BOC Hollywood: (954) 926-7417
BOC Pompano: (954) 979-6365

Web Address:

www.miamirescuemission.com
www.browardoutreachcenter.com

Miami Rescue Mission, Inc.

Administration Offices

2159 NW 1st Court, Miami
Mail: PO Box 420620
Miami, FL 33242-0620
(305) 571-2273 (CARE)

Center for Men

2020 NW 1st Avenue, Miami
(305) 571-2211

Jeffrey A. Tew Education Center

2010 NW 1st Avenue, Miami
(305) 571-2243

Center for Women & Children

2250 NW 1st Avenue, Miami
(305) 571-2250

Industrial Division

2159 NW 1st Court, Miami
(305) 573-6340

Bargain Barn I & Plus

2233 NW 1st Court, Miami
(305) 571-2217

**Broward Outreach Center
Hollywood**

2056 Scott Street
Hollywood, FL 33020
(954) 926-7417

**Broward Outreach Center
Pompano**

1700 Blount Road
Pompano Beach, FL 33069
(954) 979-6365

Donation Center

2200 NW 1st Avenue, Miami
Donation Hotline:
Local Calls: (305) 573-6340
1-800-817-HOPE

Auto Auction

First Saturday of Every Month
Gates Open at 8:00 AM
Auction at 10:00 AM
2159 NW 1st Court
(305) 573-6340

SHOP OUR BARGAIN BARN & AUTO AUCTION



Don't forget to check our great **Auto Auction** where you can find amazing cars, motorcycles and even boats on the first Saturday of every month.

For donations and more information, call 305.573.6340 or visit www.miamirescuemission.com. Receipts for tax purposes are provided for your life-saving donations. Help us feed the hungry, care for the poor and change lives each and every day!

Gifts of personal property that are in good condition may be what the Mission could use in our various centers, or it may be something that could be sold/used to finance our feeding and residential programs.

Our Award Winning Thrift Stores, Bargain Barn & Bargain Barn Plus, located in the Design District of Miami at 2133 NW 1st Court, are open Monday - Friday from 9:45AM - 5:45PM and on Saturdays from 9:00AM - 5:00PM.



TUNE INTO OUR RADIO SHOWS

Be sure to tune into our 5 radio shows each week! You can listen every Sunday Morning at 9:00 AM on NewsRadio 610 AM WIOD to **Mission Possible: The Good News Program** or listen in to **Life Changers** on 1080 AM WHIM every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 5:30 - 6:00 PM.

Use Your Smart-Phone For A Behind The Scenes Look At Our Shows

