



Your twice-a-month e-newsletter from AGRM

Useful news and information for association members

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ourstreet
News from AGRM and our members

Still Time to Register for CEO Summit

You still have (a little) time to register for AGRM's CEO Summit, which will be held August 29–31 in downtown Buffalo, New York. This event offers rescue mission CEOs the opportunity to gather with peers for discussion, interaction, and idea-sharing. If you are a mission CEO, don't miss this event—head to the [online registration page](#) now.

Keep Praying for Whiteclay

At AGRM's 2017 Annual Convention held in May, The Nehemiah Award (presented to a mission that is changing a city and its people) went to Bruce and Marsha BonFleur for the work they have been doing in Whiteclay, Nebraska. This [article](#) is a recent update. However, a big reason for much of the change in what is going on in the community could be reversed later this month if the fort gives the liquor store owners their licenses back.

AGRM continues to have significant influence in the area and works closely with the Lakota people through the tribal housing authority and other agencies. We'll keep you posted.

Register Now for Fall District Conferences

Don't forget to register for your district conference. These gatherings offer fellowship, training, and networking opportunities on a geographic basis, and provide an opportunity for downline staff to connect with their peers and receive training.

To register for your district event, go to www.agrm.org>Events.

An AGRM representative (noted below) will attend each meeting and bring an update on the association.

Bluegrass District

September 18–20
Hendersonville, North Carolina (Tom Zobel)

Northern Lights District

September 19–21
Toronto, Ontario (Jere Schertzer and Selena Hayle)

Sierra District

September 20–22
Commerce, California (Ken Peterson)

Deep South District

September 26–28
Live Oak, Florida (Tom Zobel)

Great Lakes District

September 27–29
St. Charles, Illinois (Jere Schertzer and John Ashmen)

Liberty District

October 2–4
Canadensis, Pennsylvania (Jere Schertzer)

Evergreen District

October 4–6
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho (Ken Peterson)

Rawhide District

October 10–12
Mesquite, Texas (Ken Peterson)

Heartland District

October 10–12
Omaha, Nebraska (Tom Zobel and Justin Boles)

Final Deadline for *Same Kind of Different as Me* Red-Carpet Events

Today is the final deadline for rescue missions to sign up to host *Same Kind of Different as Me* red-carpet events! Don't miss this chance to increase year-end donations and recruit volunteers.

To sign up for a red-carpet event or to get more info, visit <http://pureflixevents.com>. If you have questions, contact Mark P. Fisher at mark.fisher@pureflix.com, or call him at (443) 907-2828.

Reminder to Add Digital Memberships for Your Mission

Did you know that your available mission member seats recently doubled with the introduction of “digital memberships”? Digital memberships give twice as many people in each mission access to website resources, AGRM Connect Groups, and electronic newsletters. And we want to make sure your mission is taking advantage of this increase!

Executive directors, billing contacts, and profile managers can log in at www.agrm.org, click on My Organization Profile, and click the green Members button to review your list of members. You will be able to add additional digital members and select up to half of them for “full member” status. (Full members also receive Rescue magazine and association voting privileges.) Your mission's existing members have already been converted to the new digital/new member format, so please be sure to log in and verify that your members are correct.

If you need further information or assistance, please contact Director of Operations Stacie

Hughes at shughes@agrm.org or Data and Member Support Manager Marcy Sandoval at msandoval@agrm.org.

Looking Down the Street...

- AGRM Regional Coordinator Ken Peterson reports that a generous donor has provided funding to purchase a 50-bed facility that **Butte Rescue Mission** (Butte, Montana) would move to Montana from North Dakota. The mission has made an offer on several acres. Pray for a successful relocation.
- Jason Conway is serving as interim CEO at **Modesto Rescue Mission** (Modesto, California). Kevin Carroll resigned from his position at the mission July 31.
- Please welcome AGRM business member back into membership, **Christian Community Credit Union** (San Dimas, California).
- Please be in prayer for Anne and Dan Parsons, director emeritus of **Winston-Salem Rescue Mission** (Winston-Salem, North Carolina). Anne was recently admitted to the ER and subsequently hospitalized with severe pain. Tests have indicated that her previously diagnosed cancer has moved to her bones, and revealed a large mass on the bottom of her spine, which is inoperable. The doctors will be starting radiation treatments and are working on solutions for managing Anne's pain.



AGRM Member Benefit: Online Library

Members frequently request articles they read or heard about that were published in *Rescue* magazine or in the *Street Smart* e-newsletter. With few exceptions, stories from these publications and many other pieces are archived in our online members-only library.

To access the library, log in to www.agrm.org with your email address and password, then mouse over “Library” to see what’s available. For instance, members can click on “Publications” to access past issues of *Street Smart*, page-flipping versions of *Rescue*, and past “Up to Date” articles from AGRM’s home page.



School Mental Health Programs Create Positive Lifelong Effects

School-based mental health programs have proven to reach large numbers of children and effectively improve mental health and related outcomes. For children and teens worldwide with significant mental health problems—including anxiety, disruptive behavior disorders, ADHD, and depression—these programs can affect the course of their life for the better,

according to findings published in the *Harvard Review of Psychiatry* and [reported](#) by Psych Central.

While some of the school-based mental health interventions target students at high risk of mental health problems, most are designed to focus on mental health promotion or preventive mental health services for all students in the school. Evidence shows that school-based mental health programs can be widely implemented and can lead to population-wide improvements in mental health, physical health, education, and social outcomes.

Lack of ID Keeps Homeless People from Seeking Needed Help

As the nation's heroin and painkiller epidemic rages on, homeless people are sometimes turned away from drug treatment centers because they don't have a valid photo ID, according to a *New York Times* [report](#). People without IDs generally don't make it past the intake process at medical facilities, so tallies of their refusals are hard to come by. Experts said they've never seen a consolidated statistic on how frequently it happens nationwide, but the ID barrier to treatment is well known; a 2010 Baltimore study recommended facilities waive the requirement.

The ID requirements are intended to prevent people from enrolling in multiple programs and selling opioid medication such as methadone on the black market. Sometimes, medical facilities erroneously turn people away from addiction services even when they have alternate forms of ID that are intended to guarantee admission to a program. Some detox centers will admit a person without ID first and later sort out the person's identity, but that puts the facilities at risk of going against federal and state regulations.

A spokesman for addiction specialists says, "We let them die from a treatable disease because they don't have an ID," and getting people who need help into the system is more important than keeping them out.

A medical director studying addiction says that social services for transient people have always been substandard, but the national opioid epidemic has shined a light on the lack of addiction treatment services for homeless Americans. "It's hard enough for people to seek treatment when they're using drugs and so if they're being thwarted it is frustrating," he said. "This seems like a barrier that could be surmounted."

Benefits of Talking Up Your Co-Workers

It's easy to talk about a co-worker in a negative light at times. After all, it's easier to point out inadequacies in others rather than deal with our own faults. But there's surprising power in doing the opposite—finding opportunities to talk about your co-workers in an uplifting and supportive way.

Research from Harvard University indicates that uplifting co-workers by talking about them positively "increases general feelings of being socially valued by others, leading to better information exchange and creative performance," *Inc.* [reports](#).

The research points out that team effectiveness can often be crippled because people want to fit in (especially newcomers), and so they will withhold information and opinions and will take fewer creative risks. Positive talk about that co-worker can completely reverse the dynamic.



Do People Cause Their Own Poverty?

Which is generally more often to blame if a person is poor: lack of effort on their own part, or difficult circumstances beyond their control? The Washington Post and the Kaiser Family Foundation asked 1,686 American adults to answer that question, and found that religion is a significant predictor of how Americans perceive poverty.

Christians, especially white evangelical Christians, are much more likely than non-Christians to view poverty as the result of individual failings, the *Washington Post* [reports](#).

In the poll, 46 percent of all Christians said that a lack of effort is generally to blame for a person's poverty, compared with 29 percent of all non-Christians. The gulf widens further among specific Christian groups: 53 percent of white evangelical Protestants blamed lack of effort while 41 percent blamed circumstances, and 50 percent of Catholics blamed lack of effort while 45 percent blamed circumstances. In contrast, by more than two to one, Americans who are atheist, agnostic or have no particular affiliation said difficult circumstances are more to blame when a person is poor than lack of effort (65 percent to 31 percent).

Alcohol Use Disorders Soar in the Last 15 Years

According to a new study published in *JAMA Psychiatry*, an estimated one out of every eight Americans struggles with an alcohol disorder, CNN [reports](#). The study tracked drinking patterns among 40,000 people between the years of 2002 and 2003, and then again from 2012 to 2013 to create a long-term picture of their habits.

Overall, alcohol use disorders rose by almost 50 percent, affecting a projected 8.5 percent of the population during the first research period, and 12.7 percent during the second. That's almost 30 million Americans actively struggling with alcohol abuse.

The numbers are even more grim for certain groups. According to the research, alcohol use disorders have almost doubled (92.8 percent) among the African American population, and increased nearly 84 percent among women. However, the group that saw the highest increase in alcohol abuse disorders was senior citizens. Individuals age 65 and older saw a staggering 106.7 percent increase in alcohol use disorders from the first study period to the second. For 45- to 65-year-olds, that increase was also high, at 81.5 percent.

Depression and Obesity Are Often Linked

The relationship between obesity and depression is what researchers call "bidirectional"; being obese or overweight ups the odds of depression, and vice versa. About 43 percent of people with depression are obese, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, compared with a third of the general population. In addition, people who are obese are 55 percent more likely to be depressed, and people with depression are 58 percent more likely to develop obesity, according to an [article](#) in the *Los Angeles Times*.

While on the surface the two conditions appear very different, they share important characteristics. Both are chronic diseases that are tricky to treat, requiring long-term physical and mental health interventions. In cases where depression and obesity coincide, those interventions can be even more complex, with research often showing the best results when care involves not only doctors and nurses but also other health professionals such as dietitians, behavioral health specialists, and physical therapists.

Adding to the complexity is figuring out how treatment can be linked for two disorders that exist in totally different parts of the health care system. But both conditions are on the rise, heightening the need to unlock the connection and develop treatments that address both conditions simultaneously.



The following job positions are currently open at AGRM member missions. Please visit www.agrm.org/careers to view full descriptions and to apply. Click [here](#) for instructions on using AGRM's Recruiting Center to post open positions for your mission.

Assistant Director - Ventura County Rescue Mission: Ventura County Rescue Mission, Oxnard, CA

Care Support Specialist: Light of Life Ministries, Inc., Pittsburgh, PA

CEO/Executive Director: Mission Solano, Fairfield, CA

Cook: Light of Life Ministries, Inc., Pittsburgh, PA

Development Associate: The Path of Citrus County, Beverly Hills, FL

Development Director: Home of Grace, Vancleave, MS

Development Director: Open Door Mission, Glens Falls, NY

Development Director: Waterfront Rescue Mission, Inc, Pensacola, FL

Director of Hearten House: Hearten House Gospel Rescue Mission, Auburn, IN

Director of Development: Rockford Rescue Mission Ministries, Inc., Rockford, IL

Director of Development & Community Relations: Good News Rescue Mission, Redding, CA

Director of Major Gifts: Waterfront Rescue Mission, Inc., Pensacola, FL

Donor Relations Coordinator: Jimmie Hale Mission, Birmingham, AL

Driver, Food Pantry & Distribution Center: Bay Area Rescue Mission, Richmond, CA

Executive Director: Career Cross Training for Open Door Mission, Rochester, NY

Facilities Maintenance Associate: The Bowery Mission, New York, NY

Facilities Manager: The Bowery Mission, New York, NY

[Faith Community Nurse - Guest Services](#): Good News Rescue Mission, Redding, CA

[Food and Beverage Driver](#): San Francisco City Impact, San Francisco, CA

[Food Service Manager](#): Union Gospel Mission of Salem, Salem, OR

[Grant Writer](#): San Francisco City Impact, San Francisco, CA

[Guest Services Assistant - Women's Shelter](#): Good News Rescue Mission, Redding, CA

[Health and Wellness Center Manager](#): San Francisco City Impact, San Francisco, CA

[Overnight Supervisor](#): Hope Gospel Mission, Eau Claire, WI

[Program Director/Associate Director](#): King's Gospel Mission, Hanford, CA

[Program Manager](#): Central Coast Rescue Mission, Santa Maria, CA

[Program Manager Transitional Housing Manager](#): Denver Rescue Mission, Denver, CO

[Recovery Program Coordinator](#): Westminster Rescue Mission, Westminster, MD

[Rescue Mission Director](#): San Francisco City Impact, San Francisco, CA

[Resident Advisors](#): Hope Gospel Mission, Eau Claire, WI

[Resident Assistant, Center for Women & Children](#): Bay Area Rescue Mission, Richmond, CA

[Residential Coordinator_Cornerstone Manor Facility](#): Buffalo City Mission, Buffalo, NY

[Shelter Desk Manager](#): Jericho Road Ministries, Inc., Brooksville, FL

[Thrift Store Supervisor](#): Rockford Rescue Mission Ministries, Inc., Rockford, IL

[Transportation Specialist](#): Union Gospel Mission, Spokane, WA

[Vice President of Finance & Administration](#): Milwaukee Rescue Mission, Milwaukee, WI

[VP of Advancement](#): Water Street Ministries, Lancaster, PA

[VP of Women and Family Programs](#): Los Angeles Mission, Los Angeles, CA

[Women's New Life Recovery Program Case Manager](#): Good News Rescue Mission, Redding, CA

[Women's Recovery Counselor](#): Union Gospel Mission, Spokane, WA



Lessons from the Wise

Let the wise listen and add to their learning, and let the discerning get guidance (Proverbs 1:5).

Think about a person you would consider wise. Does this person always give his opinion or advice on something? Do she talk too much? Probably not.

Wise people seldom view themselves as wise. Instead, they learn from the people around them each day. The wise are not puffed up with knowledge. They're not obsessed to get glory for their wisdom.

Wise people become wise by hearing. They listen more than they talk.

We can all learn from the wise. If you feel like you are lacking in wisdom, then listen to other godly men or women. (Or better yet, pray to gain wisdom by listening to God Himself (James 1:5)!

Then listen some more and some more.

The wise don't only learn from other wise individuals, but from listening and learning from everyone they hear. Wisdom isn't first shown in giving your opinion. Wisdom is listening and waiting for the right time to speak.

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To contribute: If you would like to write a devotional thought for StreetLight, please make it about 200 words and include at least one Bible verse or passage, and submit via [email](#).

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