

“By God’s grace, I have been made new.”



THANK YOU FOR SETTING ME UP FOR SUCCESS!

My name is Ryan. I grew up in NY with my mom and my siblings. My mom was always there for us, but my father spent his time in and out of prison.

My childhood was not a happy one. It was chaotic, abusive, traumatic, and frightening. My father drank heavily and was extremely violent—at first toward my mother, and as we got older, toward us too. Living in constant fear shaped who I became.

My father claimed to be a Christian. We prayed together every night, and there was a sign over our door that said, “The family that prays together stays together.” When he left, I didn’t understand how that could be true if God was real.

That confusion turned into resentment toward God and toward myself. I carried anger, sadness, and shame into adulthood, never knowing how to process the trauma I had been through.

In high school, I began drinking and smoking weed daily. It felt like an escape from the chaos at home and inside of me.

After graduation, I was introduced to heroin. From the very first time I used it, I was

hooked. It gave me relief from the pain, but soon every day became about chasing drugs just to avoid getting sick.

I spent years in and out of rehabs.

I promised myself that my daughter would never see me high. During a visit, she asked why I looked so skinny and sick. Though she didn’t fully understand, she saw the truth, and it broke me.

I was homeless, living under a bridge during the winter, injecting heroin and meth daily with no food, no water, and no money—yet I had more drugs than I’d ever dreamed of.

Through a combination of desperation, my daughter, and God’s grace, I finally realized I was killing myself. I was totally broken and ready to give up.

In desperation I cried out to God. Soon after, I received a call from Capital City Rescue Mission telling me there was a bed available. I went to detox and then came directly to the Mission. It was the best decision I’ve ever made.

From the moment I arrived, I felt welcomed and loved. I joined the

New Life Program, and I learned something that changed everything: my new identity.

I learned that I am not defined by my addiction or my past. I am a born-again child of God. As Scripture says in 1 Peter 5:10-11,

*“The God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will Himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. To Him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.”*

I am deeply grateful to God and to the Mission because they didn’t just give me shelter; they showed me what it means to live as a strong Christian man following Jesus.

The staff and pastors walked alongside me, gave me structure, consistency, and community, and helped set me up for long-term success.

Today, I have been sober for over three years. I am working, living responsibly, and staying connected to the Mission for community and support. I have hope and a future. I am getting married and starting a new chapter of life rooted in Christ.

Thank you for setting me up to succeed!

# 2025 IMPACT

271,311  
Meals Served

90,434  
Nights of Shelter

273,820  
Clothing Items Given

1,738  
Clinic Visits

200+  
Helped in Recovery



## The Gift That Keeps on Blooming!



### A Legacy That Blooms

Every Spring, millions of people attend the National Cherry Blossom Festival in Washington, D.C. There’s a rich history behind this event and the trees at its center, marked by values that span generations.

As you read, consider your story and the legacy you’d like to leave behind. We’ve included reflection questions to inspire your thoughts.

This story begins with **Generosity**. In 1912, Tokyo donated 3,020 trees to Washington, D.C., as a gesture of goodwill to honor the growing relationship between the United States and Japan. That generosity had its roots in a small group of people who worked to generate interest in Japanese cherry trees by raising money, giving away saplings, and advocating with government officials. *What causes are important to you?*

**Relationships** are central to this history. Friendship between Japan and the U.S. motivated the original donation, as well as our government’s thank-you gift of flowering dogwood trees to the people of Japan in 1915. Over the years, the cherry trees have continued to be symbols of goodwill, including Japan’s gift of 250 new trees in honor of America’s 250th birthday. *What relationships have shaped who you are?*

With relationships often comes the need for **Reconciliation**. After World War II, the National Park Service sent budwood from the original trees to restore trees in Tokyo that had fallen into decline during the war. In turn, Japan gave the U.S. a stone lantern as a rededication of friendship. The National Cherry Blossom Festival opens each year with the lighting of that lantern. *How has the reconciliation you have through Christ changed your life?*

For the full version of this article, request a FREE copy of “The Gift That Keeps on Blooming” by contacting Mandy at 518-462-0421 or visit [capitalcityrescuemission.legacywill.org](https://capitalcityrescuemission.legacywill.org) to bless your family with an up-to-date will.

THANK YOU for giving men and women resurrection hope!

# Ladies! Make Your Reservation Today!

Hearts of Hope   
WOMEN'S LUNCHEON

## Wolferts Roost Country Club, Albany

Fundraiser for CCRM women's programs

~~~~~  
**Fri, May 1st**  
12 Noon / \$30ea

~~~~~  
To reserve your spot and/or learn more, scan...



You may also visit [capitalcityrescuemission.org](http://capitalcityrescuemission.org) or call 518.462.0421.  
**Reservations Necessary by Wed, Apr. 22**

Words from **Perry Jones**  
Executive Director



**"I am the resurrection and the life!"**

Every day, we witness the resurrection power of Jesus Christ at work in the lives of men and women who come through our doors. Lives are transformed. Broken hearts are restored. New life truly begins.

Inside, you will read about Ryan. Where there was once addiction and hopelessness, God has brought freedom and purpose. Ryan is now living a new life in Christ. Thank you for caring so faithfully for lost, hungry, and hurting men and women—your compassion makes stories like his possible.

You are also warmly invited to join us for our 15th Annual Hearts of Hope benefit, supporting the Rescue Mission's women's programs. This ladies luncheon will be held at the beautiful Wolferts Roost Country Club. You will have the opportunity to meet women in our New Faith Program and hear firsthand how God is working in their lives. We would love to have you join us.

As we approach Easter, please pray that many will experience the resurrection power of Christ. Thank you for your continued giving and prayers, which allow hundreds to encounter hope, healing, and transformed lives.

In resurrection hope,

*Perry*

*"I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die." ~ John 11:25*

**Resurrection Power...** On Easter morning, the stone was rolled away—proclaiming our risen Lord. Matthew's immortal words echo: "He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay." The resurrection of Jesus Christ reminds us that death, despair, and brokenness do not have the final word.



Jesus drew near to the poor, the sick, the forgotten, and the outcast. He fed the hungry, healed the suffering, and welcomed those the world had rejected. In His resurrection power, that same compassion continues today—bringing hope where there is none and new life where circumstances seem impossible.

This is why we serve. Because Christ is risen, we are called to reflect His love through acts of mercy—providing food, shelter, clothing, medical care, and the message of eternal hope to those in need. Transformation can not be manufactured; it is the work of God alone. Yet He graciously invites us to participate in what He is doing.

You are an essential part of this mission. Through your faithful generosity, lives are being touched, hearts are being restored, and the hope of the gospel is being shared every day. Together, we are witnessing the power of the risen Christ at work in our community.

As we celebrate Easter, we invite you into this partnership—helping ensure that men, women, and children experience not only an unforgettable Easter, but the life-changing hope found in a relationship with our living Lord and Savior.

Scan to donate...



Thank you for standing with us, and for caring so deeply for those Christ loves.

### MY EASTER GIFT

**YES, PERRY!** I'm giving a generous gift to help provide meals, shelter and hope to those who come through the Mission doors. Enclosed is my gift of:

\$26    \$50    \$100    \$500    Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose a check or give via credit card: VISA / MC / AMEX / DISCOVER

Please make my credit card gift an automatic monthly donation.

Credit Card# \_\_\_\_\_ Exp \_\_\_\_\_ Code \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please send me a FREE copy of "The Gift that Keeps on Blooming"

Donate online at [capitalcityrescuemission.org](http://capitalcityrescuemission.org) • CCRM | 259 S Pearl St | Albany, NY 12202



**I cried out to God and He answered my prayer.**

# THE MISSION: RESCUE

Stories of hope...lives transformed

EASTER 2026



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