

# GIVING TOGETHER

**M**uskegon Rescue Mission had the privilege to sit down with Brandon and Alyssa Steury who are long time monthly donors. Read their testimony about monthly giving below.

We are Brandon and Alyssa Steury. We have been married 18 years and have four kids ranging in ages 6 to 14. We moved to West Michigan, specifically Grand Haven, in 2002.

We first heard of Muskegon Rescue Mission when my wife Alyssa noticed a flyer in the mail saying you can provide a meal to one of our homeless men, women and children for only a \$2.00. We had never heard of Muskegon Rescue Mission before and thought it was a really neat idea.

“It occurred to me that, for only \$12, we could feed a family like ours. We started giving small monthly gifts. It made the giving do-able and every little bit helps,” said Alyssa.

What really surprised me about Muskegon Rescue Mission was the tour of the shelter. I was blown away because the Men’s and Women’s Shelters are so much more than meals. The staff goes into great depth to care for the whole person through case management, housing, job searching and Bible studies. MRM will help create a plan for them from the time they walk into the door through forever. Everybody is a step away from losing a job or having a medical issue which would devastate the family. It is nice to know Muskegon Rescue Mission would be there.

My wife and I are passionate about actively giving and we love having conversations with our kids about our monthly giving. It shows commitment is important, along with repetition and consistency because the need is always there. Most importantly, Jesus told us to help the people in need without conditions.

**“GOD’S LOVE IS VERY IMPORTANT AND ANY WAY WE CAN BE HIS HANDS AND FEET TO HELP OTHERS IS WONDERFUL.”**

— ALYSSA

Every bit does make a difference. If everyone donated monthly, whether the gift was big or small, think of the difference it would have on our community. Lives forever changed, children not going hungry at night, men and women having opportunities for employment, and kids staying off the streets. It would be a shame for someone not to give because they thought their gift had to be big.

If you are interested in becoming a monthly donor, please visit our website at [www.muskegonmission.org](http://www.muskegonmission.org) or contact Melissa Boughner at 231.727.6090.





OR

10 meals  
for our  
hungry

July 24 – Oct. 31, 2019

muskegonmission.org

100  
days of  
hope



HL

Harbor Light is a publication of Muskegon Rescue Mission and is produced quarterly.



Enhancing Trust



MRM  
Muskegon Rescue Mission

**Muskegon Rescue Mission**  
1715 Peck Street  
Muskegon, MI 49441  
(231) 727-6090  
FAX (231) 722-7030  
www.muskegonmission.org

**Board of Directors**  
Roger Doctor – President  
Rick Ebeling – Vice President  
Chris Thompson – Treasurer  
Brandon Steury – Secretary  
Judge Andrew Wierengo  
Cedric Scott  
Patrick Wittkopp  
Dan McKinnon

**Your Donations Count**  
Muskegon Rescue Mission is a 501 (c)(3). **86% of all gifts are put back into life-changing programs.**



# HARBOR LIGHT

Muskegon Rescue Mission

AUGUST 2019



"I LOVE  
VOLUNTEERING  
AND GIVING  
BACK TO THE  
MISSION."

— FELICIA

a publication of



**MRM**

Muskegon Rescue Mission



# YOUR MONTHLY IMPACT



Dan Skoglund  
Executive Director

Every day, hurting people walk through our doors in need of a nutritious meal, a warm bed, a hot shower and a change of clothes. Some seek shelter and refuge from harsh weather or the danger of sleeping on the streets. Many seek guidance to overcome obstacles that have held them captive for years.

1 Corinthians 12:27 says, "All of you together are Christ's body and each of you is a part of it." Thanks to donors like you Muskegon Rescue Mission's monthly gifts are an extraordinary source of reliable consistent financial support. MRM is able to welcome hurting individuals and teach them the life changing message of the gospel that leads to transformed lives. Your dedication to those who are hurting is a blessing. That is why I am inviting you to become a monthly donor. Will you consider supporting Muskegon Rescue Mission on a monthly basis?

Through your monthly gifts, you'll be strengthening your commitment to our homeless and hurting in our community. It is a commitment that says, "I want to make sure you get all the help you need." As the demand for our services grows with each passing day, these commitments become the backbone of our ministry.

Please prayerfully consider beginning your monthly impact today!



P.S. Throughout the coming year, we'll be called to provide more than 160,000 meals and over 32,000 nights of shelter. Your monthly support ensures our ability to provide for the hungry and homeless in West Michigan.



**\$5/MONTH**  
provides lunch and dinner for someone staying in our shelter.



**\$25/MONTH**  
provides 3 meals breakfast, lunch and dinner, a clean bed, new pajamas and case management for someone staying in our shelter for four days.



**\$100/MONTH**  
provides 3 meals breakfast, lunch and dinner, a clean bed, new pajamas and case management for 17 days.



**? \_\_\_/MONTH**  
choose your monthly impact.



# YOUR IMPACT 20 YEARS LATER

My name is Felicia, I am 28-years old, but I remember staying at Muskegon Rescue Mission with my mom when I was four-years old. My two siblings and I were raised by a single mother. In 1993, we were evicted from our home and we had nowhere to go. Thankfully, we found Muskegon Rescue Mission. I do not remember a lot of what happened back then, but I do remember playing in the children's room and feeling safe. My family stayed at the mission for three months before we moved into our own place, right before Christmas.

My mother struggled to provide for us, but she always promoted three key things:

1. **Education**
2. **Loving each other**
3. **Family togetherness**

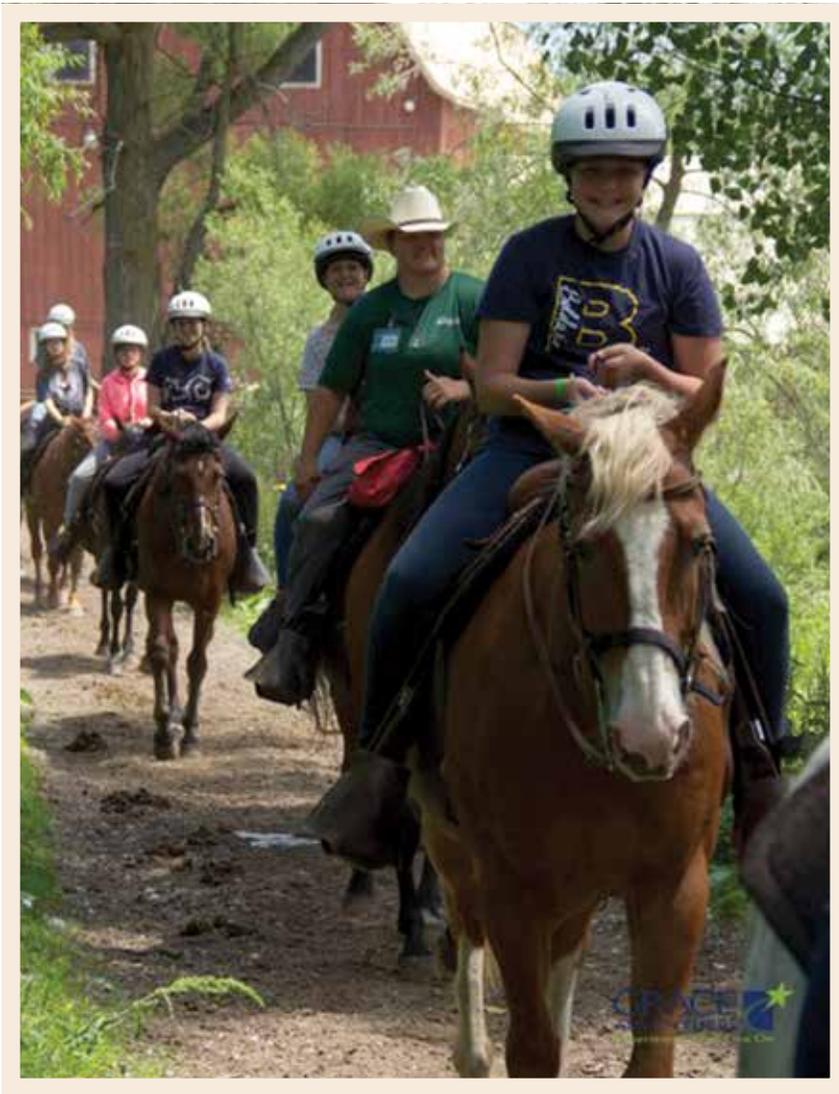
I channeled all my energy into school. I knew school was my way out of a repeating family cycle. I graduated from Muskegon High School and I am proud to say I obtained a Bachelor of Science degree from Michigan State University in 2014 and I am currently applying to medical school. This was not easy coming from a poor family. I did not have financial support. I worked three jobs while attending school. I could not always afford a place to live during college and periodically stayed with friends to avoid homelessness.

I came back to the mission to share my story. I was not privileged, I came from nothing, I came from being homeless, I came from not having my dad, I came from a family that used drugs and experienced many deaths. Yet, I found hope. I love volunteering and giving back to the mission. I want to encourage the ladies and the kids, and tell them they can DO IT. Not only can they DO IT, but they can experience the faithfulness of Christ and His word.

Even though we may struggle with food, shelter or illness, God is good. God will heal your life if you ask. God can give you peace to sustain you in a tough season. If you continue to keep your mind and eyes on Him, He will continue to carry you. I know I have been through trials, but God has blessed me in many ways. He has brought different people into my life who encouraged me.

Right now, I am in a season of waiting. I am waiting to see if I get accepted into medical school. However, I know if I do not get accepted, God has something better for me.





# 30 KIDS EXPERIENCE GRACE & CAMP

“CAMP IS MY FAVORITE WEEK OF THE SUMMER. I LOVE HANGING OUT WITH FRIENDS, SWIMMING, AND LEARNING MORE ABOUT JESUS’S LOVE FOR ME.”  
 – CIERRA. (15 YEARS OLD)

“THIS WAS MY FIRST YEAR AT CAMP AND I WAS REALLY NERVOUS AT FIRST, BUT MY COUNSELOR WAS NICE AND I HAD A LOT OF FUN ON THE BOAT.”  
 – JAMES (7 YEARS OLD)

Muskegon Rescue Mission sent over 30 kids to Grace Adventures this summer. Camp weeks are filled with laughter, challenging discussions and biblical teaching. For many of the children, this was their first camp experience, while for others it was a return visit. Either way, seeds were planted and nurtured, friendships were made or renewed and lives were forever positively impacted.

This year’s theme at Grace Adventures is an Old West theme titled “WANTED”. The key verse was James 2:23, “And the scripture was fulfilled that says, ‘Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness, and he was called God’s friend.’” The children studied the life of Abraham, how God “WANTED” him and how God also “WANTS” us.

Please continue to pray for kids who went to camp this summer. Thank you to all of our donors who sponsored a camper, we could not have sent over 30 kids to camp without you.