

ABC-Alabama Cares



Above: Representatives from ABC-Alabama's ABC Cares Committee of caring construction companies!

Inset: From left, John LaRussa, ABC Cares Committee chairman; Jay Reed, president of the Associated Builders and Contractors of Alabama; Pastor Bill Heintz, The Foundry executive director; and Tommy Mayfield, chairman of The Foundry's capital campaign committee.

May 22, The Foundry broke ground for renovations to our four-story building soon to become dormitory space housing up to 52 women in addiction recovery at our Women's Center!

The project is being partially funded by **ABC-Alabama**, an organization representing hundreds of merit shop construction and construction-related firms in Alabama.

"The Foundry is addressing an incredibly prevalent social, psychological and moral need right here in our state. We are touched and inspired to partner with such an upstanding organization and our members are thrilled to contribute," says the chapter's president, Jay Reed. Donated materials and services include administration, supervision, demolition, cleanup, concrete, exterior building repair, drywall, mechanical and electrical work, plumbing, carpentry, waterproofing and windows!

Women Provide Solutions at

She opens her arms to the poor and extends her hands to the needy.

— Proverbs 31:20



More than 220 women opened their arms to the poor during our 2008 **Hearts of Hope Luncheon** in May, raising over \$88,000 for our women's programs and services.

Mickie Lane, seen here with Michele and Bill Heintz, gave her testimony during the event. You can view the entire event and her story at www.thefoundryonline.org.



Where DO I FIND?

The Foundry SuperThrift Outlet

727 Bessemer Super Highway
Monday–Saturday: 9 a.m.–9 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 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!

Donate a car before the year ends! You'll receive a great tax deduction (minimum \$500), and you don't have the hassle of selling it yourself! You'll also have the satisfaction of knowing you've benefited the ministry of The Foundry and our residents and community clients. To get started, call (205) 426-9000.

The SPARK

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE FOUNDRY RESCUE MISSION AND RECOVERY CENTER

Summer 2008

Finding Solutions Together

Mickie Lane lay where she'd fallen from the top of a long flight of stairs. For 13 days, she'd binged on crystal meth, going without sleep and food. Now, mentally and physically broken, she realized, "I've got my wish. No one is looking for me. No one cares anymore."

It had been a long journey to that lonely moment at the bottom of the stairs. Mickie was raised by parents who drank and argued their way to divorce when she was in fourth grade. She started using pot, cocaine and alcohol in her teens.

Mickie married another drug user, but the couple went through rehabilitation in 1988. For the next seven years, they lived a healthy life, getting involved in their church, building careers and a house, and having children.

Mickie isn't sure why she and her husband started smoking pot again. Their marriage quickly deteriorated and soon she was secretly using cocaine. Then her father was killed during a robbery at the grocery store he owned, and she says, she "checked out of life."

"That's when I met crystal meth, and my husband met God!" she smiles.

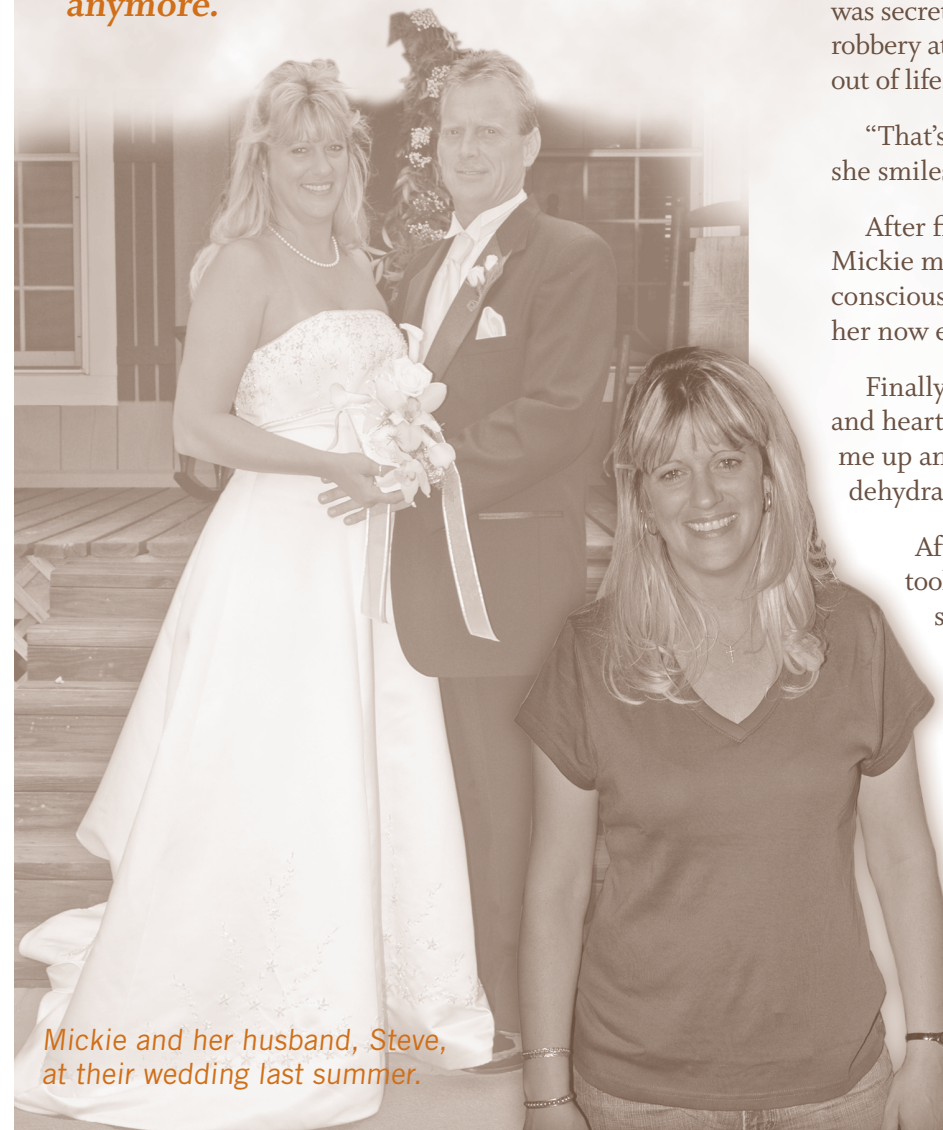
After filing for divorce, for the next three and a half years Mickie moved in and out of relationships, living situations and consciousness as her addiction grew worse. At the same time, her now ex-husband prayed for her safe return to the family.

Finally, the day came when she found herself alone, broken and heartsick at the bottom of the stairs. "I believe God woke me up and helped me. The doctors said I was malnourished, dehydrated and would have died if I hadn't gotten up."

After her release from the hospital, Mickie's ex-husband took her to The Foundry, where, for the next 15 months she was "reshaped by the hands of God." "I believe in my heart of hearts God sent me to the Foundry. I knew I was where I was supposed to be."

Mickie's husband had never given up on her, and cheered her on as she overcame addiction and asked Christ to be Lord of her life! July 7, 2007, the couple—and their children—were reunited in marriage.

"Today my plans are simple," Mickie says. "Raise my family and love the Lord." Want to know more? Listen to her testimony during our **Hearts of Hope Luncheon** at www.thefoundryonline.org!



Mickie and her husband, Steve, at their wedding last summer.

from the **Executive Director**



Meeting with family members is crucial to recovery. When families are supportive, they can work together to nurture their loved ones and help them avoid relapse. Here, Rev. Bill Heintz guides a resident and his parents during a family counseling session.

Dear Friends,

Often, when people first come to The Foundry Rescue Mission and Recovery Center, they talk about the sense of isolation they feel. Addiction, homelessness and abuse have chipped away at their confidence and left instead, the feeling no one cares. But within a few days, these same people realize they are not alone as the warmth and love they receive from our staff, volunteers and other residents surrounds them.

Luke 5 tells the story of a man who suffered with paralysis, but was fortunate to have loyal, caring friends. When his friends learned Jesus was in town, they each grabbed a corner of the man's pallet and carried him to the house where Jesus was staying. When they couldn't get in the door, they lowered their suffering friend down through the roof right to Jesus' feet. Their love motivated them to action.

As you read this issue of *The Spark*, you'll notice this same kind of compassion, loyalty and persistence in action here at The Foundry. You will see it in our volunteers, our staff and in the encouragement and camaraderie our residents share.

Thank you for partnering with us as we each "hold a corner of the pallet" and bring the homeless and addicted to the very feet of Jesus Christ!

With a grateful heart,

Bill Heintz
Rev. Bill Heintz

You Helped Provide

January–June 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	41,860
Meals served	136,500
Recovery program graduates	53
Re-Entry graduates	25
People receiving free clothing	343
Food boxes distributed	148
Residents receiving medical, dental, optical, prescription assistance	420

Did You Know?



Residents in recovery need the support of their families. That's why The Foundry instituted **Family Matters** each Sunday at 8 a.m. in the Women's Center; a way for loved ones to learn more about addiction, recovery and the love of Christ. Below, volunteer Jada Johnson addresses families during a **Family Matters** gathering.



Where lives are reshaped by the hands of God.



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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.



A Glimpse of What **"More"** Can Be

Micah Andrews has served on the boards of two nonprofit organizations. He's led humanitarian efforts in other countries, pastored youth in a mega-church for 12 years and attended countless conferences. But, Micah says today, "I had created a world that was all about the church service and not about the service of the church. I believed there was something more for me and my family."

For months each night before bed, Micah's daughters, Olivia, 7 and Ella, 4, asked God to "bless Daddy with a new job." But there was a catch—the job needed to be in a place Micah could be a "tangible Jesus instead of a verbal Jesus" to others.

Then in April 2008, Micah became volunteer coordinator at The Foundry—a new position for a new ministry to and for volunteers! "It was then I got a glimpse of what 'more' means," he says. "And it's more than I imagined it could be!"

Micah is connecting God's people with God's work at The Foundry, matching Christians and their specific gifts with needs within the ministry. "As Jim Collins says in his book *Good to Great*, you have to get the right people on the right bus then help them find the right seats."

Micah revels in the opportunities for ministry his job brings each day. Recently, a couple interviewed for volunteer positions at The Foundry then slipped into the Thursday night worship service led by Executive Director Bill Heintz. During the service, Bill spoke directly to the wife's heart, even identifying her suffering and hopes. "She turned to me afterward and said, 'I'm never going to be the same again,'" Micah relates.

"All I have to do is create the opportunity and then allow God to bring the experience," he enthuses. "Three weeks in July, we're



pairing our residents with older high school students in work projects. Our residents can minister to the students while the students volunteer—and it will help the students avoid drug use as they interact with people in recovery."

Today, Micah's children are praying a different prayer each night: Thank you for Daddy's new job that he loves! "I want to encourage Christians to use their God-given gifts, abilities and skills as volunteers," he says. "This is an opportunity to live the Great Commission ... to love God and love others."

TAKE NOTE! Contact Micah at (205) 425-7737, ext. 19 or mandrews@thefoundryonline.org to find the "more" in your own life as a volunteer at The Foundry!

An Open Door

Oftentimes, when ladies are ready to move from The Foundry into independent living, they have little to move with! To provide them with household goods and even a few decorative nonessentials, volunteer Denise Chamblee created our *Open Doors* program.

Supplied by volunteers, your material gifts and some of the proceeds from our recent **Hearts of Hope Luncheon**, Open Doors was founded by volunteer Denise Chamblee, pictured here, in the Open Doors supply room. When a graduate is ready to move out, she receives necessities and extras to help furnish her new home.

Would you like to support this effort with gifts of new or gently used household items and décor? Call Micah Andrews at (205) 425-7737, ext. 19 to learn more!

