

Life Turns One Way, Then Another Young Parolee Gets a Hand with a Better Wardrobe

At 20, Jared's future seemed bright. Academic all-district football player. Joined U.S. Marines and already a corporal. Taking college night classes. Ready to make a life.



Then, the day after New Year's, he got the call. His parents were gone – his step-father had stabbed and shot Jared's mother, then killed himself. He and his sisters, ages 3 and 5, were orphans.

Based on humanitarian orders, the Marines transferred him to Lackland Air Base in San Antonio, to be near his family in Boerne. It wasn't long before he was diagnosed with PTSD and referred to Brooke Army Medical Center for treatment.

"That didn't work really," Jared said, and soon enough, a dependence on alcohol led to a reliance on pain pills, and then, heroin. To feed that habit, he began selling heroin and fell in with some guys who got him to drive the getaway car on a bank robbery. An arrested co-conspirator fingered him and he was sentenced to two 7-year, concurrent sentences for possession, dealing and aggravated robbery.

But Jared didn't have the criminal bent. He'd been raised a Christian and while serving time in the TDCJ Beeville Prison, he enrolled in several religion-focused study programs.

Lying next to the gospel tract at the chaplaincy was a flyer for One Man's Treasure, with contact information for released inmates who need to dress well for a better future. He mailed in a response

and then got a postcard reply asking what sized clothes he'd need.

Even that was a challenge – after five years of prison food, his body had filled in, so he didn't know his sizes. His solution was tying together a shoe string with a torn piece of sheet and then measuring his neck, chest, waste and inseam sizes using a 6-inch-long plastic protractor.

But after six years, one month in prison, in August Jared was released to live at the Prison Entrepreneurship Program Columbia House facility in Dallas. He arrived wearing a tee shirt, cargo shorts and sewn-together prison tennis shoes. But a few days later, he came home from a temporary job to find a package of "high quality" clothes – five shirts, two pants, a belt and "real shoes" – delivered with a note offering spiritual assistance from One Man's Treasure.

"They were all dry-cleaned and pressed, super thoughtful," he said. "These were clothes that I needed to wear to a job interview." Jared found a better job as a crane rigger for a construction company. He has enrolled at El Centro Community College and is making plans to attend Liberty University.

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Your Donations Have Helped

1,225

MEN SERVED YTD

Thank you!!

Jared...

He showed his thanks with a written note to One Man's Treasure.

"I am writing to thank you for the wonderful clothes you sent me. You are a blessing in a very critical time of transition in my life," he wrote. He quoted John 13:35: "In this they will know that you are my disciples, in that you love one another." In closing, he said "May the Lord Jesus continue to bless you, your ministry and others through you. I will walk by faith!"

One by one, we make a difference!

Thank you for helping us continue to serve these returning men with your generous support. Please consider making a donation to One Man's Treasure at **519 I-30 E, #211, Rockwall, TX 75087** or on our website www.onemanstr.org/donate-1



Scan this QR code with your phone's camera and click on the link to donate

Each donation now will help in 2020...

- \$25** - 25 pair of socks (5 men)
- \$50** - a winter coat, hat & gloves
- \$100** - 2 pair of steel toe work boots or a set of clothing for 1 man
- \$250** - 1 month delivery van expenses
- \$500** - socks and underwear for 45 men
- \$1,000** - clothing delivery expenses for 1 month
- \$2,500** - purchase 1 month of clothing

Volunteers Make a Difference

When 13-year-old **Eli Son** heard about One Man's Treasure and how it helps turn lives around, he knew it was what he wanted to do for his service project required to get **Boy Scouts of America's** highest achievement award, the **Eagle Scout Award**. After talking with Annette Jenkins, Executive Director, he began to organize his group of scouts, **Dallas Troop 39**.



For three weeks the young men, also members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, talked to family members, church members and neighbors in University Park asking for donations. **After three weeks, they had accumulated more than 900 articles of clothing** including suits, slacks, shoes, coats, shirts and other items. Eli was amazed at the generosity of the community.

"After they heard where the donations were going, people were excited to go through their closets," he said. "Some items still had the price tags on them. Others took their items to the dry cleaners and I picked them up on hangers and with the plastic still on them. It was an honor to help." At the end of the drive, the scouts met together to sort and organize the clothing and then celebrated with a pizza dinner.

Eli is an 8th grader at Highland Park Middle School, a "straight A" honors student, first-chair violinist in Highland Park's Honors Orchestra, 2nd Chair in his All-Region Orchestra and loves computer programming. He is the youngest of seven children of Stacey and Valerie Son of University Park. **Yes, Eli made a big difference!**



**Thank you Eli,
Dallas Troop 39
and all the men
and women who
serve as One Man's
Treasure volunteers**



Fellow Non-Profit Expresses Thanks

In September, staff members Margaret Mayo and Susan Long attended Miles of Freedom's Gala to accept an **award honoring One Man's Treasure for its service as Miles of Freedom's clothing resource.**

Miles of Freedom was founded by Richard Miles (center above), who was exonerated after serving 15 years in prison for a murder he did not commit. The program operates a 3-month job readiness workshop for men and women of families impacted by incarceration,

Since the beginning of our partnership in 2014, **One Man's Treasure has clothed more than 475 men participants in Miles of Freedom's Job Readiness Workshop.** Miles of Freedom is one of more than 30 community partnerships and 22 transition homes for which our organization is thankful.

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS

In addition to the churches, businesses and foundation partners acknowledged in our June newsletter for their invaluable financial support and those who have sponsored clothing drives, we wish to thank the following partners for the grants and gifts they provided to meet the needs of our program and change the lives of the men we serve.

Warm Winter Clothing Was Result Of "What's Cookin' in Rockwall" Event

On October 15, One Man's Treasure successfully hosted its second "What's Cookin' in Rockwall" happening, sponsored by **Inwood National Bank** and **RE/MAX Landmark**. We are grateful for their generous support!

Warm Winter Wraps! was this year's theme and the event served to help provide one of our greatest needs – winter coats to include in the sets of clothing delivered during the coming winter months, as well as shoes and work boots.

Thanks go out to several Rockwall restaurants for delicious hors d'oeuvres:

- ♦ Edo Japan Rockwall
- ♦ Soulman's Bar-B-Que
- ♦ Nothing Bundt Cake
- ♦ Bite Bistro Dallas
- ♦ Trevino's
- ♦ La Madeline
- ♦ Zanata

and to these businesses for auction and door prize donations:

- ♦ Cate's Touch Spa
- ♦ Skin Envy
- ♦ Rockwall Lymphatics LLC
- ♦ TXR Rustic Woodworks
- ♦ Heat
- ♦ Brady Z. Hill Farmers Insurance Agency
- ♦ Persnickety Boutique & Gifts
- ♦ Bella's House.

We also thank **EVERYONE** who attended and made this evening a big success! Long before the event was over, our van was full of donations that will tremendously help in providing warmth to the men we serve.

- ♦ Episcopal Foundation of Dallas
- ♦ Gil and Dody Weaver Foundation
- ♦ Peace with Justice, UMC North Texas Conference
- ♦ TVEC Charitable Foundation
- ♦ The Dallas Foundation - C. Albert Tatum III Fund and The Dortch Family Fund
- ♦ St Justin Episcopal Church

More One Man's Treasure's "Happenings"...

Reentry Client Job Fairs



UNLOCKING DOORS REENTRY CONFERENCE

One Man's Treasure seeks to empower men recently released from prison who come to the Dallas area by providing them with clothing and opportunities for networking.

The Thompsons Retire...



Clothes Closet staff members **Angel** and **Rich Thompson** were honored this month with a luncheon to thank them for their many years of invaluable service. Angel has served as Clothing and Volunteer Coordinator and Rich was responsible for clothing deliveries and picking up donations. They will continue their commitment to One Man's Treasure ministry as volunteers. Angel will begin a term on our Board of Directors in 2020.



SAVE THE DATE *Crystal Gala*

CELEBRATING 15 YEARS OF SERVICE

March 26, 2020

Museum of Biblical Art

