

"BEAR ONE ANOTHER'S BURDENS, AND SO FULFILL THE LAW OF CHRIST." GALATIANS 6:2

## Crystal Stieber

### RESIDENT TESTIMONY

After finding my daddy deceased on the bathroom floor from an accidental drug overdose, I blamed myself. I didn't know Jesus and formed a hateful resentment and distorted view of Him. I felt like I was not deserving of love, and I lost myself, numbed my feelings, and found comfort in escaping by using many different drugs. My self-sabotage ruined many good relationships. Every day, I felt like I was fighting for my life, constantly fighting to survive, but it was really me trying to deal with the self-hate I had for myself. I encountered many different types of abuse in my relationships with men. I felt like I was too far gone to deserve a decent relationship and even further from a God-given relationship; one that my soul desperately desired. So many nights, I drowned in tears of frustration. I wondered if I would ever feel love for myself before it was too late, not knowing if my rock bottom would be me 6 feet under. Would my children have to question how much I loved them, because I did not even know how to love myself? I became homeless, and my family's trust was ruined because of the endless cycle of self-sabotage.

I've been in and out of many rehabs. It wasn't until I came to the Rescue Mission, that I realized I needed and was desperately seeking a relationship with the only one that was real, and that was Jesus Christ. Before coming to The Rescue Mission, I had also lost my grandbaby, son-in-law, and ex-fiancé of 14 years, all in the same week. I felt like I had nothing left to give. Coming from a human perspective, I had no strength to go on. I did not know Jesus, because all the guilt and misery weighed me down.

I learned bravery by working to put the pieces of my life and identity back together. God uses the bad in our lives for our good; it is all in the details. I thought that I was buried, but what He did was plant me where He wanted me to be so that I would have the opportunity to grow and find my true identity and value. I have finally experienced true love, and for the very first time, I love myself. I try to do what pleases Jesus and is best for my family and myself now. I am no longer the meek and timid girl; I have blossomed and discovered that I am so different now. I am a warrior of my one true King! Nothing can tear me apart again, because I won't allow it.

I still have some tough days. It's life. Life will still have storms, but I have a light that I focus on that leads the way: I follow Jesus Christ. I believe in myself, because I know I was made for so much more than to be a lost cause. I know I have found my place and home with a big, loving family God has blessed me with. I will keep fighting the good fight with my newfound courage in Jesus Christ leading the way. I am a mixture of

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glorious strength, determination, and resiliency.

The way I live my life today is to be thankful for yesterday, be grateful for today, and always have hope for tomorrow. That is something I tell myself every day. I will look in the mirror daily and say, "You go, girl! You did it! I love you! I'm proud of you!" I look at myself and smile, knowing I can face any fire or storm as the warrior God has created me to be.

After graduation, I plan to transition here and live my best life. I want to go

back to school. I plan to be the mother, grandmother, and godly example that my four children and two grandbabies (one who is Heaven) need me to be and lead them in the light and love of Jesus. I want to find a good, down-to-earth church to attend. Even if I am sometimes broken, I will forever remember who I am...His child. He gives me strength, and I will face every day headstrong, ten toes down, and brave.

My soul has learned the hard lessons to become the person I need to be and love tomorrow. This road is mine with Jesus alone. While others may walk this

journey with me, no one can walk it for me. God has had His hand on me this whole time. I am grateful that I am teachable. I am learning that every lesson isn't that I have done something wrong, but sometimes I have done something right. I want to be an instrument for Jesus, for His purpose. Even when it feels uncomfortable; it will be okay, because I can trust Jesus Christ. His way is the right and only way. Whatever I put in is what I will get back: that is growth. I plan to use the tools I have been given here at the Mission, be wise, and seek Jesus. Jeremiah 29:13 states, "If you look for me wholeheartedly, you will find me."



# Did you know that we pick up donations six days a week?


- MONDAY:** South Macon, Byron, and Warner Robins
- TUESDAY:** East Macon
- WEDNESDAY:** West Macon
- THURSDAY:** North Macon
- FRIDAY:** North Macon
- SATURDAY:** Various Locations

We can accommodate special pick-up circumstances on a case-by-case basis.

**Please call with any questions.**

ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE.

**Steve Floyd**

 478-743-5445 ext. 314

 [donate@rescuemissionga.com](mailto:donate@rescuemissionga.com)

# Our Annual Auction going once going twice..SOLD!



Our annual Auction to support the men, women, and children in our life-recovery program will be open for bidding from **September 3** at noon until **September 16** towards the end of the LIVE auction. We have hundreds of amazing items, including artwork, sports memorabilia, trips, jewelry, gift baskets, and more.



*You'll need to register to bid on any items in the online auction.*

**Just follow these easy steps:**

1. Go to this link: <https://qtego.us/qlink/rescuemissionga>
2. Click on: **Register for Event**
3. Complete the required fields and click **Submit Registration**.
4. You will receive a welcome text message from Qtego.
5. Start bidding!

If you are the lucky winner of an online Auction item, we will have your item ready for pick-up on September 18th from 8:00am until 6:00pm at the Rescue Mission, 6601 Zebulon Road, Macon. If your item fits into a 9x12 envelope we will happily mail it to you.

Not interested in any auction items but still want to support the Mission...you can give to our Call to Action at <https://qtego.us/qlink/rescuemissionga> now through **September 16th**.

For assistance with registration, bidding, donations, or prize pick-up, please contact Dawn Burns at 478-743-5445 ext. 301.



**SEPTEMBER**  
**16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>**  
**— 2024 —**  
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**A special invitation to help**

This is your summer opportunity to make a real difference in our community. RSVP before it's too late! Our Love Your Neighbor Campaign is your chance to help desperately hurting women and men. Before summer ends, you can make an impact in countless lives! Your gift will provide...

**Nourishing Meals | Safe Shelter | Work Training Recovery Programs | Christ-Centered Counseling**

**Respond by August 31 to provide life-changing care this summer and beyond!**

**To donate, scan the QR Code ▶**



# Thrift Stores

## Two Great Stores Supporting Life Changing Ministry

Every time you shop in our stores, you're making a difference in hurting lives!

We're truly grateful for all the donations we receive, and for every dollar, you spend shopping for our great selections. Whether you're cleaning out your home or garage, replacing furniture or appliances, or just don't want your items any longer... we'd love them!

We accept new or gently used items to provide the best shopping experience possible for our customers. Every time you shop, you're supporting our life-changing recovery programs for men, women and children from our community.

Complete the enclosed reply card or donate online at [rescuemissionga.com/newsletters](http://rescuemissionga.com/newsletters)



### GIVE YEAR-ROUND

Consider becoming a monthly giver and have a lasting impact throughout the year! Find out how at [rescuemissionga.com/monthly](http://rescuemissionga.com/monthly)



Proud "Certified Excellent" member of City Gate, accredited by the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability, and recognized as a "Four Star Charity" by Charity Navigator.

## Thrift Store Locations:

### Bargain Center Store

3375 Napier Ave | Macon, GA 31204  
Monday-Saturday | 10:00 am – 6:00 pm

### Barn Center Store

(Mission Campus)

6601 Zebulon Rd | Macon, GA 31220  
Monday – Saturday | 8:30 am – 6:00 pm\*  
Follow directional signs to DONATION DROP OFF

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478-743-5445



6601 Zebulon Road, Macon, GA 31220



#### Bargain Center

3375 Napier Avenue, Macon  
478-743-5445 ext. 317

#### Barn Center

6601 Zebulon Road, Macon  
478-743-5445 ext. 406

#### Donation Pick-Up

Steve Floyd, 478-743-5445 ext. 314