



SPRING 2004
Volume 1, Issue 1

SPARK

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE FOUNDRY RESCUE MISSION AND RECOVERY CENTER

Formerly City of Hope

God gave me a reason to hope

My name is Mary and I want to tell you my story of hope. I also want to thank you for all you do to provide the services here at The Foundry*—you gave me a new start in life.

I didn't always feel very hopeful about life. When I was 14, I started having emotional and mental problems—symptoms doctors now know are related to bipolar disorder. As a young adult, I started treating myself with alcohol to cope with my mood swings.

Determined to succeed in life, I managed to become a registered nurse. I even worked in psychiatrics. I kept thinking I was different from other people, but I didn't know why. I was 52 before I got on the right medication for bipolar disorder. By that time, my alcoholism had really taken a toll on my life.

The year I turned 56, I lost my job and stopped taking my medication. Everything came to a halt. I was so tired of living the way I was. I didn't think I could live without drinking, but I also knew I couldn't live much longer if I kept drinking!

Then last July, I came to The Foundry*. Its Christ-centered recovery program has made a real difference. Now I have real hope because I know I don't have to do it all myself. I can be set free from alcohol! I'm back on my medication and people around me can really see the change in me.

I'm also on The Foundry's* *Impact Team*. We go into schools and churches to do programs that tell kids about the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse. I enjoy seeing the young people get interested and ask questions. Often they know someone who is using drugs or *they* are using them.

I'll graduate from The Foundry's* recovery program this summer and move into the Impact Team's women's housing where I can continue to grow stronger in the Lord and minister to kids. I've learned so much here! Since I've rededicated my life to Christ, I know God is always there for me no matter what.

*Formerly City of Hope



Where lives are reshaped
by the hands of God.



THE SPARK

Spring 2004
Volume 1, Issue 1

THE FOUNDRY

(formerly City of Hope)
1816 Sixth Avenue North
P.O. Box 824
Bessemer, AL 35021-0824
205-428-8449

Executive Director
Rev. Bill Heintz

Development Director/Newsletter Editor
Leslie Freeman

OUR VISION

To be the leader in Christ-centered
recovery, permanently transforming lives.

OUR MISSION

To restore hope and rebuild the lives of
the homeless and addicted through
Christ-centered recovery.



It is only through the
*gifts of
God's people*
that this ministry can
serve so many hurting
and lost individuals.
Please take time to
make a gift in the
enclosed envelope.
Thanks so much.



From the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

Since 1996, this ministry has been known as City of Hope Rescue Mission and Recovery Center—a name that identified us as a community where homeless and addicted men and women could find hope through God's redemptive and restorative power.

As of April 15, we will change our name to **The Foundry**. Why? Because what happens in a foundry distinctly describes what God is doing here in the lives of those suffering with addiction. They come through our doors as scrap metal comes to a foundry—seemingly hopeless and useless. But through the foundry's process of melting, molding, pouring, shaking, cleansing and grinding, "all things become new"!

Our new name graphically depicts what we do best here—provide a place where men and women's lives, broken by homelessness and addiction, are reshaped through a relationship with Jesus Christ.

What else has changed? You can be confident that **The Foundry** will maintain the same commitment to the message of the Gospel and to helping men and women find joy and hope in their walk with Christ. As executive director, you have my word.

Over the next few months, we will do all we can to publicize this change, but we need your help! Please spread the word to family, friends, your church and business associates. Let them know that when they receive a message from **The Foundry** in the mail, they are hearing from the same ministry they've trusted and supported since 1971.

Thanks for your confidence in us. Pray for us in the coming months as we help reshape lives by the hands of God.

In His Service,

Bill Heintz
Rev. Bill Heintz

p.s. Watch your mail for information about our new monthly giving program, **The Founder's Club**. Or learn more by calling Director of Development Leslie Freeman at 205-428-8449, ext. 16. God bless you!

**You Helped
Provide in 2003**

Through your generosity we were able to provide the following to homeless and addicted men and women and to families in the low-income community. Thanks so much!

Nights of lodging	48,240
Meals provided	125,280
Food boxes distributed	145
Clothing items distributed	5,580
Counseling sessions	6,968
Recovery program graduates	65

Giving Hope—Receiving Hope

When a hopeless person finds hope restored, they want to pass it on to others. On this page, you'll learn how our residents are reshaping our community by giving to others in need. *And ways you can help, too!*

Community Outreach Center Opens Soon!

In late spring, our new Community Outreach Center will open to needy men, women and families of Bessemer and beyond. Located in the original Bessemer Rescue Mission building, 608 18th Street, the facility will feature a commercial kitchen, dining room to accommodate up to 150, Laundromat, hair salon and medical clinic.

Residents in our recovery program and homeless and community poor will find nutritious meals, grocery and clothing assistance—even hair styling! And The Foundry has partnered with **Birmingham Healthcare for the Homeless** to provide medical care each weekday.

Taking It to the Streets!

The men and women in recovery at The Foundry (formerly City of Hope) want to shine the light of Christ throughout Bessemer. That's why we're kicking off **Adopt-A-Block** this spring. Our residents will help tidy up the neighborhood by mowing lawns, picking up trash and watching for ways they can minister to our neighbors in need. Want to volunteer? Call Michele, 205-428-8449, ext. 10, to learn more.



Adopt-A-Bed and Change-A-Life

The Foundry (formerly City of Hope) currently houses 116 men and women each night. Each person is dedicated to recovery and has committed 12-18 months to our Christ-centered recovery program. As a program member they receive housing, meals, counseling, Bible study and chapel, life skills classes, medical assistance, adult education and much more!

We're inviting you, our faithful friends, to sponsor one or more of our residents in recovery when you join

Adopt-A-Bed with an annual gift.

You may also wish to support this effort by scheduling a speaker at your next meeting or coordinating a tour of our facilities. For more information about **Adopt-A-Bed**, contact Hugh Thomas, 205-428-8449, ext. 27.

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

\$5000	Platinum
\$2500	Gold
\$1000	Silver
\$500	Bronze
\$250	Friend

No one whose
hope
is in **You**
will ever be put to shame.

~ Psalm 25:3a



Urgent Needs

When you donate items from this list, you help stretch our general fund dollars. Thanks!

- ◊ Toiletries
- ◊ Feminine hygiene products
- ◊ Paper towels
- ◊ Disposable napkins, plates, bowls, cups, cutlery
- ◊ Garbage bags (33 gallon and tall kitchen)
- ◊ Commercial vacuum cleaners (new or gently used)
- ◊ Commercial icemaker *urgent – summer's comin'!*
- ◊ Twin-size sheet sets
- ◊ Laundry detergent
- ◊ Beef (all types) *urgent*

Volunteer Opportunities

Help us help the Lord reshape lives! Call Leslie Freeman, 205-428-8449, ext. 16, to learn more about these great volunteer positions for individuals and groups.

Welcome bags: Many residents come to The Foundry (formerly City of Hope) empty handed. Collect shampoo, conditioner, bath soap, combs, brushes, antiperspirant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, disposable shavers and other health items to fill welcome bags we'll distribute to new guests.

Food drives: Organize a collection of nonperishable foods at your school, church, workplace or civic group. Call for a Food Drive Kit to get started!

Provide a meal: Perfect for groups! Prepare and serve a meal to our residents. Choose a small quantity meal (23 women), medium (93 men) or both!

Mentors: Be a spiritual mentor to a resident in recovery and help guide them in their relationship with Christ. (This program is provided only for women residents of The Foundry until further notice.)



Religion that God our Father

accepts as pure and faultless
is this: to look after orphans and
widows in their distress.

~ James 1:27

Dates to Remember

Recovery Program Graduations

Cheer on our graduates at these
ceremonies, all at 9 a.m.

• April 18 • June 13 • August 8



Impact Team, Band and Choir

Pray for our residents as they
minister on these dates. To schedule
the Impact Team, band or choir for
your event, call Leslie, 205-428-8449,
ext. 16.

April 21 Corner High School
April 25 Harvest Fellowship
April 28 Oakman High School
April 29 Adair Middle School
May 7, 8 Abundant Life Youth
Invasion

Community Outreach Center

Grand Opening: May 27

SuperThrift Outlet

Grand Opening: June 3, 4, and 5

Planned Giving Q&A

Question: I would like to remember The Foundry (formerly City of Hope) in my will. What wording should I give my attorney?

Answer: Thank you for considering making a planned gift to this ministry. This is a wonderful way to preserve your current support beyond your lifetime.

A bequest in your will is one of the simplest ways to include The Foundry and other charities in your estate plans. Below is sample wording for your attorney:

"I, [name], of [city, state, ZIP], give, devise and bequeath to The Foundry, Bessemer, Alabama, ___ percent of my estate for its unrestricted use and purpose."

If you have a question about estate and gift planning or would like to let us know you are making a planned gift to this ministry, contact Hugh Thomas, 205-428-8449, ext. 27. Your questions will be answered in an upcoming issue of *The Spark!*

Residents Learn Through The Foundry's Businesses

The Foundry's businesses provide vital job skills for residents in our recovery program and raise funds to support our ministries. When you use these services, you contribute to our ministry and get great bargains, too! We also benefit from your donations of new and gently used merchandise.

SuperThrift Outlet

Upholstery Shop

Computer Center

All located at:

727 Ninth Avenue
Bessemer, AL 35020
205-424-4112

Auto Sales and Service

1918 Sixth Avenue North
Bessemer, AL 35020
205-426-9000

Car Care Center

601 18th Street
Bessemer, AL 35020
205-428-8449, ext. 33

A cheerful look
brings **JOY**
to the heart, and
good news
brings health to the bones.

~ Proverbs 15:30

The Spark—Pass It On!

Please help pass on the good news about what's happening at The Foundry! Call 205-428-8449 for additional copies of *The Spark* newsletter for family, friends, your church or workplace. Other ideas to pass along?

- Schedule a speaker or tour for your group.
- Schedule our *Impact Team* to speak to your youth.
- Call to learn more about our monthly pledge program, *The Founder's Club*.
- Ask for more information about *Adopt-A-Bed*.
- Coordinate a food drive or collect items from our *Urgent Needs* list on page 3.
- Hold an *Awareness Dinner* at your business, club or church and invite Rev. Bill Heintz to address your guests.
- Be a church ambassador—a liaison between your church and The Foundry.
- Make a gift to our ministry in the enclosed envelope.
- Pray for us!

We appreciate you and your gifts of time, prayer, finances and material items. God bless you and your family in the coming months.