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Contact Information:

Alexa Mason, Public Relations Specialist
Portland Rescue Mission
Office: (503) 746-9647 Cell: (630) 936-8002
alexa.mason@pdxmission.org
Twitter: @PRM_alexa

**PORTLAND RESCUE MISSION AND TRIMET PARTNER TO HELP END HOMELESSNESS
Portland Rescue Mission Receives Grant to Connect Homeless to Needed Services**

PORTLAND, Oregon – Portland Rescue Mission now provides homeless men and women with accessible transportation options to overcome barriers and end homelessness, thanks to TriMet’s Fare Relief Program.

“Every day we work with homeless men and women who are capable and willing to find housing and employment, but lack the financial resources to do so,” says Eric Bauer, executive director of Portland Rescue Mission. “TriMet’s grant is more than access to transportation. It’s an opportunity to start a new life for a homeless man or woman who would otherwise be on the streets in despair. Thank you, TriMet, for partnering with us to give hope.”

The transportation assistance grant provides additional support to Portland Rescue Mission’s Link and Connect programs, which are fast-track initiatives to end homelessness in just three to four months.

“People don’t always remember that homeless people need to get around,” said David Golden, a Link program participant. “I’m going to use the bus pass to concentrate on housing and health care, and then I’ll be looking at employment.”

Link and Connect are programs for homeless men and women committed to seeking employment, housing, medical care and all other forms of support that lead to a place of stability and life transformation.

Portland Rescue Mission also provides free breakfast and dinner daily, with lunch served on the weekends. More than 280,000 meals were served this past year. To donate, call 503-MISSION (647-7466) or visit www.portlandrescuemission.org.

About Portland Rescue Mission

Since 1949, Portland Rescue Mission has provided hope to homeless men, women and children throughout our community. The Mission provides for the most basic needs of homeless people and also addresses the root causes of homelessness through highly relational ministry. We serve up to 950 meals a day, 365 days a year, shelter, mail services and 24/7 safe, clean restrooms. Our New Life Programs provide total life recovery, including addictions recovery, spiritual renewal, and life skills for men and women. Up to 42 women and their children live together and journey through recovery at Shepherd’s Door, and up to 42 men live in The Harbor throughout the 12-month residential program.

Portland Rescue Mission is completely supported by the goodwill of the community and has more than 3,000 volunteers through which operations are possible. To learn more, visit www.PortlandRescueMission.org.

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