



# SPARK

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE FOUNDRY RESCUE MISSION AND RECOVERY CENTER

Fall 2008

*"You helped me get my family back!"*



**Phil Dunn was stunned.** He'd just made a collect call from Madison County Jail to his long-suffering parents asking for help and they'd delivered an ultimatum—go to The Foundry or don't call again.

At 41, Phil had spent most of his life getting high—and, he never went halfway. "Acid, whiskey, pot, cocaine ... I did it until I fell down," he says.

Phil had often called his parents to get him out of trouble, but this time even his mother couldn't be moved by his tears and promises. "She'd told me that as long as she had breath, she'd never give up on me," he recalls. "But this time she said, 'Go to The Foundry or we sever all ties.' It crushed me!"

The county court agreed with Phil's parents: It was The Foundry or jail. Looking back, he says, "The Foundry saved me from utter ruin. Now, I know God had me arrested so I would come here. I'd like to find the officer who arrested me and thank him!"

Three days after Phil arrived at The Foundry, he joined other residents for Thursday night worship service. When the altar call came, he rushed forward to rededicate his life to Christ. "Then I remembered it was my son Josh's 14th birthday," he says quietly. Josh, who is active in his church youth group in Huntsville, couldn't have received a better gift.

Phil had completed his 30-day orientation at The Foundry when his counselor asked him to write a report about how his life had changed. "I wrote that The Foundry had put a smile on my mother's face and tears on my dad's cheek."

*"The Foundry has put a smile on my mother's face and tears on my dad's cheek."*

As he progressed, Phil prayed to stay positive and nonjudgmental. He realized he wasn't there to avoid jail, but to save his relationship with his family. God honored his commitment and today he is closer with his parents and son

than ever before, even praying together for Josh's mom, also a drug user.

"Eight months ago I woke up in jail, hating life and miserable. Today, waking up is a joy! When I was in active addiction, I stayed closed in, getting high by myself. Now I want to help people and be with my family. When I got in the back seat and let God drive, He took me down the high road for sure."

from the

# Executive Director



*Pastor Bill prays for the hurting parents of a resident during a Thursday evening worship service.*

Dear Friends,

In my years at The Foundry, I've learned some significant things about the human heart. I've learned it can endure a lot of abuse and rejection. I've learned it can bounce from hopelessness to joy in a matter of hours. I've learned it needs Christ to be at peace.

Addiction can do some serious damage to a person's heart. Not only can it cause physical damage; an addict's heart can be broken when he or she has burned bridges with parents, husbands, wives, siblings or children.

Family is the most important relationship we maintain here on earth. When "the ties that bind" are broken, we feel alone, lost and hopeless.

But here's the good news: a repentant heart can often be the catalyst for reconciliation. I know because I've seen it countless times at The Foundry. Men and women who thought those heart-ties were broken beyond repair find their loves ones are willing and anxious for restoration. They are there with arms outstretched to welcome them home.

Are you one of those who contributed so The Foundry could help restore broken families and broken hearts? Was it you who prayed for a man or woman who needed to know God loves them?

Thanks for recognizing and responding to the needs of our homeless and addicted clients. May God bless you and your family in the coming months.

With a grateful heart,

Rev. Bill Heintz

## You Helped Provide

**January–July 2008**

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

Nights of lodging	<b>53,250</b>
Meals served	<b>182,115</b>
Recovery program graduates	<b>54</b>
Re-Entry graduates	<b>25</b>
People receiving free clothing	<b>399</b>
Food boxes distributed	<b>190</b>
Residents receiving medical, dental, optical, prescription assistance	<b>491</b>

## Did You Know?

Recently, The Foundry teamed up with *Positive Maturity* to supply meals for 20 individuals who are physically or financially unable to provide meals for themselves. *Positive Maturity* is a group of men and women, 55 and older, committed to making a positive impact in the community.



*Micah Andrews is surrounded by Positive Maturity volunteers and some of the precious folks we serve each day.*

"The group recently lost some of the funding that supports their meals services," explains Micah Andrews, volunteer coordinator at The Foundry. "We saw it as a need The Foundry could meet at minimal cost. Three or four different people from *Positive Maturity* come to pick up the meals each week, and are exposed to what we do at The Foundry. It's been an extremely positive experience for everyone involved!"



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Rev. Bill Heintz

**Public Relations Director/Newsletter Editor**  
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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.



# FAITH IN ACTION

## Dressing for Success

It's a wonderful thing when God brings just the right people to The Foundry to fit just the right need! That's what happened in the summer of 2007 when Paige Lankford asked what she could do.

"Tawana, the women's program manager, told me she needed someone to teach ladies in the recovery program about getting employment," Paige recalls. "I said, 'Sure, I could do that!' I had actually taught a class in that area several years ago."

Now, Paige teaches a three-day course each summer at The Foundry Women's Center focusing on everything from filling out an application to how to dress for success! "My first day, I was surprised to see women who were just like me there—women who had once had careers, but were now at The Foundry. I realized that,

except for the grace of God, it could be any of us."

Paige says she chooses to volunteer at The Foundry because: "I've seen personally what alcoholism can do to families. Getting clean and sober is a tough task and The Foundry offers a Christian-based program that's life changing."

With Paige's help, our residents' life changes now include employment, too! Do you have a skill you'd like to share? Call (205) 425-7737 and ask about volunteer positions available now.

**Pictured right:** Paige and Karen, a fourth-phase resident model "Dress for Success" outfits, using items readily available in our SuperThrift Outlet.



## Top 10 Ways to Partner with The Foundry

It only takes one voice to reach hundreds of people! Are you the voice for The Foundry in your church, service group, workplace, neighborhood or school? To learn more about these ways to partner, contact Micah Andrews at [mandrews@thefoundryonline.org](mailto:mandrews@thefoundryonline.org) or (205) 425-7737. Thanks!

- 1. Pray:** We believe prayer changes circumstances, attitudes, desires and outcomes. Be a Foundry Prayer Partner today.
- 2. Volunteer:** One of the greatest gifts you can share is your time. We have more than 40 areas in which you can be a blessing to others.

- 3. Financial:** For every ONE dollar you contribute, we will raise an additional THREE dollars through our enterprises. Please give!
- 4. In-Kind Gifts:** Gently-used home goods, food, clothing—even automobiles! Call (205) 424-2400 to schedule a thrift store pick-up or (205) 426-9000 to donate a vehicle of any kind.
- 5. Drives:** Sponsor a food or clothing drive, or we'll customize a drive for your group! Drives are a great way to get involved!
- 6. Events:** Host a table at our annual **Hearts of Hope Luncheon** or sponsor a table at our **Hope Awards Banquet**.
- 7. Visit:** Take a tour of our campus, attend a chapel service, or join us for a **Lunch & Learn**. There is no better way to see life change happening than through firsthand experience.
- 8. Influence:** The people in your life may never hear of The Foundry unless you tell them. Tell someone today!
- 9. Connect:** Be an ambassador to your local church, linking The Foundry and your congregation with this mission field right in your own backyard.
- 10. Resource:** Make The Foundry your resource for information on Christ-centered drug and alcohol recovery.

Write us in!



During your workplace's United Way campaign, you can direct your contribution to The Foundry by simply writing "The Foundry" as your designated charity. While The Foundry is not a United Way member, United Way will honor your designation after deducting a small handling fee. Thanks for remembering us!

# Ninth Annual Hope Awards Banquet

The Foundry Rescue Mission and Recovery Center invites you to share a time of celebration and thanksgiving at our

## Ninth Annual Hope Awards Banquet

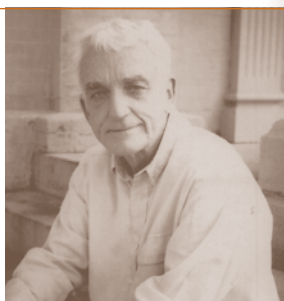
A benefit for The Foundry and Re-Entry Ministries  
Thursday, October 23, 2008  
Cahaba Grand Conference Center  
3660 Grandview Parkway  
Birmingham, Alabama  
Dinner and program 6:30-8:30 p.m.

### Emcee

James Spann  
Chief Meteorologist, Alabama's ABC 33/40

### Keynote Speaker: Brennan Manning

Perhaps best known for his book "The Ragamuffin Gospel," Brennan Manning has spent his tumultuous life attempting to communicate the love of Christ through action, public speaking and the written word. Today, he continues to travel widely, encouraging men and women everywhere to accept and embrace the good news of God's unconditional love in Jesus Christ.



## Ninth Annual Hope Awards Banquet Honorees

### Hope Award for Education Service

Dr. Ed LaMonte  
Professor of Political Science  
Birmingham Southern College

Dr. Ruth LaMonte, Priest  
Trinity Episcopal Church, Bessemer

### Hope Award for Religious Service

Dr. William H. Willimon, Bishop  
The United Methodist Church

### Hope Award for Business Service

Mr. Ben Nevins, President and CEO  
Brice Construction

### Hope Award for Personal Achievement

Mr. Shelley Stewart, President  
Mattie C. Stewart Foundation  
Chairman and CEO, o2ideas

### To reserve your table or seat:

Contact Public Relations Director Leslie Freeman at (205) 425-7737, ext. 16 or [lfreeman@thefoundryonline.org](mailto:lfreeman@thefoundryonline.org) for sponsorship information or to reserve your seats.

We respectfully request no children under 15 attend. A freewill offering will be taken during the event. Each seat is tax-deductible minus \$40; The Foundry will provide receipts for each contribution.

## Work, Worship, Ice Cream!

Youth from Parkway Church of God in Sevierville, Tenn., headed for The Foundry in July for a two-day volunteer project that blessed everyone involved!



"During Thursday night chapel, the group performed 'human video dramas,' gave their testimonies and prayed with our residents," recalls Micah Andrews, volunteer coordinator at The Foundry. "Friday, we paired each teen with a resident and they worked together in our SuperThrift Outlet, maintenance and other areas."

During one evening, the teens—some of whom live in a children's home in Sevierville—purchased 26 quarts of ice cream and hosted an ice cream social for residents and staff at The Foundry. "Before they left for home, we all prayed together," Micah says. "This experience was 10 times better than we could have imagined!"

Would your church group like to volunteer in this local mission field? Contact Micah at (205) 425-7737 or [mandrews@thefoundryonline.org](mailto:mandrews@thefoundryonline.org).

## Where DO I FIND?

### The Foundry SuperThrift Outlet

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.

**Get a Coupon!** Visit [www.thefoundryonline.org](http://www.thefoundryonline.org) to download a coupon you can use on your next visit to our SuperThrift Outlet!

### Auto Sales and Service

1402 4th Avenue North  
(205) 425-3290



### Drive Away Addiction!

When you donate a vehicle to The Foundry, you benefit the ministry of The Foundry and our residents and community clients—and get a charitable tax deduction! Call (205) 426-9000 to learn more.