

The Rescue Mission of Trenton is the agency in the City of Trenton that serves the truly needy men and women who have no place to turn for shelter, food, and clothing. The Mission offers a safe, clean, warm refuge for the homeless, the hungry, the transient, and the addicted. We provide services and counseling to encourage individuals to reach their greatest potential. The Rescue Mission creates an environment where one can live with dignity, build self-esteem, and experience love, responsibility, and hope.

Vince's Place: Licensed by the State of New Jersey Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services as a Residential Addictions Treatment Facility. Provides long term and halfway house care level of service with a full range of behavioral health treatment and life skills development.

Outpatient Program: Licensed Outpatient and Intensive Outpatient substance abuse treatment for men and women. Provides individual assessment, group counseling sessions, and addiction education.

Permanent Housing: The Mission operates 4 specialty supportive housing units – Robinson Place, a DCA licensed Rooming and Boarding House, Brimmer House, a free standing 2-unit house, and 15 units of permanent supportive housing at 505 Perry Street and Clinton Avenue Women's Housing.

Weekend Soup Kitchen

Emergency clothing and furniture

Emergency Shelter: Shelter for single men and women. Licensed by the State of New Jersey Department of Community Affairs.

Transitional Housing

Vocational Development: Individuals are provided training in GED preparation, basic literacy, writing skills, job seeking skills, and computer skills.

Socially Responsible Recycling: Donated materials are collected and sold through the Carroll Street Store and warehouse.

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July 2018

Summer

From the Emergency Shelter to the Board of Directors

It's been a grueling, circuitous, 30-plus-year journey for Clayton Dixon as he made his way from the Mission's emergency shelter to serving on the agency's Board of Directors.

Clayton was in and out of Vince's Place on three different occasions over the years, as he grappled first with alcoholism and then with dual dependencies, which included crack cocaine, angel dust (PCP), heroin, and other opioids.

During his 30-year struggle Clayton was homeless, fathered a child out of wedlock, lived on the street, and was incarcerated on multiple occasions for - in his own words - being a "badass" and for being a "violent, obnoxious addict."

It was a time of "degradation and humiliation," with brief recoveries and subsequent relapses, indicated Clayton. "During this period the Rescue Mission was a 'pit stop' for me - a place I could get away for a while from the 'mean, hard streets.' I never saw it as an opportunity to change. I was just not ready. I can remember Sheila [Scott] signing me in and telling me that I was killing myself and I had to change, but I was not listening. I was thinking about getting high even as I was signing in. I love Sheila because she did not give up on me even when I gave up on myself."

Clayton's downward spiral driven by alcoholism began in high school when he began mimicking the behavior of his alcoholic father. It continued while he was at the Edison Job Corp Center at Camp Kilmer. It reared its ugly head during a four-month stint in the Army prior to entering the New Jersey National Guard. And it manifested itself in various odd jobs in housekeeping and as a cook at Princeton University.

A kitchen injury resulted in a major skin graft, causing considerable pain. As a result, Clayton got hooked on Percocet. "I'm one of those people who can't just take a pill or two, if it makes me feel bad I keep taking more and more. It's the same with alcohol. I can't just take a little nip and stop right there. That's not me."

In 2012, Clayton was in the Emergency Shelter and mentioned that he was interested in taking another shot at Vince's Place, the mission's residential substance abuse program. He was told there were no slots available. "As I was thinking about getting a hit of heroin, the Night Manager came over to me and indicated that Barrett Young just told her that a bed had opened. "Somehow - I don't know why - I realized that this was my last shot. I was tired of being sick and tired."



Clayton prepares for a Board meeting with Manager of Permanent Supportive Housing, Sheila Scott

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From the Emergency Shelter to the Board of Directors (cont.)

"Like all of my other stays at Vince's Place, I started by cleaning the bathrooms, moved to the kitchen, then to the trucks, then to the Store. This time things began to click. Then it was on to the Perry Street Apartments for a year and now I'm in my own place and I've been clean since 2012. I'm happy. Life is good. I have a lady friend and I attend at least one meeting every day and two meetings on most days. My days are very structured and I'm good with that. On Fridays I lead a NA [Narcotics Anonymous] meeting at the Mission. I try not to be preachy or pushy, but rather to lead by example and to be there for anyone who needs me," Clayton said.

In 2017, he was invited to join the board of Directors. Clayton Dixon is the embodiment of why the Mission provides services on an unconditional basis regardless of how many times an individual has fallen down. He demonstrates why society should never give up on its people. Clayton is living proof of what can happen when an individual, at any stage of their life, decides they are ready for a change and is encouraged by dedicated and committed staff in a nurturing environment. All of us at the Mission are extremely proud of Clayton's dramatic transformation and thankful that he is willing to give back as a volunteer at the Mission through his service on our Board of Directors.

Promoting the Mission Store to the Hispanic Community



The Mission Store has long been a staple in the community as an outlet for affordably-priced gently used clothing and furniture. "The Mission Store reflects our community-providing a dignified shopping experience for residents of all backgrounds," indicated Holog Bashi, the Mission's new Manager of Entrepreneurial Operations. The above billboard is an acknowledgment of the Latin customers who frequent the store and is posted at the corner of Carroll and Perry Streets—just off of Route 1, a major entryway to the city.

Bashi, a native of Peru, is trilingual -fluent in Spanish, English and Italian—and is focused on expanding the Mission's store reach in the Trenton area Hispanic community.

MISSION STORE

MONDAY	9:00 AM-4:30 PM
TUESDAY	9:00 AM-4:30 PM
WEDNESDAY	9:00 AM-4:30 PM
THURSDAY	9:00 AM-4:30 PM
FRIDAY	9:00 AM-4:30 PM
SATURDAY	9:00 AM-12:00 PM
SUNDAY	CLOSED

100 CARROLL STREET
TRENTON, NJ 08609



Recognizing Volunteerism at the 14th Annual Adam Shanks Mission Miniature Golf Tournament

Every year we try and add a new element to our already unique annual mini golf event, named in honor of long-time Mission board member, Adam Shanks.

This year, inspired by Adam's motto "What's Right is Right," the Mission Board of Directors recognized an individual, company, and educational institution for their extraordinary contributions to the agency.



Gavin Fowler

*Rescue Mission of Trenton's
Service Award for Outstanding
Youth in Volunteerism*

Gavin Fowler has demonstrated tremendous dedication to serving and helping the truly needy of the Rescue Mission. His commitment has specifically included planning the Martin Luther King Day of Services on January 15, 2018 at the Hopewell Presbyterian Church which benefited various charities including the Rescue Mission of Trenton. Gavin also supplied the Mission with 14 fleece blankets and 100 warm winter coats for distribution in the Emergency Shelter during this past dangerously cold winter. In another major undertaking, Gavin, through his Eagle Scout Project, secured, assembled and provided the Mission with 300 complete hygiene kits consisting of lip balm, comb, socks, soap, mini-tissue package, razor, toothbrush, shaving cream, shampoo, washcloth, water bottle and many other essential hygiene products. Gavin first became involved with the Mission in September of 2016 when he and his scout troop served food and helped clean up the picnic site at Washington Crossing Park for the Battle Against Hunger annual bicycle ride, which generates funds for various area charities, including the Mission. Gavin was formally acknowledged and recognized with the **Rescue Mission of Trenton's 2018 Youth Leadership Award** for his strong commitment to helping those in need through his consistent support of the Mission.



Dr. Chao



Dr. Renn

The University of Pennsylvania, through its Penn Restorative Entrepreneurship Program (PREP) has been collaborating with the Rescue Mission over the past 4 years on an initiative to develop business skills for individuals in recovery. Since 2014, 21 Mission clients have successfully completed the program and are in different stages of pursuing entrepreneurial ideas that were developed through their participation. The PREP program has gone through various iterations and improvements to make it more appealing and appropriate for the skill and life situations of the Mission's clients. At the helm of the PREP program are Dr. Charlotte Renn and Dr. Chou Guo, who have gone out of their way to assist Mission clients well-beyond the time spent in the ten-week course to bring their entrepreneurial ideas to fruition. In acknowledging these significant contributions, the University of Pennsylvania PREP program was awarded the **Rescue Mission of Trenton's 2018 Educational Leadership Award**.

University of Pennsylvania PREP program
– presented to **Dr. Ren and Dr. Chao**
*Rescue Mission of Trenton's Education
Leadership Award*



**Hutchinson Industries- presented to
Andy Barker, president**

*Rescue Mission of Trenton's Service Award
for Stalwart Corporate Support*

Hutchinson Industries, Inc., Trenton's largest private employer and a world leader in enhanced-mobility devices for wheeled vehicles, has been the Rescue Mission of Trenton's most stalwart corporate supporter over the last fifteen years, contributing over \$310,000. Three successful Presidents of Hutchinson (Pascal Serderian, Olivier Marsaly and Andy Baker) have been active and productive members of the Mission's Board of Directors. Dozens of Hutchinson employees have volunteered at the Mission in many different capacities. Hutchinson has partnered with the Mission to provide vocational experience to numerous residential clients in recovery. In addition, Hutchinson provided pivotal financial support when the Rescue Mission of Trenton's roof was damaged, heating system and elevator failed, the exterior of the main brick building (100 Carroll Street) was in disrepair and the emergency shelter was in dire straits. Hutchinson has been a primary host of the Annual Miniature Golf Tournament since its inception fourteen years ago. In recognizing the contributions that Hutchinson has made to the Rescue Mission of Trenton, they were presented with the **2018 Corporate Leadership Award**.

For My Baby and Me

When Thomasine Gaines was invited to work as a Peer Support Specialist as a part of a collaborative program led by Capital Health Systems, geared toward pregnant women and new mothers battling an opioid addiction, Gaines knew right away that it was a perfect fit. Even so, she never expected to be cutting the umbilical cord for one of her clients!

"Ah, baby Mike! It was the most wonderful feeling I've ever had," says Gaines, a shelter worker for the Rescue Mission and now a recovery specialist in the new program, a joint effort of the Mission with Capital Health, Homefront, Catholic Charities Diocese of Trenton, Trenton Health Team and Henry J Austin Health Center. Gaines had been in communication with a program participant – encouraging her progress in treatment and being an understanding ear—when the client went into labor. Thomasine visited her at the hospital and next thing she knew, she was in the delivery room. "I stayed with her. She had no one else there for her. Often, these women need somebody to talk to. They feel guilty that they are using, and their baby is messed up. But addiction is tough. And if you don't know from experience, you can't understand."

Gaines, a former abuser of drugs for two decades, understands. Like many at the Mission who have overcome addictions, she has gone on to work there, helping others suffering from similar problems. She wasn't sure where her training as a recovery specialist for the program would lead her when she began, but she knew she had something to offer. "I have a history of drug abuse. With my knowledge, I thought it would be perfect for me to step in and help. So when asked, I said yes."

The "For My Baby and Me" project is an innovative, collaborative funded by the State of New Jersey, Department of Health, providing medical screening, a hotline for referral, peer support, intensive outpatient at Catholic Charities, medicated assisted therapy, housing (via Homefront) and intensive case management for pregnant women and new mothers struggling with substance abuse.

The Mission provides peer support for clients to keep them

engaged. When Gaines gets a call from the hotline saying a mother who is addicted needs help, she explains the program to them. "We take it from there," she says. "We sign the woman up for the program. If they're homeless, they go to HomeFront, where they do everything they can for them to try to get them back into the mainstream."

The Peer Support team meets the client at Catholic Charities for an intake into intensive outpatient treatment. "Catholic Charities enrolls them in the program and gives them counseling," says Gaines. "They go to group [therapy] four days a week and the program make sure their medical needs are met-including coordinating care for medicated assisted therapy." For My Baby & Me has been in place since December 2017. "It's very new. We're trying to get the word out there, slowly but surely," says Gaines. To date, Capital Health has screened thousands of women for this program and 27 have entered this intensive collaborative service model.

As for that cutting of the cord — the mother was a client she had enrolled her at Catholic Charities and then at HomeFront. "When she went to the hospital to have the baby, she called me to sit with her," Gaines says. "She had no family here. She had a C-section. So when it came time to take her in [to the operating room], I went with her. I held that baby and cut the cord and I'll never forget it. That's the kind of thing that makes you really want to get out there and work with these women. Some of them give you the runaround, but it's worth it."

Anne Levin contributed reporting for this article



Thomasine Gaines on her way to meet with one of her expecting clients

**For My Baby and Me
24 hour Hotline- Call for Intake
Information: (609) 256-7801**

JOIN THE 365 CLUB & SUPPORT THE MISSION EVERY DAY THIS YEAR!

Join the 365 Club and make a nominal donation each day to those who are homeless and hungry, and increasingly grappling with mental-health problems and substance abuse issues.

10¢/day = \$35 25¢/day = \$90 50¢/day = \$180 \$1/day = \$365

\$2/day = \$730 \$5/day = \$1,820 Other \$ _____

Name/Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Telephone: _____

A Trifecta of Recognition for the Mission and its Partners

The New Jersey State Governor's Jefferson Award was established to honor individuals for their achievements and contributions through public and community service. Andy Barker of Hutchinson Industries was nominated by the Rescue Mission for this highly prestigious honor for Hutchinson's work towards corporate social responsibility (See page 3 story on Hutchinson Industries receiving Corporate Leadership Award at Adam Shanks event). We are pleased to announce that Andy was honored on June 2, 2018 at Trenton War Memorial with the Jefferson Award for Executive Leadership. This is a high tribute to Andy, Hutchinson Industries, and the Mission.



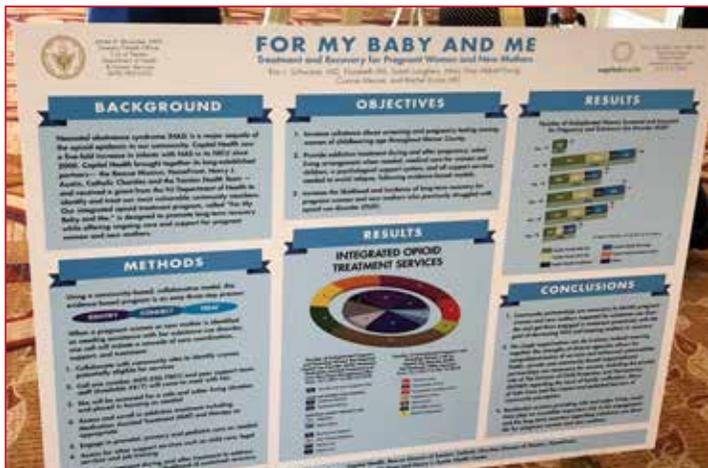
With the nomination from The Rescue Mission, Andy Barker (second to left) receives the Jefferson Award on June 2, 2018

On Wednesday June 6th, hundreds of residents of the City of Trenton gathered to help clean up the Capital city, bagging hundreds of pounds of litter that was later collected by the City Public Works crews. Students of the Trenton Public schools led the masses in tackling this effort. To kick off the event, the teams of children and other participating organizations gathered on the steps of Trenton's City Hall to receive a few words of encouragement from Mayor Eric Jackson. "Teaching [our children] the importance of keeping our city clean is a good lesson for them to internalize," says Mayor Jackson. Before the cleaning began, awards were given to individuals and groups that work toward sustaining Trenton-including the Rescue Mission of Trenton. Chief Operating Officer, Barrett Young and Mission residents Nick and Miguel were on hand to accept the Mission's award for "Excellence in Providing Services in Our Community." The Mission is proud to continue efforts to improve Trenton by serving its citizens and our community.



The Mission's Chief Operating Officer (COO), Barrett Young and Mission Residents Miguel and Nick with Mayor Jackson

On June 5, 2018 New Jersey State Department of Health held its third annual population health summit, focusing on an integrated approach to addressing opioid addiction. The conference drew hundreds of healthcare providers, community leaders, and recovery advocates to the Bridgewater Marriott for in depth discussions and presentations. In a combined effort, the Rescue Mission of Trenton and its partners in the "For My Baby and Me" project received awards for Best Overall Poster and People's Choice, "For My Baby and Me: Treatment and Recovery for Pregnant Women and New Mothers." (See page 4 for more information on this unique collaboration between the Mission, Capital Health Systems, HomeFront, Catholic Charities, Trenton Health Team and Henry J. Austin).



The award-winning poster outlining the Baby and Me program treatment and recovery process



NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 1409
TRENTON, NJ

98 CARROLL STREET, P.O. BOX 790
TRENTON NJ 08605-0790
WWW.RESCUEMISSIONOFTRENTON.ORG



The Rescue Mission of Trenton is not affiliated with any other organization in the U.S. listed as Rescue Mission. It is a private non-profit organization.



DID YOU KNOW...

Charitable Collections



In early May, Supply Sergeant Latrice Rainer called to see how she and her Army Unit from Fort Dix could be of assistance to the Mission. After being given information on collecting clothing and hygiene items, Latrice and 6 other soldiers showed up to the Mission a month later with an official military Humvee overflowing with a wide range of desperately needed clothing and hygiene items. This remarkable effort is so greatly appreciated. Thank you to our Fort Dix family for your donations and your service to our country.

The Mission Welcomes New Staff

To accommodate the needs in the Mission's ever-expanding programs, we have some new staff on board, bringing a wealth of experience to each respective position. The Mission family has recently welcomed:

Sal Bellucci, Manager of Nursing Services

Ed Carduner, Manager of Behavioral Health Operations

Larry Sargent, Counselor

Alicia Giafaglione, Counselor Intern

Cyd Williams - Behavioral Health Intake Counselor Intern

Terri Robinson - Emergency Shelter Case Manager

Larry Dillard - Recovery Aide

Robert Little - Recovery Aide

Alan Blackshear - Recovery Aide

Howard Hemmingway - Recovery Aide

We are pleased to welcome the above individuals to our team of dedicated staff, committed to rebuilding lives. For information about job opportunities at the Rescue Mission, email employment@rmtrenton.org.