EVERY STORY MATTERS

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1. They feel valued ... because they are.
2. We can meet them where they are and provide the loving care they really need.

All of this is made possible because of the support we receive from folks like you. Thank you for praying, volunteering and giving to this vital ministry. Together, we will eliminate homelessness, one person and one family at a time,

Listening,
Steve Sparks
CEO

www.FaithMissionWF.org
THE IMPACT YOU MADE IN 2020

**MEALS SERVED** 114,837

**NIGHTS OF SHELTER**
- **FOR MEN**: 13,055
- **FOR WOMEN**: 3,211
- **FOR CHILDREN**: 12,115

**TOTAL NIGHTS OF SHELTER**: 28,381

**Volunteer hours**
- **Faith Mission**: 5,836
- **Faith Refuge**: 8,498

**Gained housing**
- **Faith Mission**: 41
- **Faith Refuge**: 13

**Gained employment**
- **Faith Mission**: 41
- **Faith Refuge**: 17

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**Holly’s Story**

Holly grew up in a small East Texas town. She went to church with her grandparents but experienced abuse and neglect as a child. She was married after high school and had two children.

After multiple DWIs, Holly went to prison. When she paroled, she tried to get custody of her children, but they did not want to be associated with her. Broken from that harsh reality, she started drinking heavily, doing drugs, and getting in abusive relationships. She tried to move back in with her Mom, but her mother did not want her around.

She became homeless and suicidal. She reached out for help and was given the contact information for Faith Refuge. When she arrived at Faith Refuge on January 26, 2020, she was amazed. She had never felt like so many people were on her side. She was encouraged by everyone’s concern for her wellbeing. This was a new experience for her.

Holly said, “If I could tell everybody about this place, I would reach out to the females that I know from my past that are having a hard time. I know what they are going through. I know how broken they feel and how desperate, hopeless, and how close they are to just giving up. I want to tell them that there is such an amazing, loving, caring, wonderful place that will give you hope that you never knew existed, and they’ll help you apply it to your life. They will turn your life around, introduce you to God, and give you the strength to live again.”

Holly graduated from the New Beginnings Recovery Program and the Career Academy Job Readiness Program and is currently living in the transition house. She is now working at Walmart and still hoping to restore her relationships with her children.

**Justin’s Story**

Justin grew up playing baseball in a small southern Oklahoma town. He was raised in a loving, supportive home by his mom, a teacher, and his dad, a successful business owner. After high school, Justin attended a small college and played baseball. There, he suffered a broken arm and was prescribed pain medication. The rehab and the recovery lasted longer than expected, and he began to abuse the medication. When his prescriptions for the pain pills ran out, he turned to whatever means available to get them.

The two lowest points of his life were being arrested for stealing pills and watching his wife leave with their little girl. He stayed sober for a little

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2020 IMPACT REPORT

JUSTIN’S STORY CONTINUED

While but soon relapsed.

After stints in rehab, Justin turned to the streets for his pills. Always looking for something stronger and readily available, he turned to heroin and then meth. In November 2019, he was arrested and faced prison time. While in jail, he heard about Faith Mission. He asked the judge if he would defer sentencing until after he completed the 13-month program. The judge agreed. Justin arrived at Faith Mission on January 24, 2020.

“This is a once in a lifetime opportunity,” he said. “You get this one opportunity of having your life changed forever. Faith Mission takes you in at your lowest, most desperate, most vulnerable, just nasty place in your life, and they love you unconditionally from day one.”

“I can finally say I am becoming who I’ve always not just wanted to be, but who I’ve claimed to be at times, you know, who my dad raised me to be.”

Justin will reappear before the judge for sentencing in early 2021. He hopes and prays for leniency but said, “I’m more prepared now than ever before to face the decision.”

RODGER’S STORY

Rodger and Betty were married for 58 years. They faithfully served their church and community together. Betty served until the end, asking that her clothes and shoes be donated for ministry in Mexico.

After her passing, Rodger was lost and suffered from depression. His health began to decline. His doctor told him that he needed to get out and do something. Rodger contacted Faith Mission because he had heard that they needed volunteers.

He remembered what Betty had told their daughters just before she died, “Tell your father to get on with his life,” Rodger later remarked, “That meant for me to do what she and I did together.”

So Rodger began to volunteer in the dining hall at Faith Mission. He was there daily, cleaning, serving, and sometimes sitting and visiting with the homeless men who came in for a meal. After four months, his blood pressure was back to normal, and his spirits were up. His life had meaning again, and at 86, he had amazing vigor.

Recently, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and some mobility issues, Rodger had to discontinue his volunteering. But he still prays for and supports Faith Mission. Occasionally, he drops by for a visit. The last time he was here, he made a $500 donation in memory of Betty. He said, “This is what she would want me to do. It is a good way to honor her life and the memories we made serving together.”

2020
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<table>
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