

(Director Shawn's story continued)

– stealing, lying, and doing whatever I had to support my habit.

“As I entered my later twenties my addiction continued. I was also introduced to “Meth. Eventually my life was destroyed. I was without a family, without friends, without a life. I had no one to turn to and was alone for the first time. Rock bottom was finally here.

“By happenstance I met a local church Pastor. Upon hearing his words “The Lord wants to bless you”, I simply asked him how does he know God wants to bless me. On that day he took an interest in me and kept coming back to talk with me. I ended up attending his church. But life didn't change right away. Somehow, I found the strength to stay faithful. After a year of trying to “walk with the Lord God” I heard an inner voice urging me to go back to Salt Lake City. But unfortunately, when I got there, I soon found myself in jail for old warrants. I was given six months jail time.

“When I was released from jail, I checked into a shelter but soon realized that wasn't for me. I left in the morning. That same day I saw a Salt Lake City Mission outreach team serving a meal. I was welcomed to the Mission and ended up joining their “Upward Motion” men's recovery program.

“At the Mission I found the brotherhood I needed and grew in my relationship with God and Christ in my life. With the help of the Holy Spirit - who I became to know was inside me as a companion, a gift from God - and with the help of my newfound “brothers in the Lord” - I had finally answered the call of God on my life. I spiritually grew into becoming a Pastor as I preached the Word of God. It was at the Mission that I received my pastoral ordination. Soon

after I became a Chaplain.

“My life went through so many changes as I continued to hold true to my Faith. Through all the good, bad, happy, and sad, I remained faithful and on a forward motion with God in my heart. I became a survivor! I am now truly an overcomer! I joined the staff of Salt Lake City Mission. Years later, I would become Director which is where I find myself today. I am very humbled, thankful, and blessed. I have accomplished great things with God in my life. And I know I will continue to do so.

“Over the years I have been an advocate for the unsheltered and addicted - and for those in jails and prisons. Because of the life I led I have come to understand the struggles of those who need even the most help – those in dire circumstances of life. “I understand. I have been there. I deeply care for those we help”. It is the same sentiment shared throughout everything Salt Lake City

Mission stands for.

“Today I have a good relationship with my children and family. I finally have the life that I always wanted and no longer have to be in fear of the bottom falling out. I dearly thank God - first and foremost - for saving me from so many terrible things and experiences, and for “never leaving me nor forsaking me”

“Thank you so much to the Donors and Supporters of Salt Lake City Mission. You make it possible for God to work through our life experiences as staff with a heartfelt compassion to see others live a more positive life. Because of you there is a safe and healthy environment where God can be discovered, and others can become “OVERCOMERS” too - and discover that “with God all things are truly possible”.

“God bless and never lose hope for struggling family members and friends. God has a way out!”



“I understand. I have been there too. And I deeply care.”

Testimony of Director Pastor Shawn Clay

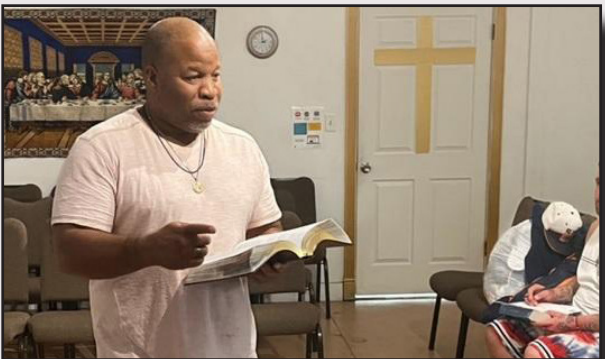
(For the complete version visit the Mission's website at: saltlakecitymission.org/pastor-shawn)

“At the age of five my mother moved me and my sister to Syracuse New York from Portsmouth where I was born. We left my dad behind. Even at age five I knew there was something wrong but didn't come to fully understand why my dad didn't go with us until I grew older.

“My mother did the best she could, and actually in hindsight, she did a great job providing a home for me and my sister with what little we had at the time. But I started to have trouble dealing with some things and I really missed my dad often as the years went by. Being in a broken family started to affect me. I

began struggling in school and in everyday life.

“In my early teens I found myself rebelling and turning to the streets and hanging out with a group of teens who were in the same situation I was. They became like another family to me. We were all hurting inside, more like angry, and became rebellious looking for something, for ways, to fill the voids in our life. This began cycles of living wrong lifestyles, making wrong decisions, drug addictions, doing time in jail, homelessness, divorce, etc. You



Director Shawn teaches from the Word of God in the Mission's chapel room.

name it – if it was defiant and life destroying, I experienced it. This went on through my later adult years.

“Much later in age after already living a life full of corruption, I tried Crack for the first time. Before this, I never did the “hardest drugs”. I was now in a completely different world as the Crack took hold of me and my life. I became a full-blown addict

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UP AND COMING



Join us this holiday season as we get ready for our annual “Great Thanksgiving Banquet” and “Greatest Christmas Ever” outreach events. There will be many opportunities to team up with the Mission as we prepare to provide thousands of meals and life essentials to those in need.

Please visit our website home page for details on our latest events and activities in which you can partner with us in making a positive difference in the lives of those less fortunate right here in Utah.

Join us in finishing the year strong in helping even more people than ever before!

October Is Harvest Month At The Mission

With the holiday season approaching quickly, we are preparing now for this busiest time of year for the Mission. We need to collect the large amount of food needed to provide over 85,000 meals to the hungry, homeless, and less fortunate right here in Utah.

Our “Call to Action” is asking for our Donors and the community to donate or collect the items we need to fill up our pantry and food storage areas.

The food items we need donated include:

- Frozen Turkeys and whole chickens
- Canned veggies and fruits
- Boxed stuffing and mashed potatoes
- Holiday pies and rolls we can freeze

- Canned yams, cranberry sauce
- Gravy mix and other holiday items

Additional items we need include:

- New or used good clean clothing
- Hygiene items for men and women
- New socks and underwear
- Cold weather outdoor gear
- Non-perishable food items
- Financial donations

Donation drop off location: Salt Lake City Mission 1151 S. Redwood Rd #106, SLC UT 8410. Stay tuned to our website and Facebook page for any updates or additional drop off locations.

It is “More Than Just a Meal” As we



feed someone desperately in need of food, we also offer assistants to meet additional needs of those finding life very difficult.



801.355.6310 www.saltlakecitymission.org
1151 South Redwood Road, #106, Salt Lake City, Utah 84104

Significant Stats From Over The Summer...

Over 17,000 meals
provided to the hungry
and homeless



Over 300 homeless
served and assisted
during our July 4th and
Labor Day outreach.

Over 5,500 homeless
served thru our daily
morning outreach.

Special Thank You!

To the many who went beyond
and above what was expected
in partnering with the Mission
to help the hungry and hurting
over the Summer.

- Tyson Foods
- HireQuest
- Whole Foods
- High Tech Signs
- Utah Food Bank
- Lost Texan BBQ
- Aerostar Media
- Fox 13
- Paul Mitchell School of Salon
- Our Volunteers
- Our Staff
- And of course our committed monthly financial Donors!!

“My calling is to help others”

Testimony - From homeless to helpful

Jeremy joined the Mission’s “Upward Motion” recovery program in hopes of turning his life around.

“Before I came to the Mission, I was a lost soul, in and out of incarceration, and mental wards due to poor decisions and suicide attempts. I finally had enough and decided to come to the Mission for help.

“I’ve been in the Mission for quite a while now and have learned to love myself and trust in ‘God’s Will’ to lead me to a better life. I walk with him every day now and His Spirit fills my heart with joy to do the service we do daily in helping the needy and less fortunate. I have gone from being lost when I first joined

and distribution to our partners. My future looks bright, and I hope to continue doing God’s work. It is now my calling to help people. The joy it brings me simply warms my heart.

“God is making my dreams a reality and I will continue building my relationship with Him and my family. I plan to be attending school eventually to become a councilor so that I can help people who need guidance and love like I have received.

“Finally, I just want to say anything is possible through our Savior. Forgiveness is key, and I know that I am living a good life with God at the center of it all”.

the Mission to now being a key player as Operations Supervisor over our pantry



Jeremy’s assists the Mission in helping provide food for families in need.

“I didn’t know what to expect”

Testimony - A change in life course

Colin joined the Missions recovery program many months ago in hopes of changing his life course.

“Before I walked through the doors of Salt Lake City Mission I was at a very troubled point in my life. My ambition for progression in life was little to none, which in part, brought habits of lying, cheating, and stealing from the people that I was closest to. Due to wrong actions and poor life management I ended up homeless. At that time and situation I was in, I believed that all the doors of hope and opportunities to progress in my life were closed.

“I decided to change my life by walking through the doors of the Salt Lake City Mission intending to join the men’s program they offer to those who are interested in bringing God into their life as well as changing their course in life.

I didn’t know what to expect walking through those doors, but now I have found the hope and strength to take charge of my life and become the person that God intended me to be. This place gives and brings light to people when they’re in their darkest places. It did for me. The Mission gives people a brotherhood as well as a safe place that they can call home, especially during a life recovery process.

“My hopes and dreams outside the Mission are to continue the path that God has put me on. I know I will be taking the skills and gifts I’ve learned here into my life outside and become the person I’m meant to be in this life.

I thank God, as well as the amazing people, who make this place a possibility for others like myself, and for giving me the skills that will guide me on my path to a happy future.”



Colin also enjoys handing food out to those in need



Summer Outreach Events Helped Hundreds Our Less Fortunate Residents

Throughout the Summer the Mission held food box giveaways on major holidays and partnered to host their annual “Putting for Pencils” charity golf tournament and “Back to School Giveaway” - which helped hundreds of children right here in Utah.

The Mission also continued its daily outreach to the homeless and those in need, reopening its vital services suspended due to the Covid crisis. The Mission is in full operation once again to feed and assist the homeless, hungry, and families trying to make ends meet.

The annual golf tournament was a success in support of the back to school giveaway which gave local children and families in need a special fun day of food and activities, as well as receiving the school supplies they needed.

“We raised a good amount of funds from the golf tournament for our back to school events. Our visiting golf pro also made a donation after spending some time talking and finding out he and I had similar pasts. All the golfers had a great time and enthusiastically participated and supported the event. Our back to school giveaway was so much fun. Kids had a great time ending the summer with a lot of fun, a free BBQ, and of course the always fun bouncy houses.

“The Mission staff,Volunteers, and supporters in attendance all worked hard to make sure it was a delightful day for all. A big thanks to Paul Mitchell school of Salon who set up gave free haircuts to anyone who came and needed one. Also to Lost Texan BBQ for a most delicious meal that was served hot and fresh.”, says Director Pastor Shawn.