



SPARK

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE FOUNDRY RESCUE MISSION AND RECOVERY CENTER

Formerly City of Hope

The Road to Success

The air in the Mississippi courtroom was tense. Richard had stood before this judge many times before. This time he faced a 45-year sentence for forgery. Finally the judge barked, "What makes you think I'd consider such an obscene request?"

Weeks earlier while in jail, Richard had read a brochure about The Foundry Rescue Mission and Recovery Center. Though he'd been in countless rehabs, this one provided a Christ-centered, 12-month program and he knew he needed both. But the decision was up to the judge and right now it wasn't looking good.

Suddenly, Richard was leaving the courtroom with permission to go to The Foundry! "I don't even know how it happened!" he reflects. "But the judge said, 'Go on and graduate that program and I don't ever want to see you in this courtroom again.'"

Three years have passed since Richard entered The Foundry's recovery program—three years of sobriety and clean living. Today he supervises The Foundry's

Furniture Manufacturing and Upholstery Shop, teaching eager recovery program students the art of creating quality hardwood furniture. "I learned the trade from my dad," Richard says proudly.

"Pastor Bill (Executive Director Rev. Bill Heintz) wasn't too convinced about all this at first," Richard grins. To convince him, Richard pulled a dilapidated donated recliner from the thrift store dumpster and told Pastor Bill to take a good look, then come back in the evening. "I worked on the recliner all day and when Pastor Bill saw it, he was amazed."

The thriving shop is a prayer answered for Richard. And the change in his life is a miracle to those who knew him before he

came to The Foundry! "When I went back home to Mississippi on a pass, I saw the police officer who arrested me. When I told him who I was his eyes got big and he said, 'No way!'" Richard laughs. "This place has been a godsend."

Recently, Richard's 9-year-old daughter, Kayla, wrote a note to Pastor Bill: *Thank you for giving my daddy a place to work. I'm really glad you also gave him a place to stay. That was very thoughtful. I love you!*

Kayla's gratitude reflects Richard's own as he walks forward confidently on the road to success.

Richard, right, teaches a recovery program student the art of furniture building. Inset: A recently completed sofa.





Where lives are reshaped
by the hands of God.

**The
FOUNDRY**
RESCUE MISSION AND RECOVERY CENTER

Formerly City of Hope

THE SPARK

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THE FOUNDRY

(formerly City of Hope)

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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?

August marks the first anniversary of
The Foundry's SuperThrift Outlet —
Alabama's largest thrift store! If you
haven't visited us yet, you're missing
out! Join our anniversary celebration
on Saturday, August 6, with music,
food and fun for the whole family.

**You Helped
Provide**  **January–
April 2005**



From the
**Executive
Director**

Dear Friends,

If I asked 100 people what they believed were the characteristics of success, I might get 100 different answers! But at The Foundry Rescue Mission and Recovery Center, we gauge the success of our ministry and of our residents by asking these crucial questions:

Ministry: Are we successfully accomplishing our mission and vision?

To restore hope and rebuild the lives of the homeless and addicted through Christ-centered recovery and to be the leader in Christ-centered recovery, permanently transforming lives.

Residents: Are our residents achieving success spiritually, physically and emotionally as they grow in Christ and in the knowledge of His Word?

Our recovery program residents must travel their own roads to success at The Foundry. For some the road is fairly straight, and within months they achieve several objectives and see success just ahead!

For others, the road to success involves terrifying twists, gullies and ruts as they learn to overcome addiction, see themselves through God's loving eyes and begin to trust Him and others.

We are so grateful that God has given us the task and the joy of guiding these new brothers and sisters in Christ toward their destination. Each one may have a different idea of what success means to them. For us—and I believe for you—success is only achieved through a personal relationship with the Savior and a life lived for Him.

Thank you for traveling along with us on this exciting and rewarding journey.

The road to success is not straight. There is a curve called **Failure**, a loop called **Confusion**, speed bumps called **Friends**, red lights called **Enemies**, caution lights called **Family**. You will have flats called **Jobs**. ...

P.S. *Want to learn more about The Foundry firsthand? Call (205) 428-8449 and ask for a tour!*

In His Service,

Bill Heintz
Rev. Bill Heintz

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	18,626	People receiving free clothing	60
Meals provided	60,465	Food boxes distributed	35
Recovery program graduates	11	Residents receiving medical, dental, optical, prescription assistance	112

A Smoother Road Ahead

Amanda, 33 and an IV drug user, was so sick of her addiction and lifestyle, she intentionally got in trouble with the law so she'd have to go to jail. "I needed time out," she explains. "I was ready to change."

Caseworkers gave Amanda a list of area rehabilitation agencies, and she immediately crossed The Foundry off the list. She'd heard about that place and she didn't want any part of its Christian recovery program. Looking back after five months in The Foundry's program, she now admits it put her on the road to success.

"My life was like driving down a dirt road that's been graded and it just rained and the jolting is beating your dashboard apart!" she says, recalling years of drug use, a violent marriage, health problems and unemployment.

At The Foundry, God took that bumpy road and helped Amanda make sense of it all. "I've waited my whole life for this opportunity," she says. "I didn't want to take God for granted anymore. Here, I've gotten answers to questions I've always had in my life. I love this program because it's God-filled."

Part of Amanda's rehabilitation



process is establishing a work routine. Each day, she joins the staff at The Foundry's SuperThrift Outlet as front-end supervisor. "I hadn't been employed in 18 months," she says. "I was not motivated to make a living for my family. Here, people give me a pat on the back. They let me know when I'm doing a good job. Now I like the person I see in the mirror."

Today, Amanda sees a different road ahead: "It's a country road with grass and flowers growing on the side and the sweet smell is awesome. There's still some gravel on the road, but the dust has settled!"

But if you have a spare called **Determination**, an engine called **Perseverance**, insurance called **Faith**, and a driver called **Jesus**, you will make it to a place called **Success!**

~Author unknown

But after her release from jail, Amanda went on a massive drug binge that ended in a heart attack. "My family was beside themselves, but I was happy because I knew I was at a crossroads."

Adopt-a-Block Makes the Road Smoother

The smiling faces and bright work vests of The Foundry volunteers and residents are a familiar sight to folks living in the blocks surrounding our ministry. Twice each month, teams visit homes in a 13-block area asking single moms, the elderly and infirm how they can help make their lives easier.

"We're building trust with our neighbors," says Michele Heintz, who coordinates the project. "We clean alleyways, bring food to folks, even do lawn care."

One recipient of the program is a woman in her 80s whose home is bog ridden and neglected. "We're

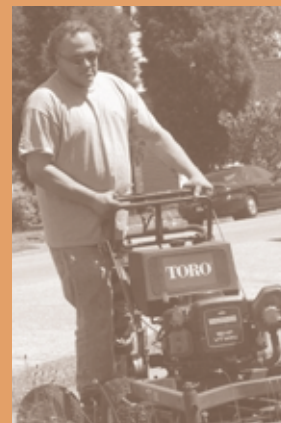
cleaning and repairing her home, and supplying her with furniture and clean carpet," says Michele.

July 3, Adopt-a-Block, in cooperation with **Feed My Sheep**, will hold a block party for the neighborhood. "It's another way for us to get to know these folks and let them know we want to help," Michele says.

Since Adopt-a-Block isn't a budgeted ministry, Michele notes there are many ways donors can participate. "For instance, the more volunteer team leaders we have, the more blocks we can cover each week. We also need snacks and

school supplies to distribute to children."

For more information about Adopt-a-Block or for a complete list of needed items, contact Michele at (205) 428-8449.



A Document that Protects You and Your Loved Ones

Dear Friends,

In the spring issue of *The Spark*, I expressed my concern that so many Christians do not have a will and I encouraged you to plan yours in 2005.

There are other documents Christians should prepare through

which they can give an end-of-life testimony. The recent case involving Terri Schiavo and the ordeal she and her family members endured brought new attention to the importance of using a written document to make your wishes clear concerning end-of-life care.

In Alabama this document is called an *Advance Directive for Health Care*. It contains two parts: a *Living Will* and a *Healthcare Proxy*.

The *Living Will* allows you to outline whether you want life-sustaining care if you are terminally ill or “persistently unconscious.” You can also direct whether you want to receive nutrition and hydration if you are in either situation. The *Healthcare Proxy* allows you to name an individual to make healthcare decisions for you if you can no longer make your own decisions.

The *Advance Directive for Health Care* must be witnessed by two individuals who are not relatives or your healthcare providers, and who do not have a claim on your estate.

It may be revoked or changed at any time and is available through your local hospital or attorney.

Another important document, a *General Durable Power of Attorney*, allows you to choose someone to make financial decisions for you if you become incapacitated: it should be prepared by an attorney.

As Christians it’s important that we leave our affairs in good order. We are called to be good stewards, not only of our finances, but also of our lives.

To request additional free information about preparing an

*Advanced Healthcare Directive**, please contact me at (205) 428-8449. I’d be delighted to hear from you!



Leslie Freeman
Director of Development

*Source: National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization

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
To donate your car or truck, call
(205) 426-9000. Thanks!

Activity Packet Contains Year-Round Fun!

Here are a couple of ideas to whet your appetite for helping the homeless and addicted!

Help bring life-changing services and recovery programs to our resident and our low-income neighbors when you coordinate one of a variety of fun and easy activities for The Foundry. Great for youth groups, Sunday school classes, service groups and businesses! Call Leslie Freeman at (205) 428-8449 for your activity packet.



Ask your church to hold *Undie Sunday* or invite your workplace to coordinate *Undie Monday*. Either way, you’ll collect new underwear, socks, bras and T-shirts for homeless men and women staying at The Foundry—items we need 365 days a year!



Equip children from low-income families with the supplies they need to start the school year right! Donate backpacks, pencils, notebooks, crayons, glue and other basic school supplies. We’ll distribute them at our block party, July 3. (See more information, page 3.)