

TACOMA RESCUE MISSION

Helping all people become their best through the love of Christ



It all started with volunteers. 98 years ago someone had an idea to feed the hungry, and to this day volunteers continue to sustain the work we do in our community. We interviewed Sabrina, a Mission volunteer about her experience with the youth.

When did you start volunteering for the Mission, and how often do you serve?

I have been volunteering Since August of 2009 on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons for a couple hours a week.

What do you do, and why were you interested in volunteering?

I help out with childcare at Tyler Square. Parents at Tyler Square take classes during the day, and I watch their kids so they can focus on their learning and growth.

I was looking for a way to get involved in the community and heard about The Mission from a friend. I didn't have a lot of experience with kids, but thought I would jump in after seeing the need.

What is a typical afternoon volunteering like?

I help the kids focus on fun and productive activities. We play games, make crafts, paper airplanes, color, basically just have fun. Depending on the age we learn how to count, read books, play legos, anything to keep them engaged and active.

It is a good place for me to get some energy out while getting on my hands and knees with the kids.

You have been volunteering on a consistent basis, what keeps you coming back?

I've made some lasting relationships with the staff, and really appreciate the sense of community. People talk about real issues; you can sense the care people have for one another. Helping out with kids is a nice break from my job where I interact with adults all day. I don't get to make paper airplanes at my day job!

Thank you Sabrina for all the valuable time you give to the Mission, and to all our volunteers who are helping save lives everyday! ♦

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Visit our website at rescuetacoma.com



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General Information
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Donate Items At
425 S. Tacoma Way

To Volunteer
Call (253) 383-4462 or fill
out an application online at
www.rescuetacoma.com

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This month we asked Karie Hamilton, a professional photographer, Rescue Mission donor, supporter, and volunteer to be the guest editor of our newsletter. You will also see her fingerprints in many of the images in this edition. She was given free reign to tell the story she felt most passionate about, and decided to highlight the great things that happened through one of our past graduates, Tiffany who is our current Tyler Square Family Center Director.

THE WISDOM OF TIFFANY

From hearing the first words about Tiffany Salese, the Director of Tacoma Rescue Mission's Tyler Square, I was intrigued. Her inspiring story compelled me to want to hear more. As we shook hands in our first meeting, I was taken in by her genuine smile that welcomed me into her world- one of calm, strength and stability. Anyone who has the good fortune of having Tiffany in their lives has been graced by the power of triumphing over great odds. Hopefully that spirit can rub off on all of us.

Tiffany's need to survive against all odds began at the young age of 16 when she ended up on the streets looking after herself. Instead of school, family, and high school friends, Tiffany's world was full of prostitutes, pimps, drug pushers, drug addicts, gangs that were all dealing with too much money, violence, abuse and death. Tiffany was so busy just staying alive she had little time to reflect on spiritual matters until she found herself locked behind bars at

the age of 32. And it was in jail when she started having serious talks with God, resulting in some powerful transforming changes.

I was touched as Tiffany talked about her love for God, her dedication for her daughters and her loving compassionate spirit for the families that live at Tyler Square. Her innate understanding of human nature combined with her refreshing zest for life helped me to reflect on the deeper needs all of us have. We often take what we have for granted and forget to celebrate the power of healthy community.



One of Tiffany's strengths is her strategic way of thinking which allows her to adjust to any kind of situation. Her flexibility and intuitive insights let her never settle for the normal, and instead she continues to ask how a dent here, a twist there, or an expansion beyond can improve the situation for all. Tiffany gets the job done; and this great gift was shaped out of her crucible of her early tough streets of survival. Rather than figuring out how to eat to survive, Tiffany is figuring out how to best meet the needs of her families at Tyler Square.

While reflecting on her growth Tiffany has gratitude for David, Marlene, and Rev. White who encouraged her to believe in herself. We talked about sacrifice and hard work. When temptation beckoned, she had to find the strength to say no. Often, she was on her knees praying. Tiffany feels blessed God put her at The Tacoma Rescue Mission and saved her from death. God is the Great Teacher, who continues to shape her life.

The families at Tyler Square are a gift to Tiffany because they motivate her to become the best person she can be. She advises the single moms

"The families at Tyler Square are a gift to Tiffany because they motivate her to become the best person she can be."

to be strong, to not play the victim and make excuses. She tells them that they can do it. She tells them to get up every morning, pray to God and be confident that He will guide them through the day. Tiffany loves to rely on her commitment to these families, and she takes great pleasure in embracing her duty to be the best advocate she can be. She stands by them, stands for them, but in it all she knows that she would rather be nowhere else but caught within this new web that God has graced her with.

Thank you Tiffany for the time we spent together, and thank you for sharing your wisdom with me. ♦

written by Karie Hamilton
<http://www.kariehamilton.com/>

Happy Easter

Easter is a special time for the Rescue Mission and those we serve. It is special because we see the restoring power of the life of Christ every day through lives that are touched. Please consider doing something special this year to commemorate Easter. Perhaps a gift given in the name of a loved one who has passed, or come volunteer to serve at our special Easter meal.

Together we can make the celebration of Easter the most special day of the year!



March is the month to give!

We are participating in the Feinstein anti-hunger matching program. Donations to the Tacoma Rescue Mission's meal program in March or April will be reported to the foundation. Your generosity will result in an award from the foundation.

For more information on the program go to feinsteinfoundation.org

It's not just about the services; it's about the spirit.



In Memory of

Adam Wilson
Pro Answering Service

Catherine Lange
Nancy Jarvis and family

Cy Hanson
Arlene Hanson

Elaine Northstrom
Ronald Northstrom

James B. Lucas
Dorothy Lucas

James Patrick Devlin
Joseph and Barbara Devlin

Ken Brown
Bradford and Irene Klitsch

Ken Brown
Marshall and Katherine Cymbaluk

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Janice North

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Dolly Seymour

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Hazel Askren

Violet Mesler
Michael and Cheryl Moore

For information on estate planning, contact: Tammy at (253) 383-4462 or tammyc@trm.org

Don't miss it on our website

WATCH OUR VIDEOS

Hear amazing stories of transformation from Rescue Mission clients, employees, and friends.

Visit vimeo.com/tag:tacoma+rescue+mission or our website rescuetacoma.com

LEARN, LAUGH, AND ENGAGE ON OUR BLOGS

Check out our recovery blog at rescuetacoma.com/recovery for thoughts and devotionals from Rescue Mission staff

Connect with the Mission's leader, David Curry on his blog at <http://www.rescuetacoma.com/blog/>

Our youth blog trmyouth.blogspot.com shares the many activities our youth participate in year-round.

