

YAKIMA

UGM
UNION GOSPEL MISSION

NEWS

JANUARY 2019



*"I didn't want to live anymore.
I was lost."*

Sam Ladesma, New Life Recovery Graduate

Sam came to the Mission addicted, homeless and without hope...

Read her full story inside.

At the Madison House Youth Center, attendance at the **girl's bible study has tripled this year!** On North 1st St newly trained volunteers are praying with homeless people in storefronts. The Mission's Thursday Prayer Breakfast, which has been voluntary for over a year, has a **50 + person average** attendance! Men's recovery resident Jesse got baptized in December at Yakima Foursquare!

What can explain this???

As we're learning more about abuse, trauma and mental illness, our "missionaries" are re-discovering the power of **Roger Phillips' emphasis on individual ministry**. In Roger's 30 years leading the Mission, he always invested in knowing our guests personally. His relationships won him **spiritual leadership**.

His character made that leadership powerful.

Poverty, abuse and addiction are a **separate culture**, into which **we bring the Gospel** like foreign missionaries. Like missionaries all over the world, we help with physical needs as we build the relationships that **win spiritual influence**. We listen and learn the language of trauma and abuse... for example, what it was like to grow up with addicted parents.

Bringing the Gospel across culture is challenging! In every culture, **the Gospel remains** a person named Jesus, living in His people, loving others daily in His name. Staff and volunteers, - our missionaries - thank you for supporting us in being Jesus' hands, showing Jesus' heart, and sharing Jesus' call: "Follow me!"



Spiritual leadership

"Prayer breakfast is really positive and encouraging, I get to learn more about the Bible."

-John Gresh, Bridge Program

cont'd from cover

Now Sam is certified as a nursing assistant and just started full-time with a traveling nursing agency, works on call at Memorial Hospital and is finishing her prerequisite classes to begin a nursing degree. But it wasn't always this way...

What happened?

Arriving broke and broken, Sam slowly began to trust that the staff at YUGM really did want the best for her. "I was able to go to any area of the Mission and find a staff member that would pray with me and encourage me when I was having a rough time. I got used to having a bed and a room to sleep in after being homeless for so long. I learned so much about who I am in Christ! I learned about who He is in my life. God was what I was missing and the Mission helped me to discover that."

Sam joined the New Life Recovery Program and graduated in 2017. In 2018 she moved out on her own. Sam has attended Breakthrough Church for the past few years and faithfully serves in the nursery and as a greeter. You can't help but smile when you come across Sam's peaceful, joyous presence.

Sam agreed to share her story so that she could extend a thank you to our donors. Because of your giving, her life was forever changed. She says, "Everything you do, big or small impacts lives every single day. Everything that you sacrificed and give is being put to use every day. It's helping just one more person get fed, clothed, sheltered and saved. Thank you for what you have done for my life and for many others. I pray God's biggest blessing over you."

Want to help others like Sam?

Visit www.yugm.org/donate or call us today.

509.853.4317

MADISON HOUSE APPLE COMPANY 2018 RECAP

"My favorite part was packing apples, selling them at church and learning more about business so it can help me in the future."

-Maria, MH student

Generated sales: \$10,000 +
MH kids that participated: 7

The kids package, market, and distribute these gift boxes to support the activities and programs of the Madison House youth center. The students who participate are empowered to learn about careers in the fruit industry, basic business principles, as well as the value and reward of hard work.



a message from mike



Dear friends,

We are moving into the new year with a lot of spiritual momentum as we've made huge moves into deeper partnership with area congregations. Hundreds of our Christian brothers and sisters have joined us on our N 1st campus for a wide range of new ministry opportunities, and it's just the start. The Mission isn't here to work on behalf of the Church, but as a catalyst of the Church! I hope you enjoy reading more about it!

Sincerely,
Mike Johnson

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Steve Griff

Steve Griff has been a faithful volunteer for over 30 years. Steve volunteers multiple days a week in many capacities, including: speaking at chapel, handing out food boxes to the community, discipling men in the Recovery Program and organizing the Medical Clinic's dispensary...He said that our passion for giving the Gospel is what motivates him to volunteer at YUGM.

Steve appreciates that we don't just give a hand-out, we give a hand up. "Physical help is temporary but a relationship with Jesus is forever." He said that our passion for giving the Gospel is what motivates him to volunteer here.

STAY IN TOUCH

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HELP US
WITH
OUR
needs

- Cold medicine
- Bath towels
- Hand towels
- Twin sheet sets & blankets
- Toilet paper
- Resuable coffee cups
- Plastic utensils
- Napkins
- Sliced cheese
- Bacon
- Fresh fruit
- Board games
- Used recreational gear
(ping pong table etc.)