

# THE BRIDGE

A publication of East Texas Rescue Mission of Tyler

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## GOD IS ON MY SIDE....NO MATTER WHAT

At East Texas Rescue Mission, we serve over 250 meals per day. We need a lot of help in the kitchen. The men on our one year residential discipleship/recovery program, called The Bridge, help in this area. Charles has been working in the kitchen for over two months now and the following is his story:

"I came to Tyler from Beaumont, Texas. I felt I was losing control of my life and I wanted to get away for awhile. Ever since my Mom passed away, I felt I was always on my own. I took it pretty hard.

I started out on a bus ride for two days. Then I was going to go back home and try to start over. The first night I stayed at the East Texas Rescue Mission, I attended their chapel service. That's when I decided to stay here for awhile. It felt good to get back to the Bible. It's where I needed to be.

Pastor Tony Chung discussed The Bridge program with me and I thought I would check it out before I moved on. I started attending and liked the time to study God's word and clear my head and try to get my life back together.



I've been on the program 2 ½ months and one of the things that I like the most is the friendships I find here. When you're on the street, people don't even talk to each other. But here, they understand what you are going through because they are going through the same thing. You can be who you are here and not try to be someone you're not. Here, I am given a chance to get my life back on track.

At one time, I had gotten accepted into college to be a pharmacy tech. Because of my family situation, I didn't pursue it but once I get done here, I want to go back to school and take courses for that.

My favorite Bible verse is Psalms 118:6, 'The Lord is with me; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me.' **God is on my side... no matter what.**"

*"He reached down from on high and took hold of me;  
He drew me out of deep waters."  
Psalms 18:16*

**Provisions Needed:**

**PRAYER**

Sugar Meats Cornmeal Oatmeal  
Milk (instant or fresh) Canned fruit  
Coffee/Tea Spinach Peas

**Volunteers Needed** to help serve lunch at noon and dinner at 6:00 p.m. Please call JR at 903-592-9400 if interested.

**Men's clothing needed** When you do your spring cleaning, remember to donate used men's clothing to the mission (socks, underwear, etc.).



**DID YOU KNOW?**

A national survey\* of homeless showed:  
>21% of the homeless nationally are veterans  
>35% are experiencing homelessness for the first time

>72% are more than a six-month resident of the community in which they receive services  
>80% said they preferred to receive services from an agency with a spiritual emphasis.

- National Survey taken in 2007, Association of Gospel Rescue Missions

**Dear Donors, Volunteers, Prayer Warriors and Friends,**



What a blessing it is to serve the Lord at East Texas Rescue Mission. We meet men just like Charles almost every day, men who are running from something, but not sure where they are going or what they will do when they get there. We are so thankful for you who have given of their time, talents, and finances to help us reach out to all the Charles' that come through our doors. Thank you for helping the homeless.

In His service, Rev. Tony Chung, President, East Texas Rescue Mission of Tyler

**COMMEMORATIVE GIVING**

**In Memory of:**  
CHUCK GREGORY  
Joe & Inez Denson

**THANK YOU FOR HELPING THE HOMELESS**

The following services were provided at East Texas Rescue Mission **January through April 2009** because you care:  
Meals served....25,934      Beds provided....6,158  
Professions of faith....24      Rededications....36  
Volunteers.....527      Clothing & Food Boxes....2,089

**THANK YOU TO MARVIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH STAFF, ALL SAINTS EPISCOPAL SCHOOL, NEW HARMONY BAPTIST CHURCH AND BOY SCOUT KYLE BENNETT, AND ALL WHO HELP EACH MONTH.**

**YOU ARE TERRIFIC!**



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