

OUR HOUSE

A PUBLICATION OF THE NEW YORK CITY RESCUE MISSION

“ON TOP
OF THE
WORLD”

You helped lead
Isaac to a
better place





WHAT'S REAL ABOUT REAL ESTATE?

CRAIG A. MAYES, Ph.D., CEO

Dear Friend,

Right after the first of the year, I read that Manhattan real estate hit a record high, with the average apartment going for \$1.95 million.

I can only guess what the New York City Rescue Mission (NYCRM) would be worth in today's market, but its true value doesn't lie in its square footage. If you took into account the dedication of our staff, the compassion of our volunteers and most of all, the hope of the men and women under our roof, it would be priceless.

The NYCRM puts the "real" in real estate! Each person who comes to us for a meal and a bed - or for something more lasting - has a real story to share and real goals to accomplish.

I love Isaac's story. It's awesome when someone recognizes that he has made mistakes, but realizes that he still has the gifts and potential he thought he had lost. No matter how far Isaac's talents and abilities lead him, I'm sure he'll remember and always appreciate the support you gave him here at the NYCRM.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Craig A. Mayer". The signature is fluid and cursive.

P.S. We've talked for some time about the *Honor Her* event for Mother's Day. Be sure to read about it in this issue of *Our House* - it was an inspiring occasion for everyone involved and we're already looking forward to next year!



Isaac had one of the best views in the city...a view many people would pay top dollar for. From his bed on the roof, he looked out on hundreds of brightly lit windows, neon signs and the rush of late-night traffic on the streets below.

He never applied for a mortgage or signed a lease, but Isaac paid dearly for that rooftop property. Now homeless, the former honor roll student had sacrificed a promising future when he began using drugs in high school.

Isaac's addiction started with a little marijuana and alcohol. Soon, he was cutting school and eventually dropped out. "Then I was introduced to selling drugs and making easy money," he recalls. "I got stuck in that lifestyle for more than ten years."

All The Doors Closed ...

That lifestyle became very destructive. “All the money I was making was going to my drugs of choice. After a while my addiction got more expensive. Even with the money I was making selling drugs, it couldn’t support that addiction. So I went to stealing and robbing people; it got bad and my mother kicked me out of the house.”

Staying with friends was no solution. Isaac would steal from them, too. “I came to a point where I had nowhere to stay. All the doors closed, so I was homeless.” That’s when Isaac found his new home on the roof of an abandoned building.

After a couple of months, Isaac realized that he needed a change. “It was really hard for me. I never thought I’d be homeless. I’m smart and I was letting my potential go down the drain.”

...The Best Thing That Ever Happened To Me

When Isaac made his way to the NYCRM, he says, “It was the best thing that ever happened to me. The way I’m thinking is different now. I’ve got a four-year-old daughter. I can’t keep selling drugs.”

While working through the program, Isaac completed his GED and worked towards his CDL license. Best of all, he committed to staying drug-free. “It’s been a journey but I’m happy where I’m at now. The Mission has changed my life and rebuilt the bridges I had burned. My mother calls me every day to see how I am. My friends are happy that I’m in a better place.”

That “better place” may not have a rooftop view, but Isaac can stand on top of the world and know a bright future is ahead of him!



HOPE LIVES HERE . . . ON TUMBLR!

Have you checked out Dr. Craig Mayes’ blog? It’s a great way to follow what’s going on at the Mission and in our community. You’ll get “behind the scenes” perspective from our CEO, including personal stories that will touch and inspire you. One recent story featured Craig’s 10k race in Central Park with his friend Charles, a guest at the NYCRM. Spoiler alert: they both crossed the finish line!

Log on at <http://nycrescuemission.tumblr.com/>. You can also get there from our home page at nycrescue.org – just click on Blog.

HONOR HER EVENT CELEBRATES STRENGTH, DIGNITY



A high point of the spring season at the NYCRM was our annual *Honor Her* event on May 7, celebrating the strength and dignity of all women, especially those in crisis.

We invited women from agencies and shelters throughout New York City for a day of encouragement and fun. Many of our 500-plus guests came with their children and families. Thanks to our generous sponsors and friends,

there were activities for the children, delicious food, music and cheer.

This celebration rallied the community and restored dignity to women who feel beaten down by hunger, poverty, homelessness, or other devastations. Every year, the event brings awareness to this hidden population and raises the funding the NYCRM needs to serve our neighbors well.

The biggest smiles of the day came from the women who regularly stay overnight in our women's shelter. Women experiencing homelessness are especially vulnerable on the streets, so we open our doors each night to provide safety and security. Your support provides help and hope to women in need, honors their potential and sends a message that their lives matter.

Honor Her wouldn't have been possible without our incredible sponsors. We're especially grateful to the Sy Syms Foundation for their continued sponsorship of this event and paving the way for the NYCRM to serve even more women in crisis.





NEW YORK CITY
RESCUE MISSION

Hope Lives Here

New York City Rescue Mission
90 Lafayette Street
New York, NY 10013
212.226.6214 | nycrescue.org

OUR PURPOSE

The New York City Rescue Mission exists to provide help and hope to the hungry, homeless and hurting men and women of New York City.

Our foundation is Hope:

The confident expectation that a life can change.

Our spirit is Love:

Purposeful commitment to sacrificial action for one another.

Our character is Excellence:

Who we are and how we serve.

Our attitude is Community:

Unity brings strength.

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HOW WE HELP

The Mission provides a full schedule of programs and services designed to instill hope and create a foundation to rebuild lives.

Recovery Program

This 9-to-12 month interdisciplinary inpatient program empowers men to overcome substance abuse and other life-controlling and debilitating issues. The goal is simple but challenging: “rebuilding lives, transforming souls.”

Career & Learning Center (CLC)

An essential part of the Recovery Program, the Career & Learning Center (CLC) offers men the chance to advance their educational and career goals, including assistance in TASC (formerly GED) preparation.

Emergency Shelter

Before resting comfortably in bed for the night, each guest is offered dinner, a hot shower, clean linens, a safe environment and the opportunity to participate in a gospel chapel service. At full capacity, we sleep approximately 160 men and 30 women on three separate floors.

Soup Kitchen and Food Pantry

Professional chefs, assisted by work therapy clients and volunteers, provide an average of 400 hot, nutritious meals every day for those who come to the Mission. We also provide staple food three times a week to families struggling to make ends meet.

Clothing Closet

We collect, organize and give away various items of men’s and women’s clothing to our guests, referrals and anyone in need. If you would like to donate items in new or good condition, email us at donategoods@nycrescue.org.

Medical Clinic and Social Services

Our weekly medical clinic provides basic care to our guests and residents. Additionally, three times a week, social workers and case managers connect qualified individuals with medical insurance, disease screening and other entitlements to help them overcome hunger and homelessness.