

120<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

Rescue

YOUR GENEROSITY AT WORK

Boston Rescue Mission Newsletter

SPRING 2020

### Transformation of the Heart and Mind!

This Spring YOU will transform hopelessness into new life. You are supporting the transformation of returning veterans and women and men struggling with homelessness and addiction. You will provide nutritious meals to hungry women, men, and families.

Because of your loyal support, we can serve 143,000 meals and shelter 35,000 people every year. We are thankful for you in what we have accomplished together in 2019.

Together we help transform lives like Jake and Long to help them to get back to their families, and to society as law-abiding citizens.

Thank you for your compassion, and may God fill you with the hope of new life this spring!

  
Rev. John Samaan, President



## My Faith Gave Me Comfort in Recovery — I Feel So Much Lighter

Hi I'm Jake. At the Mission I feel a sense of unity and community—not the never ending spiral of life on the streets.

In school I excelled in cross country and track, but a painful knee injury in college introduced me to pain pills. I played the nightclub scene for a few years and got deeper into opiates. After picking up heroin, I started to lose control. My jobs, relationships and homes all disappeared. I stole to pay for drugs

*“My life became a sequence of drug use, prison, and failed attempts to get clean.”*

until I got caught and went to jail. For 20 years I followed a tragic pattern of drug use and crime, prison, and failed attempts to get clean.

I found the Mission and am really happy here. Older guys in the house are very encouraging. I've reconnected with my faith. My job outside the Mission is opening a lot of doors for me professionally. And to those Mission supporters, thank you. We all really appreciate your help.

*Your gifts go to good use.  
We all appreciate  
your help.  
—Jake*



Transforming Lives Since 1899 • Celebrating 120 Years of Service to the Community



**My Gift To Feed & Shelter The Homeless** • 39 Kingston St., Boston, MA 02111 • 617-338-9000 • [www.brm.org](http://www.brm.org)

**YES, John, You can count on me to help those in need.  
Here is my gift of:**

#### WAYS TO GIVE

■ **Telephone** — 617-338-9000 ext. 1209

■ **Online** — Go to [www.brm.org](http://www.brm.org) & click on the Donate Now! button.

■ **Mail** — Cut on the dotted line & return this form with your check to the Boston Rescue Mission or fill in your credit card information below.

#### Please charge my gift on my credit card:

☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Amex ☐ DISCOVER

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ CVV \_\_\_\_\_

Your gift is tax-deductible as allowed by law. You will receive a receipt.





Safe from the cold, a hot meal brings a smile to the face of one of our overnight guests.

## 75 Women Find Safe Overnight Shelter This Winter

This Winter the Mission started hosting overnight accommodations for 75 women at Downtown Crossing to meet the demand of the increased number of homeless women.

Each evening the women get a hot meal and a warm, safe place to sleep. Each woman is free to talk to a case manager to craft a personal pathway out of homelessness, one tailored to each woman's unique situation. The women also have access to health care and housing search services.

One woman said "The Mission is about the only place I can find overnight shelter during the winter where I feel safe". Many of the women are employed but cannot yet afford to pay the high cost of housing in the city.

### Patriot Legend Leaves His Mark at the Mission



Rob Gronkowski signs a football on the air during the TJ Show.

When former Patriot tight end and future Hall of Famer Rob Gronkowski visited 103.3 AMP Radio in December, the TJ Show produced a brand new football and asked for his signature. Gronk agreed. The TJ Show handed off the football, along with more than 36,000 pairs of socks to the Mission to benefit programs and services that help people on the street 365 days a year.

## The Mission Gave Me the Chance to Get My Life Back

Hi, I'm Long.

My childhood was tough, especially in Vietnam. In America, I got through 11<sup>th</sup> grade, then wanted more money and friends. I sold drugs, smoked weed and crack, and bought a car and jewelry until the felony charge.

A vicious cycle of selling and using drugs, going to jail, and relapsing was in place.

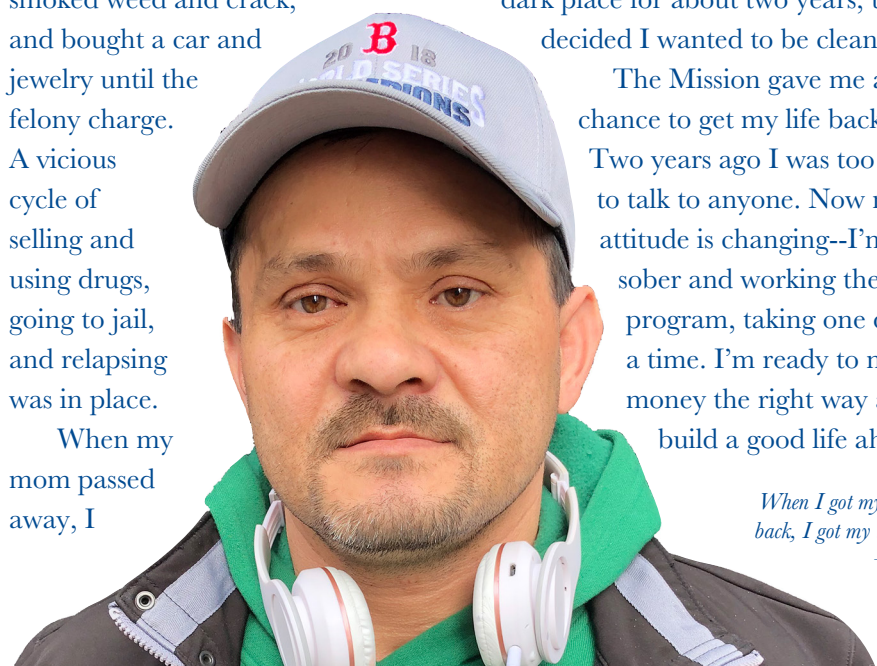
When my mom passed away, I

*"When I was using drugs I was so angry with everybody."*

sunk way down into crack and heroin. I sold all my equipment and just couldn't go back to work. It was a very dark place for about two years, until I decided I wanted to be clean.

The Mission gave me a chance to get my life back. Two years ago I was too angry to talk to anyone. Now my attitude is changing--I'm sober and working the program, taking one day at a time. I'm ready to make money the right way and build a good life ahead.

*When I got my sobriety back, I got my life back.*  
—Long



### Giving Property Can Mean a Second Chance for Those in Need

Your gift of an old auto, boat, yacht, truck, motorcycle, aircraft, or RV to the Mission can give desperate people a second chance. Ask for a no obligation evaluation of your potential vehicle or property donation. Pickup is free anywhere in the USA, so family and friends can help too! For more information about property donations, please call (866) 244-8464 or visit the Action Donation Services web site at [www.actiondonation.org](http://www.actiondonation.org) to make your donation. Thank you!

### \$22.50 Does Much More Than Feed 10 Hungry People



Not everyone who comes to the Mission to eat is homeless. Between gas, rent, utilities, and medical bills, families don't have enough left over to buy food. They come to the Mission's kitchen or food pantry for meals to help tide them over and keep them on their feet!

So would you please provide as many meals and as much help as you can? Mail your gift today in the enclosed envelope, or give online at [www.brm.org](http://www.brm.org). Thank you!

CIRCLE OF  
**hope**

Your  
Monthly Gifts  
Create a  
Circle of Hope

When you support the Mission's life-transforming programs with a monthly gift, you bring hope to homeless guests every day of the year. And when you setup an automatic gift online at [www.brm.org](http://www.brm.org), you skip the checks, envelopes, and stamps. Please join our monthly giving **Circle of Hope** today.