

Time to Just *Believe**Tim*

Twenty-eight-year-old Tim, a resident at The Foundry, was among the first to spend time at Foundry Farm outside Cullman, our new induction center for men in our Recovery Program. He says his three weeks there was one of the biggest blessings he could have asked for.

“I came in with the farthest thing from a clear head. I had been using that day and was not in the right spot and definitely not hearing from God at all.” Foundry Farm, he explains, “gives you wide-open acres to walk around and get alone with your Bible or pray in a grove of trees or a field. You have time to sit and think and get back in right standing with God.”

Tim has battled substance abuse since college, and it eventually cost him his job when he took expense money to support his habit. Fortunately, his family stood by him and encouraged him to get help—or he would have been homeless. He tried another recovery program, but after being back in the “real world” for eight months, he relapsed. “I went right back into the same situation I’d left, and I wasn’t used to fighting it off.”

Tim’s story continues on page 3.

**IGNORING WHAT THEY SAID,
JESUS TOLD THE SYNAGOGUE RULER,
“DON’T BE AFRAID; JUST BELIEVE.”**

—MARK 5:26

Jessica

“My life was out of control . . . I had lost my identity,” says 25-year-old Jessica, a resident of The Foundry’s new Women’s Dorm and our Recovery Program. She had been using prescription drugs since she was 13 and was tired of living that way.

“I had pretty much lost my family,” she explains, on the verge of tears. “I’d been in and out of college, too, but let the drugs take over. I’d planned to go to nursing school, but was ‘too busy’ maintaining my drug habit.”

Jessica came all the way to our facility in Bessemer from Ohio. “I knew absolutely nothing about The Foundry,” she says. “It was a shot in the dark. But I knew God didn’t have me travel all those miles for nothing. The welcome I received here was outstanding and I would normally be afraid with so many unfamiliar faces, but He stands over me. He really does.”

Jessica’s story continues on page 3.



Jessica gave her heart to the Lord and He’s doing amazing things in her life at the Foundry.



Tim says God is a lot easier to hear at Foundry Farm where you can feel His tug and begin to get your life back on track.



The
FOUNDRY
RESCUE MISSION AND RECOVERY CENTER

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www.thefoundryonline.org

Executive Director
Rev. Bill Heintz

Director of Development,
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Where Do I Find It?

The Foundry SuperThrift Outlet

727 Bessemer Super Highway
(205) 424-2400

Auto Sales and Flea Market **NEW**

1402 4th Avenue North
(205) 425-3290

You Helped Make This Possible!

January — June 2009

Nights of lodging	40,777
Meals served	122,331
Recovery program graduates	57
Re-Entry program graduates	14
People receiving free clothing	1,045
Food boxes distributed	219
Residents receiving medical, dental, optical & prescription assistance	2,639

Director's Letter

Pastor Bill feels blessed with the opportunity to teach, mentor and minister to the men at Foundry Farm.



Dear Friends,

This is an exciting time at The Foundry. We've been blessed with such an abundance of goals and opportunities—and at the same time, a myriad of obstacles and challenges—that we've named it "The Year to Just Believe." We certainly can't accomplish all He has called us to do by our own power. Yet, all we have to do is have faith in Him!

I'm especially grateful for the Lord's guidance, wisdom and patience as we opened our new Women's Dorm and Foundry Farm this summer, allowing more addicted women and men to shed their false defenses and give themselves to God.

I'm also thankful He has allowed me, through my additional role as director of Foundry Farm, to spend more time with my passion and calling—ministering hand-to-hand, head-to-head and heart-to-heart to men who are filled with grief and regret, and who long for inner peace they never knew existed.

This issue of *The Spark* is dedicated to you, dear friend, and what we—together through His power—are accomplishing during *The Year to Just Believe*. Thank you for your role in our mission to reshape lives for Christ.

In His service,

Pastor Bill

Rev. Bill Heintz
Executive Director

The Foundry's 10th Annual

Hope Awards Banquet



Thursday, October 1, 2009

Reception 6 p.m.

Dinner and Program 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Cahaba Grand Conference Center
Highway 280, Birmingham

Join The Foundry Rescue Mission and Recovery Center for a time of celebration—honoring those who've shown exemplary service to our community—at our 10th annual *Hope Awards Banquet* to benefit our ministries to the addicted and homeless.

To reserve your seat or learn more about table sponsorships, contact Director of Development Leslie Freeman at lfreeman@thefoundryonline.org or (205) 425-7737, ext. 16.

Keynote speaker for the evening is former Green Bay Packers quarterback Bart Starr. Starr guided the team to an unprecedented five NFL titles and two Super Bowl championships, and he was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1977. He and his wife are co-founders of the Rawhide Boys Ranch, a 500-acre campus in Wisconsin that offers training programs for at-risk, court-referred young men.

We respectfully request no children under the age of 15 attend. A freewill offering will be taken during the event.

Believing in God's Power to

Transform Lives...



Tim and Jessica's stories continued from page 1.

That's why Tim believes another benefit of starting his recovery at Foundry Farm was having time to build brotherhood and friendships with the other men there. Those relationships provided a support system that was already in place when he transitioned to The

Foundry in Bessemer. "Many of the guys move to Bessemer before you do, so when you get here you have at least a dozen guys who are your best friends and you know their true hearts. They're really gung-ho about changing their lives—not just going through the motions," he shares.

As a resident in our Recovery Program, Tim works in our SuperThrift Outlet and says the "downtown work therapy" is also helping him learn to manage challenging situations in real life. Because of that, he believes his recovery will be successful this time.

Like Tim, Jessica also works at The Foundry's SuperThrift Outlet. She feels comfortable there because she has previous experience in retail and is very complimentary of the store's organization. "It's a good system. Nothing goes to waste," she says.

Jessica is looking forward to her family visiting her this fall and seeing the transformation God has begun in her life. "I'm growing up, into a woman. I'm getting my identity back. And I feel so blessed that God is restoring my family. I love them."

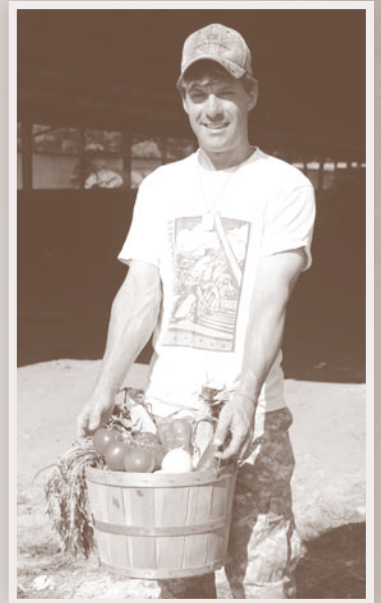
And she's building her future on 2 Corinthians 5:17, a verse she's memorized in her Bible studies: *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come.*

"I thought of being a 50-year-old lady and still being an addict, but here they preach that it's not a disease, it's a behavior. I love that. It gives me hope!"



Watch Us Grow!

Foundry-Fresh Produce



God's bountiful harvest comes in many forms for residents at Foundry Farm.

As The Foundry's ministry grows, so too does the range of skills and experience of Foundry Farm residents. Approximately two to three acres have been set aside for gardens, and the men are learning to plant seeds, cultivate and tend the plants and reap a bountiful harvest of fresh produce. The vegetables, including tomatoes, corn, squash and okra, are being used for meals at The Foundry in Bessemer and Foundry Farm in Cullman.

Because You Care, More Lives Will Be Transformed

Your gifts and prayers allow The Foundry to expand and enhance our programs and services to meet the growing and changing needs of men and women like Tim and Jessica. For example, our 80-acre Foundry Farm in Cullman now serves as an induction center for up to 25 men who are waiting to transition to The Foundry Rescue Mission and Recovery Center in Bessemer. This transition process provides men on our waiting list a place in our program sooner, and as Tim described, allows them to plant their feet firmly on the ground and build or restore their relationships with God before they begin our intense Recovery Program.

We also opened our new Women's Dorm this summer, which increases the number of female residents like Jessica in our Recovery Program from 35 to 52 and provides a safe, clean and comfortable place to live out their journeys of healing and restoration. This will allow us to convert the former dorm facility to aftercare housing, with room for 15 program graduates who are transitioning to independent living. Thank you for your continued partnership that makes this all possible.

Get Involved with The Foundry this Fall!



What's in YOUR Lunch Sack?

The Foundry invites friends, partners, donors and volunteers to take the **Brown Bag Challenge!** Here's how it works:

Simply "brown bag it" for a week, with things like PB&J or bologna sandwiches. Then, donate the money you would normally spend on lunch for a week to The Foundry—to help provide life-changing programs for our residents who

are battling addiction and to offer food for the homeless and needy families in the community.

E-mail Micah at mandrews@thefoundryonline.org to request official **Brown Bag Challenge** lunch sacks, and visit www.thefoundryonline.org for other ideas on how your church or work group can get involved. You can use the reply form and envelope with this newsletter to send your Brown Bag donation today—and begin the **Brown Bag Challenge** tomorrow!

Volunteers Needed ...

Men's Life Coaches: Invest in the lives of residents by serving as a one-on-one mentor. As a life coach, you will have the opportunity to restore hope and bring meaning to the lives of men on the road to recovery.

Thursday Morning Food Box Distribution: Be an extension of The Foundry and a minister of love as you prepare and distribute food boxes to struggling families and pray with each family you assist.

Thursday Night Retail at SuperThrift Outlet: Serve the community and The Foundry at the same time. As a retail assistant on Thursday nights, you'll allow residents time off to attend our weekly chapel service.

If these positions describe your interests, talents and desire to help The Foundry transform lives, contact Volunteer Coordinator Micah Andrews at mandrews@thefoundryonline.org or (205) 425-7737. Thank you!

Can You Help "Drive" Away Needs?

The Foundry is looking for individuals and church or workplace groups to collect items we need most this fall. If you're interested in sponsoring a "drive" for any of the items below, call Micah at (205) 425-7737. Thank you for helping "drive" away needs at The Foundry!

Foundry Farm

- Work gloves, boots
- Vegetable seeds
- Paper products
- Power tools
- Gas-powered weed-eaters
- Bibles
- New and used farm equipment

Women's Dorm

- Cleaning and paper products
- Toiletries and feminine products
- Vacuum cleaners, brooms, mops
- Neutral-colored linens, towels and washcloths

Community Food Boxes

- Peanut butter, jelly, bread
- Sugar, corn bread mix
- Crackers, rice, pasta
- Velveeta cheese, spaghetti sauce
- Boxed oatmeal, wholesome cereal
- Canned chili, beef stew, tuna
- Canned fruits and vegetables

Compassion IN ACTION



Teens Dig Deep, Give Generously for 90-Day Campaign!

Nearly 45 teens from the **Smokey Mountain Home for Children** in Sevierville, Tennessee, descended on The Foundry this summer as part of a service project sponsored by the **Parkway Church of God Youth Group**. They distributed new shoes from our partnership with **Soles4Souls** to our residents, helped in the SuperThrift Outlet and shared their testimonies, music and dramatic performances. As they talked with our residents, they learned about our **\$90 for 90 Days** summer fundraising campaign. Before leaving, they collected \$180 among themselves to sponsor two residents for 90 days each! Our thanks go out to these hard-working and compassionate teens for their efforts and sacrificial financial gift.



Hunter Street Baptist Church Asked, "How Can We Help?"

And The Foundry replied, "By collecting items for our new Women's Dorm!" So church member and volunteer Mary Carolyn Sullivan and her adult Sunday school class hosted a linen shower for the residents of our new dorm, providing items such as towels, washcloths, sheets and blankets. The women who were blessed with these items say the church's kindness makes them feel accepted and loved, and The Foundry is grateful for the group's compassion.