

Journeys of Hope

CHRISTMAS 2024

**Joyful
and
Thankful**
Merry Christmas



opendoor
MISSION
RESTORING hope CHANGING lives

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(585) 454-6696
www.OpenDoorMission.com

Message from our CEO



Anna Valeria
CEO

Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

— John 8:12, ESV

Much to Celebrate This Christmas

Dear Friend,

The birth of Jesus Christ represents the fulfillment of God's promise. It beautifully expresses how deeply God desires to connect with His creation by taking the form of one of us.

At Open Door Mission, we strive to be intentionally relational with everyone who walks in our doors — staff, guests, donors or volunteers. By connecting with one another, in an environment that is centered on the Gospel of Jesus Christ, we share the love of God, not just at Christmastime, but all year long.

Your continued support has allowed us to preserve this environment, and to expand its reach by adding program beds, serving families in need of emergency shelter and partnering with other faith-based providers.

As we celebrate the fulfillment of God's promise, we thank you for your generosity and dedication to our purpose!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Anna Valeria".

Anna Valeria
CEO

Please join us for the 4th annual Hope Lives Breakfast Awards!

Thursday, March 20, 2025
beginning at 7:30am

Roberts Wesleyan University
2301 Westside Drive

Please join us for a fun-filled morning to start your day as we share our 72 year history with much gratitude. To purchase seats visit OpenDoorMission.com. For sponsorship opportunities, please contact Kate Munzinger at (585) 645-0704.

4th ANNUAL
Hope Lives
BREAKFAST

You helped a desperate mother find shelter and hope

Natasha was struggling to find shelter for her family. The problem was most shelters would not accept her eldest 16-year-old son. That kept them on the move from one place to another.

Then Natasha received a blessing together with a great loss. She gave birth to a healthy daughter, but that same night, her father passed away. Overcome with the grief of her father's passing, Natasha felt she could not go on by herself.

“Open Door is giving me the chance to get back on my feet, get a job and save money for my own place”

Open Door Mission was recommended to her, and she reached out. When she heard not only was she welcome, but her entire family as well, she was overcome with relief. The grief, stress and hopelessness began to melt away as she realized her children were going to a safe, healthy place.

“We are given everything we need,” Natasha says. “Food, clothing, hygiene products, all of the things we did not have. They even helped my son get involved in a work program so he can get a good job.”

Natasha herself is working on her CDL bus driving license. “Open Door is giving me the chance to get back on my feet, get a job and save money for my own place,” she proudly says.

“It has been so long since my children had their own home for Christmas. I am looking forward to providing for them and then giving back to other ladies at Open Door.”

As Natasha works toward her goals, she is beyond grateful for your support. “I am so thankful for everything I am given. My family came here this summer, and we are already learning how to begin new lives. I lost so much and been through so much trauma. Now there is nothing left but to elevate myself and get better!”

Thank you for supporting families at Open Door Mission. Because you care, mothers and children can stay together as a family unit, which is vital for healing. **Thank you for giving Natasha and her family the opportunity to restore hope and begin new lives.**



Please Help Prepare for Christmas Meals

Volunteers and staff are gearing up for a wonderful Christmas celebration, but we need your help to get started. We expect a large group throughout the holidays and our pantry needs a healthy stocking.

BOGOs are a great way to help our neighbors in need this holiday. Keep one item for yourself, and the other goes to Open Door Mission!

Items needed:

Urgent Needs

- Sugar
- Breakfast Cereal
- Coffee
- Instant Mashed Potatoes
- 8 oz Hot Beverage Cups
- Canned Soup
- Non-dairy Creamer
- Canned Vegetables
- Bottled Water

Holiday Meal Needs

- Ham
- Coffee
- Scalloped Potatoes
- Salad Dressing
- Non-dairy Powdered Creamer
- Sugar



To drop off a food donation, please bring it to:
156 N. Plymouth Avenue
Rochester, NY 14608
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday through Friday

Join our Dollar-A-Dove Campaign

It's time for our annual Dollar-A-Dove campaign, a wonderful and easy way for your business, civic organization, school or church to raise much-needed funds for Open Door Mission. Last year, our partners raised a total of \$9,790.

Let's see if we can beat that this year!

If you are interested in participating, please contact Chris Scribani at Open Door Mission at cscribani@opendoormission.com.

