

On behalf of the 1,000 individuals who come to the Mission for help annually – just like Sammy – we thank you for your support, and wish you a Happy Thanksgiving!

For more information and caring ways for you to support the Hope Rescue Mission, plus a list of most-needed items, visit our Web site:


www.HopeForReading.org



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A Thanks-Giving Story





Sammy C. wasted decades of his life on the streets of Harlem, NYC, through gang activity, drugs, and violent behaviors.

After serving 10 years at Rikers Island Prison, he met a woman who he grew to love deeply. He began to live in a way that would make her proud so he could build a respectable life with her.

When she was diagnosed with cancer in 2009, her medical needs and cost of medications were overwhelming. These events drew Sammy back into dealing drugs to provide what she needed. Sadly, he lost both his wife and his freedom. While in prison on drug distribution charges, Sammy's wife passed away. This heart break and tragedy caused Sammy to cry-out to God.

After being released, Sammy entered a community re-entry program and was asked to share his story with high-school students and educate them about the dangers of a criminal lifestyle. Upon completion of that program, Sammy came to Hope Rescue Mission. He successfully

moved out of Hope and into his own place in October of 2018. Three months later, Sammy became very ill and had to spend two months in the hospital and lost his apartment. Sammy came back to the Mission in the spring of this year.

Starting the restoration process again both spiritually and physically, Sammy has pushed even deeper into his faith.

"I have all I need right here at Hope, and I feel as if the Lord led me here so I could feel what it's like to have a close-knit family."

Sam recently enrolled in our Discipleship Program and is serving in the Reading Thrift Store.

He adamantly vows he'll never go back to his former way of life, and Sammy thanks God daily for bringing him physically to Hope, and spiritually to a personal relationship with God!

Sammy wants to show his gratitude for all that he's received while healing from the brokenness that plagued his life.