



The SPARK

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE FOUNDRY RESCUE MISSION AND RECOVERY CENTER

Formerly City of Hope

The Shepherd *Knows Them By* Name

At night, nearly 150 men and women working determinedly toward recovery lay their heads on **The Foundry** Rescue Mission and Recovery Center's pillows. To many of our community neighbors, these folks are **nameless people** they may have avoided on a city street or in the downtown bus station. But each man and woman here is valuable! **Jesus knows each of their names** and His gift of love so long ago is restoring them today. He is the **Good Shepherd** who knows each fear, each need ... each name.

This Christmas, The Foundry is committed to telling the homeless about **Jesus, the Good Shepherd**, and His love for them. Join us as we feed, shelter and share the Good News with each person we serve during the holiday season.



See page 4 to learn why the ladies in our resident recovery program are excited about the coming months!





Where lives are reshaped
by the hands of God.

**The
FOUNDRY**
RESCUE MISSION AND RECOVERY CENTER

Formerly City of Hope

THE SPARK

Holiday Issue 2005
Volume 2, Issue 4

THE FOUNDRY

(formerly City of Hope)

1804 Sixth Avenue North

P.O. Box 824

Bessemer, AL 35021-0824

205-428-8449

www.thefoundryonline.org

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.



**Did you
know?**

During Thanksgiving, The Foundry will distribute up to 200 holiday food boxes through our *Adopt-A-Block* program, which ministers to needy families, the elderly and infirm in our community.



From the
**Executive
Director**

Dear Friends,

At times when I walk around The Foundry's facilities, I am overwhelmed by the number of people I see. Men listen intently to their Bible teacher in a classroom. A group of women pray with a support group counselor. And outside our building, homeless and addicted men and women shuffle by, trying to decide if they are ready to commit to rehabilitation.

In a single year, more than 152 men and women come through The Foundry and while each one is precious to me, I don't get to know them all as well as I'd like to.

Whenever I get an opportunity, I'll ask someone, *What brings you here?* The answers are varied — job loss, illness, eviction, addiction, abuse and the list goes on. But a transformation occurs as we talk. The person becomes real to me. He or she has a name, a family, memories of better times and hopes for the future.

John 10:2 tells me Jesus "calls His own sheep by name." As I think of the many people that come to The Foundry for help, I am awestruck that the Christ whose birth we celebrate each Christmas knows the name of every person here — and mine, too!

This realization helps renew and strengthens my conviction that we must tell the homeless, addicted and lost about Jesus —the Shepherd who knows our names. Please join with The Foundry this Thanksgiving and Christmas as we spread the Good News!

*I am the good
shepherd; I know
my sheep and my
sheep know me ...
and I lay down my
life for the sheep.*
—John 10:14-15

P.S. Christmas is a perfect time to visit The Foundry. Call (205) 428-8449 to schedule a holiday tour for you or your group!

In His Service,

Bill Heintz
Rev. Bill Heintz

**You Helped
Provide** **August-
September
2005**

Because you gave, The Foundry provided the following services to homeless and addicted men and women, and to families in the low-income community.

| | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------|---|-----|
| Nights of lodging | 8,235 | People receiving free clothing | 71 |
| Meals provided | 24,705 | Food boxes distributed | 97 |
| Recovery program graduates | 5 | Residents receiving medical, dental, optical, prescription assistance | ### |

And the Gift Goes On...

Jesus passes His gift of life to us. We pass it on to our residents. They pass it on to impoverished neighbors in our community. Would you like to be part of this chain of compassion? Call to learn more!



John 10:28, 29 tells us that God gave a gift to His son, Jesus — you and me! In turn, Jesus gave us the gift of eternal life. Throughout the year — but especially at Christmas — we pass His gift along by telling of Christ's birth and sharing gifts with the homeless and poor.

With your participation or donations toward the following holiday activities and projects, we'll impart God's love through giving to those who need it so much. Call (205) 428-8449, ext. 13 to join us in our efforts.

Food for the Holidays

During the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons, at-risk families will receive food boxes filled with everything needed for a traditional dinner, plus a Bible or devotional to feed their hearts! You can help by donating:

- Turkeys and hams
- Stuffing mix
- Canned yams, cranberry sauce, fruit, veggies
- 1-lb. bags brown sugar
- 4-lb. bags white sugar
- Marshmallows
- Boxed instant potatoes
- Packaged gravy mix
- 3-lb. bags apples
- Cake mixes and frosting
- New or used Bibles and devotionals

Christmas Gift Distributions

One way we can represent Christ's love is through sharing gifts with our residents, the homeless and poor. Each resident in our recovery program will receive brightly wrapped presents at Christmas. We'll also provide gifts for low-income children in the community through *Adopt-A-Block*.

Can you help by donating new, unwrapped gifts from our list? Call (205) 428-8449, ext. 13 to learn more.



Gifts for Children

- Toys for infants, toddlers
- Sleepwear and slippers
- School and play clothes
- NIV study and children's Bibles
- Backpacks, school bags filled with supplies
- Sleeping bags
- Balls for play and sports
- Wiffle ball and Nerf® sets
- Dolls (African American, too, please)
- Board and card games

Gifts for Adults

- \$25 gift cards to discount stores, salons, shoe stores
- Phone cards
- Underwear, socks, T-shirts
- Belts, gloves, umbrellas, caps
- Shower, makeup, fragrance sets
- Christian books, videos, CDs
- Board and card games

- Sleepwear, all sizes to 4XL
- Purses, totes, wallets
- Personal CD players
- Study sets: steno pad, pencils, pens, highlighters
- Towel and washcloth sets

Giving Is Easy with Gift Cards!

Grab 'em at the checkout counter and mail 'em to The Foundry! Gift cards to the following stores help us stretch our general fund dollars even further.

- OfficeMax
- Wal-Mart, Target, Kmart, Sam's Club
- Lowe's, Home Depot

Other Ways To Help This Christmas

Call (205) 428-8449, ext. 16 for details about these fun and simple ways to give:

Adopt-A-Table Christmas Party: Residents at The Foundry will celebrate Christmas as a family, Saturday, December 3. You can *Adopt-A-Table* and provide gifts, decorations and a meal for residents seated at your adopted table.

Sponsor A Child: Call us to sponsor a child in our *Adopt-A-Block* program or a resident's child. Then provide "your child" with food and gifts, both fun and practical, at Christmas.

Send a cash gift of any amount: Your contribution, large or small, adds up to helping more men, women and children find joy this Christmas.



Year-end Giving

In the last three months, The Foundry, along with many concerned folks in our community, has supported relief efforts in the Gulf Coast and has assisted evacuees displaced by the hurricanes. At the same time, we've continued to minister to hurting and desperate men and women addicted to drugs and alcohol, and estranged from the families they love.

I am encouraged that Congress recognizes the need for folks to continue giving generously to hurricane-affected areas along with other ongoing charitable efforts like The Foundry. **Check with your tax advisor about generous new tax rules affecting IRA withdrawals for charitable purposes and your cash gifts to any charity including hurricane relief efforts during this time.**

As you consider your year-end giving to charitable organizations, please remember your local rescue mission and recovery center, The Foundry, where lives right here in our community are reshaped each day by the hand of God.

To learn more about year-end giving to The Foundry, please call me, Leslie Freeman, at (205) 428-8449, ext. 16. Thanks for your generous support throughout



Merry Christmas

2005. May God bless you and your loved ones this Christmas.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leslie Freeman".

Leslie Freeman

Where Do I Find ...?

The Foundry SuperThrift Outlet Furniture Manufacturing and Upholstery Shop

727 Bessemer Super Highway
Monday-Saturday: 9 a.m.-8 p.m.
(except Thursday)

Thursday: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Call (205) 424-2400 to schedule a pick up.

Auto Sales and Service

1402 4th Avenue North
(205) 425-3290

Another way to reap a great tax deduction for 2005! Donate your car, truck, boat or other vehicles by calling (205) 426-9000. Merry Christmas!



Our Christmas Gift for Women and Children

A year from now, The Foundry will be able to provide resident recovery services for up to 84 single women, and soon to follow 25 mothers and 50 children! How? This summer, we purchased the First Baptist Church building at 1801 Sixth Avenue North in Bessemer.

After renovations, this new facility will allow us to realize a dream we've had for many years — allowing mothers in recovery to have their children with them. This means moms and their kids can work on parenting and other family skills while working on recovery!

We'll be stocking up on all the items that make a home a home: furniture, bed, bath and kitchen linens, lamps, wall hangings and more. Can you help?

If you'd like to get involved in this new project, please contact Leslie Freeman, development director at (205) 428-8449, ext. 16 or lfreeman@thefoundryonline.org.

Help us reunite children with their mothers before the next holiday season!



Ladies in our resident recovery program smile from the porch of the First Baptist Church, soon to be our new Women's and Children's Center.

Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful.

—I Cor. 4:2 (NIV)