

5-8-2018

The Las Vegas Rescue Mission

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Recommended Citation

Boquiren, Rhealyn, "The Las Vegas Rescue Mission" (2018). *Second-Year Seminar Posters (COE 202)*. 26.
https://digitalscholarship.unlv.edu/educ_sys_202/26

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The Las Vegas Rescue Mission

Rhealyn Boquiren

INTRODUCTION

History & Purpose

In 1970, Pastor Ed Compton and six businessmen started the Las Vegas Rescue Mission as a storefront. They provided mats, blankets, drinks, and sandwiches to the less fortunate.

Currently, the LVRM, a nonprofit Christian organization, instills hope for those in need by providing shelter, food, and addiction recovery.

Project Paradigm

Focus of project paradigm:

Use limited resources while maximizing opportunity and impact (Morton, 1995, p.27)

The LVRM:

- Provides the following:
 - Shelter of Hope & Men's Facility
 - Thrift Store
 - Supply drives
 - Resume workshops
 - GED classes
 - Chapel services
 - Computer training classes
- Distributes contributions from churches, corporations, individuals and other organizations

SOCIAL ISSUE RESEARCH

Food Insecurity

- In 2015, the rate of food insecurity in the U.S. decreased from 15% the previous year to 13%.
- Unemployment and poverty have decreased as well but not as much as food insecurity itself
- 9 of 10 counties with the highest rates of food insecurity are located in the southern parts of the U.S.

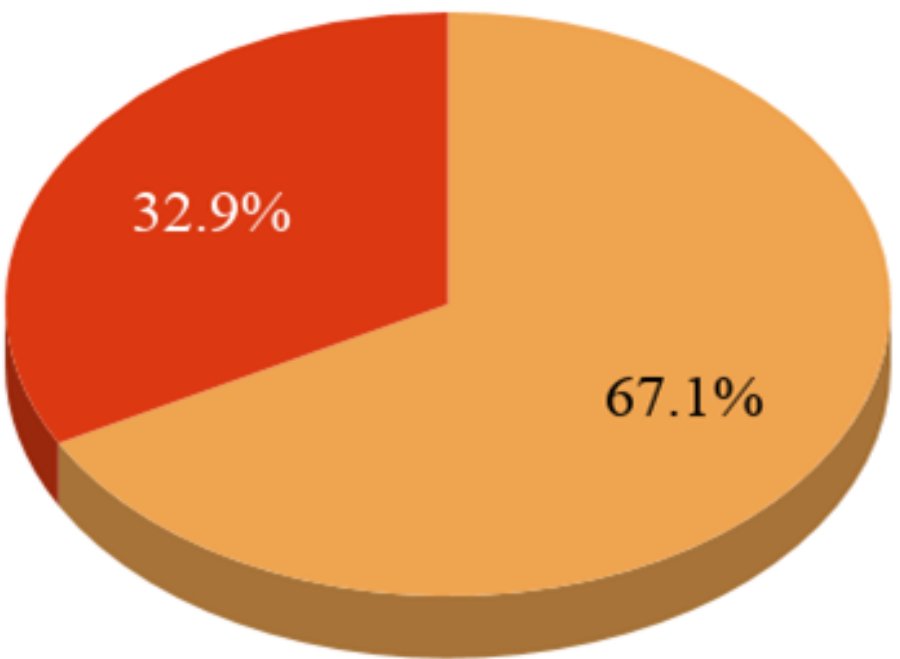
(Food Insecurity and Map the Meal Gap, 2017)

Shelter Insecurity

- In 2017, 1.2% of total Southern Nevada population was homeless
- 16.8% decrease in homeless people from 2016
- Most common cause of homelessness: Job loss

(Bitfocus Inc., 2017)

Southern Nevada 2017 Homeless Population



● Unsheltered ● Sheltered Facilities

The LVRM Approach

to help individuals and families develop skills to live independently

In 2017:

Served 353,080 meals
52,640 emergency beds provided
13,659 people received clothing
93 individuals in recovery programs
92 families the Family Program helped
(LVRM)

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LEARNING EXPERIENCE & MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Service to My Community

- Packed food boxes for families
- Organized donated food for lunch
- Greeted & interacted with those in need
- Distributed dinner trays, cups, and utensils to Recovery Residents and the homeless
- Cleaned the kitchen hall after each meal session

Personal & Professional Learning

- People in need also care about others in the same/similar situations
- Small gestures can have a huge impact
- Organize food items into a limited amount of space
- Teamwork with people of different ages & backgrounds
- Professional communication
- Sanitation protocols

Differences in My Own Views

My future career:

- Prior to this learning experience, I wanted to become a teacher because I was interested in biology and chemistry, and I wanted to share my interests with students who are fascinated as well.
- Volunteering at the LVRM highlighted the importance of education in helping individuals gain everyday skills