

# MISSION MINUTE

March 2024

## Honoring God: Valuing People

### Case Management On The Street

In the previous few editions of Mission Minute we introduced you to our Street Reach program. This month we want to dive in deeper to what it means to do case management with the neighbors we meet.

In the last two months our Street Reach Team has located 14 different camp sites. These sites are all in one area of town. We know of others in different parts of town but we have to be realistic about how many people we can serve well with our current resources.

In these 14 camps we have begun case management with our neighbors. We have been able to help them connect with medical services and provide hope when things are extra dark. One such story is of Julie (not her real name). Julie had been living in her van unable to partake in shelter services because she lacked an ID. Julie found herself stranded after her significant other had been incarcerated in another state. Julie had no support system and was dealing with significant mental health and developmental issues.

The Valley Mission Street reach team had started checking in on Julie each week. One week when our team showed up Julie was out of hope. She believed a life line was coming to save her and it had been ripped away. In her darkness our team showed up and reminded her that she is not alone. We increased the frequency of our check-ins and worked with her to get stabilized again. Julie is doing better today because God put us in a place to help her at just the right time.

Your support of Valley Mission is saving lives and helping break generational bondage in our community. Thank you!



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## Meet Our Leaders

Every week it takes a small army of committed volunteers for Valley Mission to run. Every volunteer is invaluable to our efforts in reaching the hurting people in our community. In this edition of the newsletter we would like to highlight those volunteers who step into even bigger roles helping to organize this small army through their leadership.

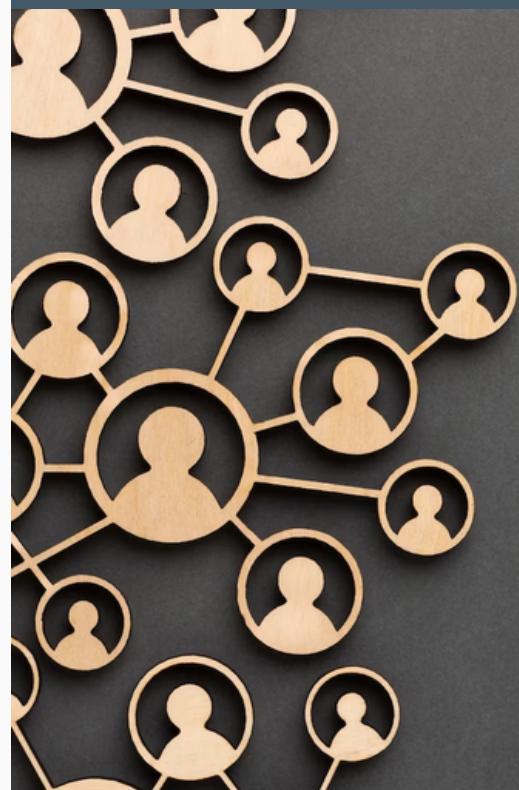
Stuart, serves Valley Mission tirelessly on both Wednesday and Thursday. He drives our trucks picking up and delivering food to us and other organizations. He is also one of the first faces our guests see when they enter our pantry each week. In addition Stuart makes himself available to help with Street Reach and many other tasks through the week. Valley Mission is blessed to have such strong leadership in Stuart.

Penny, also works hard for us on both Wednesday and Thursdays. She makes sure that our 70+ volunteers are plugged in each week and clear on the tasks that need accomplished. Penny also builds up our volunteers with joy and the occasional line dancing lesson. Her ability to unify so many volunteers from diverse backgrounds is amazing!

Oli is the backbone of our structure on Wednesday and Thursday. Oli has a clear picture on how to get things done efficiently. He is who we turn to, to know where to plug folks in. We are grateful for Oli's leadership and commitment to see Valley Mission through to success.

**“And you must show mercy to those whose faith is wavering. Rescue others by snatching them from the flames of judgement. Show mercy to others but do so with great caution, hating the sins that contaminate their lives.”**

JUDE 1:22-23





## Meet Our Leaders Continued

Darrell, is another one of our faithful pick up and delivery guys. in addition to sticking with this back braking work; Darrel also leads our team outside on Thursdays loading guests food into their vehicles. No part of what Darrell does for us is simple and we are grateful for his steadfast commitment to us.

Bev is another fantastic leader! She has altered our guests life for the better through making integral connections with our medical community. She, in addition to setting up the Free Clinic to serve our guests twice a month, has also coordinated health fairs and educational seminars for our guests. Providing these supports creates long term change in the lives of our guests.

Larry and Kathy fearlessly lead our Wednesday crew and step in to serve whenever called upon for other days and events. Larry and Kathy bring patience and joy when they are training new volunteers. We also appreciate how Larry and Kathy champion us in the rest of the community by sharing the work and vision of Valley Mission.

## Building Update

Construction continues to gain momentum. Preparation for sewer lines is under way with trenching and installing lines. Steel beams have arrived and are being installed in the emergency shelter space. This has a two-fold purpose: to expand the shelter space allowing for extra beds, and provide proper support for the 2nd story office spaces which will house partner agencies. Then on to general framing for the food pantry area and Clinic space. Very exciting to watch this become a reality!

**God saved you by grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast.**

EPHESIANS 2:8-9

