

# CHANGING LIVES

FORT COLLINS RESCUE MISSION & HARVEST FARM

## A NEW DIRECTION



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RESCUE  
MISSION



*Dear Friends,*

As I read Jason's story in this newsletter, I am reminded how powerful a "new direction" can be when someone finally finds hope after years of struggle.

Despite the years of battling addiction and hopelessness, Jason didn't give up. The trials he faced brought him to the Mission and to a life of faith, sobriety and hope.

In the book of James, we are reminded: *"Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance."* (James 1:2-3). Jason's story reflects this truth—that even through suffering, God is at work shaping something new.

Right now, we are going through a season of perseverance at the Mission. At the end of June, we transitioned Harvest Farm from its long-running recovery program to serve as an emergency shelter for men experiencing homelessness. This will bridge the gap until the new Homeless Resolution Center opens, at which point Harvest Farm will close.

This was not done lightly. Tears have been shed. Many moments of prayer. This decision weighs heavily on our hearts, yet we believe it is vital to our long-term ability to help more people, more effectively. Men in our recovery program were connected individually with our case managers to ensure a supported transition for each of them. Recovery services will continue when the new center opens, including the newly licensed Pathways of Life Recovery Services (PLRS) you will read about in this edition.

Harvest Farm has been central to this community's work since the Mission acquired it in 1988. We are grateful for every partner, volunteer and donor who helped more than 850 men graduate from the New Life Program and restore countless families. The new center will honor that legacy by expanding what we can offer to the people we serve.

Our commitment to northern Colorado is growing, with support from the community to open a next-generation center for homelessness resolution. Even in difficult transitions, God's faithfulness continues to shine through. As He has for so many years, He provides for every step ahead.

Thank you for standing with us, praying with us and continuing to care for our neighbors experiencing homelessness during this journey.

Grace and Peace,

*Dennis Van Kampen*

Dennis Van Kampen | President/CEO

# A NEW DIRECTION

## JASON'S STORY IS ONE OF DECADES LOST TO ADDICTION—UNTIL HE FOUND HOPE THROUGH THE NEW LIFE PROGRAM.

**G**rief changes people; it is both one of the most universal experiences in life and one of the loneliest. For many, it takes only one moment for normal life to unravel completely.

When Jason lost his 11-year-old brother in an electrocution accident at the age of eight, his whole world flipped upside down.

It marked the beginning of years overwhelmed by depression, and by the time he was 15, drugs, gangs and addiction had shifted from an outlet to a lifestyle.

"My mom and dad got divorced about the same time as my brother died, and that kind of messed me up too," Jason shared.

Through the loss of even more loved ones, Jason turned to drugs to cope and spent years cycling between temporary stability, prison and homelessness. Unhealthy relationships followed, and over time, he became the father of five children.

Jason eventually moved to Colorado and first stayed at the Lawrence Street Shelter in Denver before later making his way to Fort Collins. He stayed at Fort Collins Rescue Mission on and off but admits he wasn't yet ready for the accountability and structure that came with it, often choosing life on the streets instead.

"I made it through a whole winter in a tent with a heater," he remembered. "But it's no way to live. It's scary. You're hungry and cold. That was the worst."

After 30 years of living this way, Jason was exhausted.

“The life and everything that went with it,” he said, “made me lose everything I’ve ever had—houses, cars, relationships, kids.”

He came back to the Mission, and staff members encouraged him to apply for the New Life Program. Finally, Jason felt ready.

He joined the program in April 2025, and by October, he had graduated. Throughout the months, he experienced total transformation.

“It’s like night and day,” he said. “I’m more giving and caring. I’m calmer, more clear-headed and spiritually driven. I know my purpose now: help people get through crisis to show them that there’s a better way.”

Through the program’s counseling, behavioral health classes, life-skills development, and more, Jason began confronting patterns and behaviors that had followed him for decades.

**“They really care about you,” he said. “I learned more in my time here than ever in my life.”**

Faith became an important part of Jason’s recovery as he connected with a local church and began building community outside of the program. As a lifelong guitar player and singer, music, too, remained a constant outlet.

“Without music, I probably would’ve lost my mind,” he said.

Today, he uses music to encourage and connect with others—even playing during devotional times.

“One guy came up to me crying and hugged me,” Jason remembered. “Sometimes the words of a song inspire people to do better. I’ve seen it change people’s lives.”

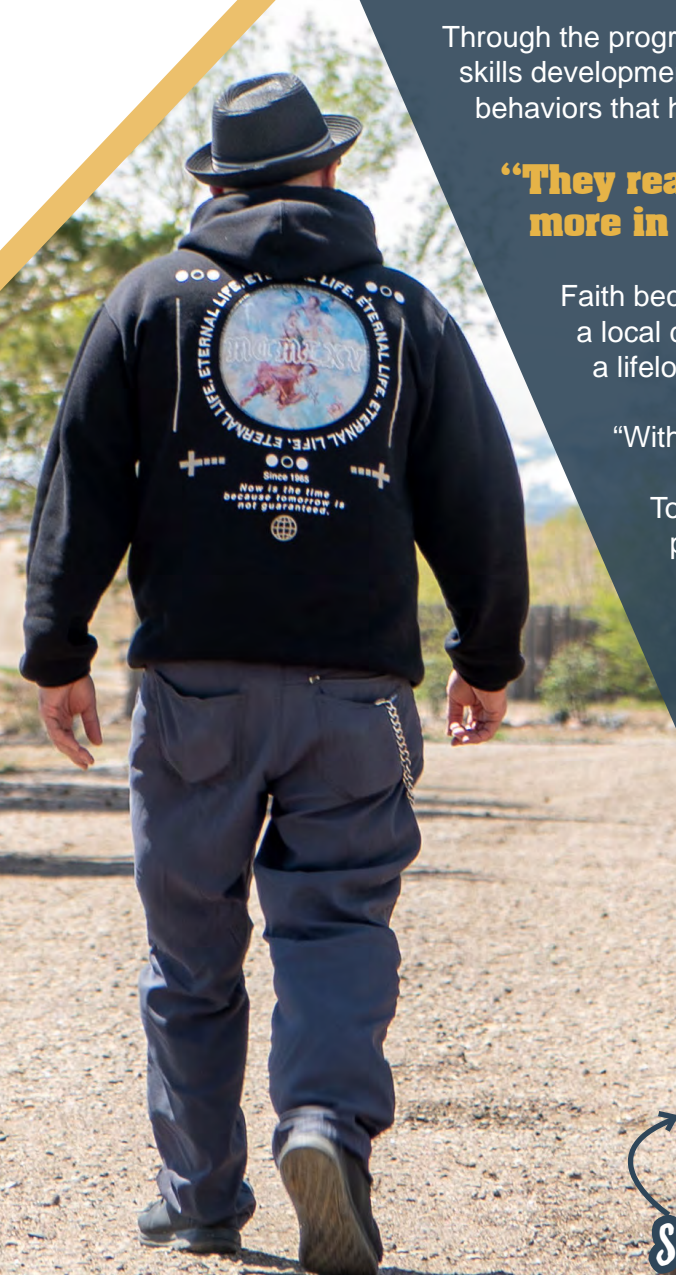
Jason now hopes to give back to others and use his past experiences to help them avoid the same cycles he endured for decades.

“I want to inspire other people, ‘If I did it, you can definitely do it,’” he said. “There are ways out. There’s hope.”



*Scan to Give!*

**You make freedom from addiction and instability possible. Donate at [FortCollinsRescueMission.org/ChangingLives](https://FortCollinsRescueMission.org/ChangingLives)**



# THE MISSION in my words



Kyle McPherson

Kyle has worked at Fort Collins Rescue Mission for six years and is the first Executive Director for Pathways of Life Recovery Services, LLC (PLRS), a new subsidiary of Denver Rescue Mission.

### What is Pathways of Life Recovery Services, LLC?

We're in a season of strengthening and restructuring how we deliver care. Essentially, we're taking all of our clinical services and placing them under a new LLC called Pathways of Life Recovery Services (PLRS), which is working toward licensure through the state of Colorado as a behavioral health entity. We've been building toward this for a couple of years, and it's a big step in aligning with state requirements. This will also improve the quality of care we provide—more licensed staff, stronger clinical oversight and the ability to integrate counseling services more fully into our programs.

### How will this benefit those we serve?

It will allow us to build on the strong foundation that already exists within the Mission's various programs.



This will improve the quality of care we provide.

Staff will have access to additional training, support and clinical resources, helping us respond to the increasingly complex needs of those we serve with more individualized care. Ultimately, we hope this will contribute to strong, lasting outcomes in areas such as sustained sobriety, stability, employment, and long-term success after program completion.

### What encourages you most about this shift?

It allows us to continue our mission in a way that is sustainable for the future. We remain a faith-based organization committed to walking alongside people, while also expanding access to clinical expertise and support. The combination of faith, professional care and long-term support creates an environment where meaningful transformation can take place.



## CONSTRUCTION IS RISING: NEW HOMELESS RESOLUTION CENTER

- ✓ Windows are being installed
- ✓ Roofing continues
- ✓ Doors are being installed

### OUR CORE STRATEGIES

#### EMERGENCY SERVICES

Meeting the needs of the most vulnerable

#### RECOVERY

Equipping men through a life-changing program

#### TRANSITIONAL PROGRAMS

Transitioning people into stability

#### PREVENTION

Providing essential needs for daily life



Follow our progress



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DENVER RESCUE MISSION IS A PROUD MEMBER OF:



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