



November 2022

MISSION *Messenger*

REBUILDING LIFE... TOGETHER

HOW CHRISTINA
FOUND HOPE
AFTER ADDICTION



REMEMBERING RICK



Our Grant County Rescue Mission family feels deeply the recent passing of our executive director, Rick Berbereaia.

Your prayers are welcomed, most importantly for Rick's family as they grieve his absence. And also for the Grant County Rescue Mission staff,

board and volunteers as they carry forward Rick's passion to care for people in their time of crisis, embrace them with God's love, heal their wounds, and equip them for a stronger life.

Rick's obituary is included in part below. Memorial gifts can be made at mygcrm.org/memorial.

Ricky Allen Berbereaia, 58, went to be in the presence of his Lord and Savior on October 6, 2022, after a very short fight with liver cancer in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Rick was preceded in death by his son Tanner, 8 in 2006. Rick is survived by his wife, Debbie; his daughter Katie Boucher (Marlin), his son Tyer (Amber), his daughter Teagan, his father and mother, Edwin and Eleanor Berbereaia, his sister Vickie (Mike) and his precious grandchildren, Poppy and Oliver and his nieces and nephews.

Rick was born on October 3, 1964, in Visalia, California. Rick married Debbie (Carroll) on September 14, 1990, and they

had four children who were the absolute joy of their life. Rick loved watching them excel in their sports and arts and was their biggest fan! He was blessed with two grandkids who melted his heart and affectionately became known to them as Donut Gramps. He was always happiest when we were all together.

Rick will always be the funniest and most fun member of this family. He loved to make people laugh and cherished the moments we laughed until we cried. He was ready for an adventure at any time.

Rick worked in retail for years, but in 2006, he moved into ministry working for the Visalia

Rescue Mission and became the Executive Director of the Grant County Rescue Mission in Marion, Indiana in 2017.

Rick loved helping lost and hurting men and women find a true relationship with Jesus and support them in the Life Change that we all desperately need. He found people at their worst moments in life and loved them so authentically. His greatest reward here on earth was hearing stories of these people becoming the husband, father, son, wife, mother, daughter they were created to be and that they were thriving in this new life in Christ. Life Change Happened Here because Rick knew that Jesus is all that matters.

REBUILDING LIFE... TOGETHER

CHRISTINA AND MATT FIND HOPE AFTER ADDICTION

Christina was part of a tragic statistic.

1 in 3 Americans struggle with alcohol, prescription drug misuse or illicit drug addiction.*

Which means almost everyone knows someone – a friend, co-worker or loved one – who is hurting and desperate for help, even if it's not apparent yet.

For Christina, drugs weren't the actual problem. Her addiction was just a symptom of much deeper issues. She knew she needed to get to the root cause behind her addiction, but she felt

powerless on her own.

In jail, Christina begged God for help. "I always believed in God," she says, "but I strayed away from him." She sought Him again by reading her Bible every day and praying with her inmates every night.

When she was released from jail last November, Christina was so grateful to find a warm welcome at the Grant County Rescue Mission.

"Everyone at the Mission is amazing," she says. "They will help you change your life around. All they want to do is love you and see you succeed in life."

Thanks to your support, all her needs were provided for while she found a new start. One year later, and succeed is exactly what Christina has done!

She graduated from our recovery program in July. Now, she already has a full-time job, a car and a place to live with her children. And she's married to a supportive man, Matt, who understands what Christina has been through.

"I was an addict, too," says Matt. "I found God in prison. When I got out, I got involved in church and started playing music there. I stayed clean and did the right things, all because of the people and positivity there."

Together, Christina and Matt share a passion for helping people overcome addiction and heal from the pain that traps them there. Christina sponsors and mentors women currently in recovery here at the Grant County Rescue Mission. Matt is helping gather donations of household items to help program graduates move into their own apartment.

"Without the Mission, I would probably be in the streets, because I would have been homeless coming out of jail. I would still be there doing drugs," says Christina. "But they gave me a place to stay. I was able to get my life back."



TURKEY DAY 5K

Thursday, November 24 - 8:00 AM
Grant County Family YMCA
123 Sutter Wy, Marion, IN 46952

RUN NOW SO OTHERS CAN EAT LATER!

Run, walk or roll in this year's **Turkey Day 5k** and kick off your holiday season by caring for those in need right here in our community.

Register, donate, and join us on Thanksgiving morning knowing every dollar you give helps provide nutritious and delicious meals to the many men, women, and children in Grant County experiencing hunger.

Registration and check in begins at 7:00 AM. The race begins at 8:00 AM.



REGISTER TODAY AT: [MYGCRM.ORG/TURKEYDAY5K](https://mygcrm.org/turkeyday5k)



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