BIG EASY, BIG HEART
rescue | recovery | re-engagement

NEW ORLEANS MISSION
LYNHAVEN RETREAT
GIVING HOPE RETREAT

JULY 2020
CEOs CORNER

YOU MAKE IT HAPPEN

I love sharing the incredible impact that faithful partners like you are having in our community and the surrounding area. Our Mission Pantry is one of the ministries you support that has made a huge impact during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Since February of 2019, our Mission Pantry has been a part of the largest anti-hunger network in Louisiana. Our Mission Pantry has been a blessing to food insecure residents of St. Tammany Parrish. Hungry men, women and families receive much needed food boxes because of you.

Then, Covid-19 hit causing not only sickness, but an unprecedented number of jobs lost across our area.

Your gifts have allowed our Mission Pantry to provide food for over 19,000 people including 6,965 children and 2,234 seniors. I can’t tell you what a blessing your gift and the food it provided has been for each of these individuals. The “Thank yous” and smiles on their faces tell the story.

Thank you for your generous support. It truly makes a difference!

Sincerely,

David Bottner
Chief Executive Officer

A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.

— Proverbs 11:25 | NIV

Lynhaven Retreat

Each year at this beautiful property in Hammond, hundreds of women struggling with addiction and abuse come for healing. They experience hope and a new life through the Women’s Discipleship Program that you help support.

But, did you know that Lynhaven is also a wonderful location for parties, banquets and picnics? Women participating in the program assist with special events on the property to earn income and learn all aspects of the service industry, including culinary and serving skills.

To book an event email Emily at: emily@lynhavenevents.com
**Being the Perfect Kid**

Becca was a preacher’s kid. She knew all there was to know about Jesus, but she didn’t have a real relationship with him. Then, there was the pressure to be good – be the perfect kid.

To make matters worse, Becca’s mom was an addict. When her father was not around, Becca’s mom either was abusive or neglected her. To escape, Becca started smoking weed at 15 and by 21 had started using meth.

While Becca was not abusive to her children, the drugs took priority over them. They were eventually taken away from her to live with other family members. Her son has never forgiven her for leaving them and they have no relationship today.

Becca’s lifestyle soon landed her in a very abusive and dangerous situation. Knowing she had to escape, Becca called several places with no luck. Thankfully, she reached our team at Lynhaven, our recovery program for women. Your gifts allowed us to immediately rescue Becca and get her to a place of safety.

The road to recovery wasn’t easy, but God was faithful. Becca developed a personal relationship with Christ. No longer is it just a knowledge of God, it’s now what is in her heart. Not only has God healed Becca spiritually, but He is healing her emotionally and physically. She is off all the medication she was taking and can finally sleep at night.

Becca shared with us, “God has delivered me from addiction, depression, and anxiety.”

You can be praying for Becca in two areas. First, she wants to one day be reconciled with her son. Second, she’s asking for God’s guidance after graduation. She wants to serve him and help others.

---

**MEET BOBBY FROM LAFAYETTE**

Growing up in Lafayette, Bobby was one of those boys who was always in trouble. It started at a very young age and only got worse. High school was a nonstop party. After a year of college, he dropped out to work in the oil fields.

Between the drugs and alcohol, he was fired from multiple jobs. Yet, the oil industry was booming, so he was always able to find another job to pay for his destructive lifestyle. Soon, Bobby was doing heroin that lead to multiple arrests and jail time.

In 2018, Bobby started helping a friend who was pregnant and all alone. They became very close, and Bobby wanted to be the child’s step dad. The baby girl, Ruby, was born with health complications and died after only two months.

Ruby’s death sent Bobby over the edge. His heroin use escalated and his life spiraled down into an even darker place. He was fired by his dad and later arrested for buying drugs. Sitting in jail, his sister contacted Bobby to let him know she had found a place for him — the New Orleans Mission.

On the way to the Mission, Bobby was asking himself why am I going there. Then, he walked in the door and our team started loving him just as he was. Bobby was very sick so the first few days he never left his bed.

When Bobby was finally well enough to get up, he attended his first chapel service. As the chaplain was sharing about how much God loved the men in the room, the Holy Spirit spoke to Bobby’s heart and he accepted Christ as his Savior that day.

Thank you for your support of the men and women at the New Orleans Mission. Your prayers and gifts are changing lives.

Bobby is a new person. While he still has another year at the Mission, Bobby knows God has big plans for his future. He has already reunited with his family and feels God leading him to the mission field.
Volunteers are vital to the heartbeat of the New Orleans Mission. We depend on groups, families and individuals to bring food to impoverished areas and to help serve lunch or dinner. There are so many other opportunities to connect talented individuals with skilled labor. If you, your church or civic organization would like to volunteer your time or talents or participate in outreach fill out a volunteer form here https://neworleansmission.org/get-involved.

The Mission Pantry has been part of the largest anti-hunger network in Louisiana and currently serving over 19,000 individuals.

Due to the pandemic, we’ve had to change how we serve men, women and families. Now, many drive through and pick up nutritious food for the week. If they are unable to get out, we deliver the food to them.