

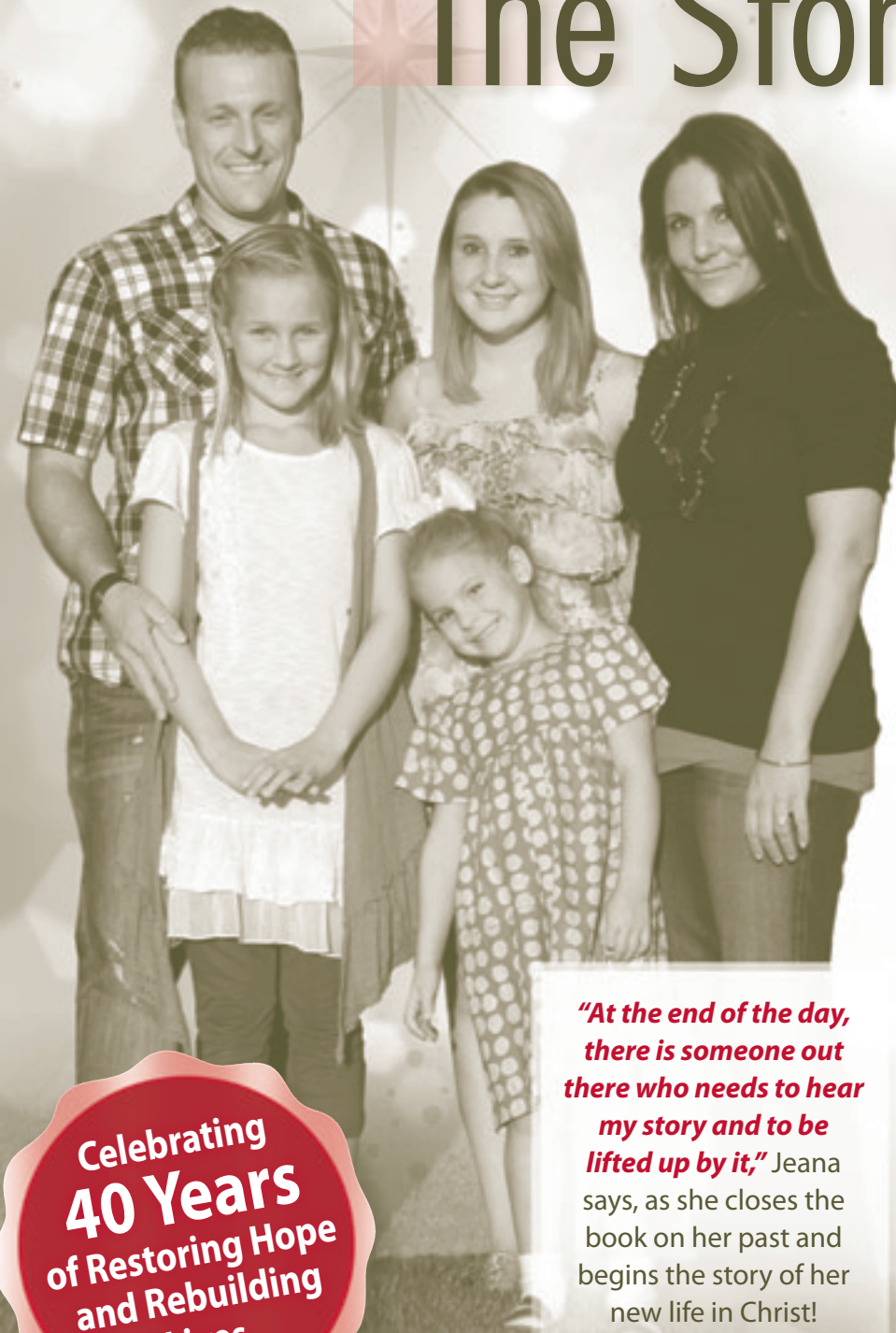
THE

SPARK

A PUBLICATION OF THE FOUNDRY RESCUE MISSION AND RECOVERY CENTER



The Story Begins



Jeana and her husband Tim were close and shared many things in common, including an attraction to “recreational” drugs. “He smoked marijuana when we first started dating,” Jeana explains. “And we did things like Ecstasy.” But when Jeana experienced a personal trauma, their drug use escalated and their lives spiraled out of control. “We both got into trouble with the law, and our kids were taken away,” she says, recalling the heartbreak of being separated from her three daughters. Fortunately, loving relatives welcomed the youngsters into their homes. The court ordered Tim to 12 months of probation at The Foundry, and he entered our long-term Recovery Program.

“With Tim and the children gone, I was using all the time. I felt so alone.” But when her husband graduated and returned home, it wasn’t the reunion she expected. “You get help or we can’t be together,” he told her. “I’m clean and happy and I can’t be a part of your life.” His ultimatum opened a new chapter in Jeana’s life.

Jeana came to The Foundry a year ago. She made tremendous progress and is now in the outpatient phase of our program. She’s living with her parents, working two jobs and spends weekends with Tim and her daughters. And she’s looking forward to being a family again at Christmas. “I want to put the girls to bed on Christmas Eve and wake them up to open presents on Christmas morning,” she says, with joyful anticipation.

And the Christmas story will have even greater meaning for her this year as she reflects on the impact of Christ’s grace and forgiveness. “I was beating myself up about how horrible of a person I was. But the worship services at The Foundry—and being in the presence of God every day—changed my life! For people who are still out there struggling, I want them to know that God is a God of second, third, fourth and fifth chances! That’s the true message of Christ’s birth.”

“At the end of the day, there is someone out there who needs to hear my story and to be lifted up by it,” Jeana says, as she closes the book on her past and begins the story of her new life in Christ!

**Celebrating
40 Years
of Restoring Hope
and Rebuilding
Lives**



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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Rev. Bill Heintz

**SENIOR DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS/
NEWSLETTER EDITOR**
Leslie Freeman

OUR MISSION
To restore hope and rebuild the lives of the addict, the ex-inmate and the destitute through Christ-centered recovery, re-entry and rescue.



Director's Letter

Executive Director Bill Heintz and The Foundry staff and volunteers keep the Christmas story the center of holiday activities.

Dear Friend,

Christ was born to bring hope to a troubled world and a new beginning to mankind. With every hurting and desperate soul who passes through our doors, a new story begins, too.

The Bible tells us if anyone is in Christ, the old passes away. For a new story to begin, an old one must end. At first, so many of the men and women we care for believe they have no story to tell at all, or that their stories don't deserve to be told. Through our Christ-centered recovery and counseling, we help individuals close the chapters of addiction, regret and despair in their pasts and invite the Lord to be the author of their futures! As they accept Christ's forgiveness and grace, their life pages are composed with the joy, peace and fulfillment that come from following a God-directed path.

The Christmas story doesn't end with Christ's birth. ***The message of hope God sent through His Son is only the beginning.*** It lives on through friends like you who continue to reach out with compassion to the addicted, homeless and destitute with your generosity and prayers. Thank you for sharing in our mission to keep the Truth of Christ's birth alive in the hearts of all of God's children. May you and your loved ones enjoy a blessed and God-filled holiday season.

In His service,

Rev. Bill Heintz
Executive Director



WHERE DO I FIND IT?

The Foundry
SuperThrift Outlet

727 Bessemer Super Highway (Bessemer)
1636 B Second Avenue Southwest (Cullman)

Auto Sales Center

730 19th Street (Bessemer)



YOU HELPED MAKE THIS POSSIBLE!

JANUARY — AUGUST 2011

Nights of lodging	60,016
Meals served	186,069
Recovery Program graduates	75
Re-Entry Program graduates	15
Residents earning GEDs	10
People receiving free clothing	685
Food boxes distributed	470
Residents and community members receiving medical, dental, optical and prescription assistance	1,170
Volunteer hours	5,427

The Foundry Christmas Card Honor Your Associates while Supporting Our Work

Instead of candy, nuts or popcorn, honor your employees, clients and coworkers with a gift that changes lives. This holiday season, The Foundry will gratefully acknowledge every gift of \$10 or more made in honor of one of your associates by sending him or her this beautiful, original greeting card. "Faith," designed by local artist Betty K. Freeman, graces the cover, and the message inside describes how the contribution will be used to rebuild the lives of the addict, ex-inmate and homeless. You may also make a gift of \$10 in honor or memory of a friend or loved one, and The Foundry will send the greeting card to the family of the person being honored or remembered. Or if you prefer, you can "purchase" the cards for \$10 each—with or without the acknowledgement message—and have them sent to your office or home to mail or to personally hand deliver.

There couldn't be a more meaningful sentiment at Christmas than giving the gift of new beginnings as a tribute to those who mean the most to you. You'll find all the details online at www.thefoundryonline.org.



Adopt-a-Table and Share a "Family" Celebration

Invite your congregation, coworkers, friends and loved ones to help you create a family-style holiday event for the male residents at our main campus in Bessemer or our Foundry Farm in Cullman. As a table host or hostess, the evening's experience is entirely up to you!

- Choose the menu and prepare and serve a meal, dessert and beverage for 10 of our male residents.
- Decorate the table where your guests will be seated and provide all table-setting items.
- Prepare a gift bag for each guest (\$15-\$20). Purchasing the same type of item for each person is recommended and might include a daily journal, a watch or wallet, and Walmart or Target gift cards.

To adopt a table, contact Jessica Miller at jmiller@thefoundryonline.org or (205) 425-7737, ext. 19, by November 11. Our dinners will be held December 4. We hope you'll choose to help our residents feel at home!

The Foundry's Holiday Wish List

The items listed at right are vital to The Foundry's everyday operations and the comfort and progress of our residents and guests. In addition, gift cards to local discount, office-supply and home-improvement stores are great for purchasing year-round necessities for our facilities and services.

If you, your church or your place of business could donate any of these goods or gift cards, it would offset our budget and allow us to put more of our donated income toward our programs. And that would be a much-appreciated Christmas gift for our staff and volunteers! Please call Jessica Miller at (205) 425-7737, ext. 19 for all the details including delivery instructions. God bless you for supporting our work in this way!



Items we need:

Sheets, blankets and towels for dorms • Toilet paper • Undergarments and socks for men and women • Light bulbs • Toiletries • Cleaning supplies • Office supplies • Phone cards

Gift cards we use:

Sam's Club • Office Depot • Costco • OfficeMax • Target • Walmart • VISA • Lowe's

Also, consider donating gift cards you receive yourself but can't use!

Gifts to Brighten Children's Lives

As our residents anticipate the holidays, many grow anxious about how they'll provide Christmas gifts for their children. They're working hard to be the parents their young sons and daughters need and long for and don't want to disappoint them, especially at Christmas!

We need your help to provide the toys, games, books and other items listed below for our residents to wrap with love and watch their youngsters open with wonder and glee. We hope to collect enough to provide multiple presents for the nearly 70 children of the residents in our care. We also want to provide a special holiday surprise for 55 boys and girls in the growing number of destitute families who are coming to our Community Outreach Center for meals.

Sadly, last year we ran short—that's why we're conveying a sense of urgency with this heartfelt request! If you or a group you're involved with can help ensure no child is left out, simply purchase items from the lists below, for youngsters up to age 12. Then bring them unwrapped to The Foundry's Women's Center, 1800 Fourth Avenue North, by December 9. Please know that while the children will be delighted with their presents, their relieved parents will be moved even more by your kindness and compassion!

Wish List for Boys: basketballs, footballs, soccer balls, Nerf products, cars and trucks, remote-control vehicles, board games, building blocks, construction-type toys

Wish List for Girls: baby dolls, Barbies, arts-and-crafts items, board games, stuffed animals, educational games, little-princess accessories sets, Play-Doh kits



A Gift for You from Our Residents ... You're invited to attend our 2011 Talent Show!

From song writing to poetry reading . . . from comedy to culinary skills—our residents bring with them to The Foundry a wealth and wide variety of talent. And each year they're honored to share their God-given gifts at The Foundry Talent Show.

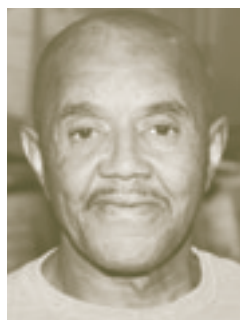
This annual event has become perhaps our residents' most anticipated and beloved holiday activity. It allows them to express themselves in their own unique ways, while restoring their self-esteem and celebrating their successes. Most of all, their performances become their gifts to one another and an opportunity to give back to kind friends like you, to our compassionate volunteers and to the community that welcomed them with open arms.

Please mark your calendars for Thursday, November 17, and plan to join us in our Worship Center at 6:30 p.m. during our regularly scheduled service. Your heart will be touched by this unforgettable gift!



Scan this code to experience three moving minutes of our 2010 Foundry Talent Show!

Ways to Maximize Year-End Giving



Friends of The Foundry are often surprised to learn we typically raise as much as 39 percent of our budgeted donated income during the final three months of the year. Not only are those funds used to provide for our many holiday activities, they also set us on a firm financial foundation to continue our life-transforming Recovery and Re-Entry programs and Christ-centered community outreach well into the new year.

You receive this newsletter because you support The Foundry with your contributions, prayers, in-kind gifts or time and talents and are considered a partner in our ministry. That's why we feel comfortable sharing our financial concerns and requests and want to make you aware of opportunities to extend your generosity in the critical months ahead.

Our fundraising goal for the final quarter of 2011 is \$497,500, and we hope you'll prayerfully consider helping us reach this important milestone in one of three ways:

- Simply make **cash gifts** in response to this newsletter or the holiday letters you'll be receiving in the mail or give at www.thefoundryonline.org.
- Begin now to **give on a monthly basis** through The Foundry's *Simple Giving Plan*. Check the box on the back of the reply form enclosed with this newsletter to receive details.
- Through **estate planning**, including gifts of securities or real estate or life-income tools such as charitable gift annuities, you can ensure your charitable wishes are honored while reaping significant year-end tax benefits.

If you'd like to learn more about year-end giving options and their related tax incentives, please contact Lesley Searcy, stewardship and resources officer, at (205) 425-7737, ext. 15.

A Meal ... and God's Message of Hope!

As we witness the steady increase in the number of men, women and children joining us for our daily community meals here in Bessemer, we're saddened so many people face the uncertainty of how they'll provide food for themselves and their families. Yet we're pleased we'll have an opportunity to share a Thanksgiving meal—and demonstrate God's unconditional love and compassion—with more people than ever before!

This Thanksgiving, we'll serve nearly 400 meals to our residents and community guests. And we'll distribute 150 food boxes filled with all the ingredients for a traditional Thanksgiving feast—along with a Bible or devotional—to needy families in our community.

You can help make these festivities possible by donating the items below, or hosting a Thanksgiving food drive at your church,

school or place of business. On behalf of our residents and guests who will benefit from your time and generosity, thank you for providing a meal . . . and God's healing message of hope!



Thanksgiving Food Drive Needs List

(Commercial and family sizes appreciated!)

Turkeys and hams
Stuffing mixes
Canned yams
Boxed instant mashed potatoes
Packaged or canned turkey gravy
Fruits and vegetables
1-lb. bags brown sugar
4-lb. bags white sugar
Marshmallows
3-lb. bags apples
Cake mixes and frostings

Your food donations will be gratefully accepted at our Community Outreach Center, 608 18th Street, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. We look forward to receiving them by Monday, November 14, to prepare for our Thanksgiving meal.