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"For He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins."
Colossians 1:13-14

Where Hope Begins Again: Inside the Southern New Hampshire Rescue Mission

The Southern New Hampshire Rescue Mission in Nashua, New Hampshire exists to meet people at their most desperate time and walk with them toward something better. Since opening its doors in 2003, the faith-based shelter has served men across the community, expanding in 2022 with the Hope Center for Women to reach even more people in need.

"We use the two words help and hope," says Lloyd Curtis, president of the organization. "We provide help with stability, and then we provide the hope, which is in our Christ."

That dual mission shapes everything the organization does. On a practical level, the Rescue Mission offers beds, meals, clothing, and access to basic services. For many who arrive, those needs are immediate and urgent. "They're literally trying to survive day to day," Curtis says. "That's where we come in."

By meeting those basic needs first, the organization creates space for something deeper. With daily pressures eased, residents can begin to look beyond survival and start thinking about their future. Programs focus on physical health, mental health, employment and housing, helping individuals take steps toward stability.

At the same time, faith remains central. As the only faith-based homeless shelter in Nashua, the Rescue Mission integrates Biblical teaching and spiritual guidance into its programs, offering residents the opportunity to rebuild not just their circumstances, but their sense of purpose. "We teach the Bible for their spiritual health, as well as their physical and mental health," Curtis says.

That focus extends into longer term recovery. Staff work closely with residents to rebuild relationships that have often been broken. "Many folks

come to us, and literally they've burned every bridge," Curtis says. The goal is to help restore those connections with family, employers, and community, creating a foundation for lasting change.

For Curtis, who spent decades in the corporate world before answering what he describes as a calling to ministry, the work is deeply personal. His role is both administrative and hands on, from managing operations to teaching Bible classes and building relationships with residents.

At its core, the Southern New Hampshire Rescue Mission is about transformation rooted in faith. It is not only a place of refuge, but a place where people are invited to rebuild their lives with Christ at the center. "I like seeing lives changed," Curtis says.

And in a space where survival often comes first, that promise of change, grounded in both help and hope, is what keeps the mission moving forward each day.

To learn more about the Southern New Hampshire Rescue Mission, visit: <https://www.hope4nashua.org/>

