

Good
Samaritan
Home

New Beginnings

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Looking to the future

Eighteen years ago when Kathy and I first dreamed about using my construction background as a way to show the love of God, we never imagined we would one day help more than 1,200 men and women restart their broken lives.

At first all we saw were barriers—too much back-breaking work, no money, and especially overwhelming legal conflicts. Yet with the help, support and prayers from all of you, we now have seventeen houses in three counties housing 80 men and women every day—and especially nine staff members who mentor them.

Everybody benefits. Our residents get a second chance after prison and the community gets taxpayers instead of tax burdens.

But Good Samaritan Home has given me a second chance too. My journey has gone down far too many winding roads to get here. I have been a salesman, a counselor, teacher, truck driver, fireman, min-



ister and journalist. But none of that compares to the work I do now.

What about the future?

But I'm 71 years old and the inevitable question is what will happen to this ministry after me?

I worried about that many nights—until I met Brian Gilvin. Divorced, disabled and looking for a second chance of his own, I saw potential in him. Eight years later he is now in charge of all the day-to-day activities for GSH because of his gift for ad-

ministration. He can organize, categorize, and especially manage all the auditing standards required by the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction—something I have little patience for!

But the real reason I know the ministry of GSH will continue and thrive under Brian is his compassion.

“There’s been a ‘heart change’ in me. I don’t know how to describe it but to say I realized working for Good Samaritan Home that all of us are broken, and everyone needs forgiveness and help.”

I could not have said it better.

All this said, I have no plans to retire any time soon. I am still writing my novel about second chances—something I could not have done without Brian’s help with GSH. Even when it is published, I still plan to be part of this ministry all my life. But now I know it will continue and grow well beyond me.

Local language



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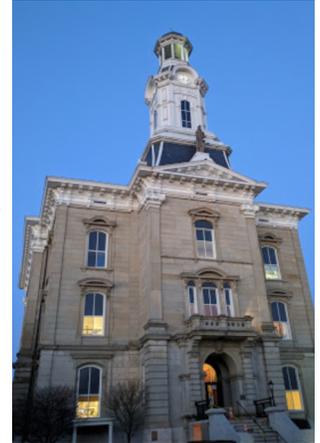
In 2007 when we first agreed to help men coming from prison, we were the only re-entry house in this entire corner of the state. We told our critics that offering a second chance was a moral necessity. They didn't listen and several years of legal conflict followed.

Then two things happened. The first was the heroin epidemic—and that had a severe impact locally.

Second, in 2013 the department of correction opened our program to local probation referrals. Since then we have offered housing and mentoring support to 129 local people. **Instead of sitting in jail for 10,632 days costing taxpayers \$595,392, WE HOUSED THEM FOR FREE.**

More important, they can now work and pay taxes. Instead of being tax burdens, they are tax payers.

Now we say offering a second chance is a financial necessity and everyone listens!



Meet our new staff

Josh Green is the embodiment of the local benefit of our program. He came to us with a felony record through the local probation office. Now he is a GSH employee with hopes of one day becoming a social worker helping other felons.

I was introduced to Good Samaritan Home at a dark time in my life. I had made some decisions that had left me bankrupt in every way.

While on county probation, I was offered a home and structure by the staff here at Good Samaritan. I didn't realize it at the time, but that safe environment allowed me the opportunity to take a very different path in life. I was able to find work and was accepted as a full-time college student.

Though the home I was offered was



not forever, the lessons I learned while I was at Good Samaritan Home served me well.

Since leaving Good Samaritan Home, I have managed to complete my Associates of Social Work degree at Edison State Community College. I am continuing my education and look forward to eventually becoming a Licensed Social Worker.

I have come to believe that good things happen at just the right time. Because when it was time for me to look for my first job in the Social Work field, an opportunity with Good Samaritan Home became available.

Now, as an employee here at Good Samaritan Home, I have the pleasure of doing my best to help create a safe space for other people in dark places.