Welcome to Foundry Farm

We’re grateful for your interest and look forward to your partnership as we embark on a new leg of our journey to bring God’s love and forgiveness to men and women battling drug addiction and substance abuse.

Located 40 miles north of Birmingham and just over 11 miles east of Cullman, Foundry Farm rests on 80 acres of rolling hills and dense forests—accented by a slow-moving stream—that bring a restful and restorative atmosphere to the beautiful God-filled setting.

The property consists of a plantation-style house where staff and residents can gather for meals, classes and worship, two outer buildings that will be used for sleeping, personal activities and offices. An acre-sized garden will provide delicious fresh vegetables for meals.

The facility initially will serve as an induction center for up to 25 men waiting to transition to The Foundry Rescue Mission and Recovery Center’s main campus in Bessemer where they’ll receive the emotional, educational, spiritual and economic tools they need to heal and live drug-free, self-sufficient lives.

The men will be accepted from a waiting list of 500-900 and can begin their transformations sooner than if they had to wait for a place at our Bessemer campus. Many will have come directly to Foundry Farm from the streets or other desperate situations caused by their addictions, so this one- to four-week transitional period will allow them to plant their feet firmly on the ground before they begin our intense Recovery Program. At the same time, it will enable our staff to assess their individual needs and special challenges.

Our long-range vision for Foundry Farm is to establish a full-service recovery facility, modeled after our successful program at The Foundry’s Bessemer campus.

The daily program for Foundry Farm residents is made up of self-examination and group discussions to help them identify issues that led them to the point of addiction in their lives, as well as personal- and spiritual-development classes and counseling. The men are also responsible for chores essential to running and maintaining the farm, including cutting and manicuring the grounds, gardening, painting and minor repairs. Eventually we hope to raise animals such as cows, horses and chickens.

Residents will participate in worship services at our Bessemer campus on Thursdays and Sundays, and will attend a local church on Wednesday nights.

Foundry Farm staff includes a full-time counselor and a farm supervisor (read Mike Emmanuel’s story on the other side), two dorm supervisors and a cook. Rev. Bill Heintz, executive director and founder of The Foundry Rescue Mission and Recovery Center, will direct the program at Foundry Farm. Staff will be on duty around the clock—with a security system in place—to attend to residents’ needs and safety. As at the Bessemer campus, residents at the farm will undergo random, periodic drug testing to encourage them to stay the course.

You’re invited to Partner, Pray, Provide and Participate! If the Lord has placed on your heart a desire to help men and women conquer their addictions and develop their God-given potential, you can partner with us by praying for the success of Foundry Farm and the men for whom we are the first step toward new life. By providing gifts of your time, talent and resources, you participate in the process of saving lives for Christ. If you’d like to know more about Foundry Farm and how you can be a part of this amazing journey, contact Leslie Freeman, at 1-888-5FOUNDRY or visit www.thefoundryonline.org.
A Message from
Rev. Bill Heintz, Executive Director

Dear Friends,

Have you ever taken an incredible journey that blessed you more than you could imagine?

When Michele and I first came to The Foundry—then, Bessemer Rescue Mission—I was asked to share our vision. My answer was, “I believe what God wants to do is entirely too big for me to comprehend.” Who would have thought that today, 13 years later, we’d have 15 buildings, an 80-acre farm, more than 50 staff members, over 235 residents and a proven Recovery Program that rescues hundreds of men and women each year from the throes of addiction.

As we prepared to celebrate the opening of Foundry Farm in Cullman, I once again pondered what God desired us to accomplish. These heartwarming words written by a resident in our Recovery Program, who wrote about the Foundry Farm in our creative writing class, explain how I received my answer:

Pastor Bill went to the property, lay in the meadow, walked the grounds, meditated, prayed, and basically just gave the farm a hug and let the farm hug him back. In that embrace, God and Foundry Farm revealed its purpose. Cullman is to become an intake center where new students can start purging their addictions and personal burdens in a serene environment of healing.

Just as I was 13 years ago, I’m astounded by this amazing new opportunity. We believe God not only will bless us as abundantly at Foundry Farm as He has in Bessemer, but we anticipate even greater things. I invite you to embark with us now on this exciting journey and join us in reshaping lives by the hands of God. Please pray and believe with us that hundreds—if not thousands—of lives will be saved, delivered and changed for eternity through Foundry Farm. God bless you.

In His service,

Rev. Bill Heintz
Executive Director

P.S.
You can read more about plans for Foundry Farm on the back of this letter, as well as ways you can get involved in helping us change lives for Christ in this tranquil and God-filled environment.

Recovered Addict Honored to Give Back Through Work at Foundry Farm

A few years ago, Mike Emmanuel was living “the single man’s dream.” “I was completely hedonistic,” he admits, “but I would ask myself ‘Is this all there is?’”

Mike had a history of alcohol abuse, and one day he disappeared into the woods for two years of hard drinking and thinking. “I was like a dog walking off to die or a man headed for a wilderness experience,” he recalls. Family members finally persuaded Mike to enter rehab, but after completing the 30-day program and staying clean for a year, Mike went out and bought a beer. “I was a dry drunk,” he explains. “I was clean but there was no joy in my life, so I thought I might as well drink again.”

Mike’s mom convinced him to try The Foundry Rescue Mission and Recovery Center, and Mike joined our Recovery Program in June 2007. “There are times I call ‘wild moments’ when God gets you to a place where you have to believe,” Mike recalls. “Three weeks into the program, the police came to The Foundry looking for me. My mom had been killed in a car wreck.”

Overwhelmed and helpless, Mike gave his situation to God. “I told Him, ‘God, You got this one. Let me know what to do.’”

A year later, Mike graduated from our Christ-centered Recovery Program and prepared to leave. Then, to his surprise, Pastor Bill Heintz asked him to stay and maintain the grounds of the newly purchased Foundry Farm.

“It was an honor to have Pastor Bill ask me to watch over it,” says Mike. “It’s a place where the lost who are hurting and have nowhere to go can come. A place where God is.”

Facilities manager Mike Emmanuel watches over Foundry Farm.

An interdenominational, Christ-centered organization, The Foundry has demonstrated remarkable successes in restoring the lives of men and women battling drug, alcohol and other life-dominating addictions. The Foundry’s inpatient recovery and re-entry curriculums rebuild self-worth and spur spiritual growth through work, study, counseling, discipline and faith. Our community outreach program brings relief to those in need of food, medical care and other necessities. This combination of service and assistance has become a powerful formula in reshaping lives by the hands of God.