I Feel Like a Brand New Person!

On Page 3: Read how your partnership and prayers bring joy to hurting people like Holly at Christmas and all year-round.
Dear Friend,

All too often, our efforts to chase after things that are good prevent us from pursuing things that are great. During The Year of Focus, the constant reminder to remain focused on Him not only keeps us focused on offering spiritual nourishment for those we serve, but also focused on Christ in our personal lives. This time of acute discernment has also allowed us to decline several opportunities that were good, but that would have kept us from accomplishing more significant goals. Though The Year of Focus is coming to an end, we know we must always remain centered on the mission of our ministry: lives reshaped by the hands of God.

During the holiday season, perhaps even more so than any other time of year, we see our mission come to life. One of the most heartwarming examples is to witness the joy in the eyes of someone who previously walked through our doors broken and lost. We know the joy of the Lord is our strength and the physical signs of joy are apparent, not only in someone’s eyes, but also by the smiles on their faces. When friends like you support our ministry, you directly influence life change and the resurrection of joy.

We know it is more of a blessing to give than to receive, and when you give to The Foundry Ministries, you are sowing a good seed that will fall on fertile hearts. As we each experience joy this holiday season, I encourage you to continue sharing that joy with others by supporting the work of The Foundry.

With gratitude,

Micah Andrews
Chief Executive Officer

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**Save the Date!**

**Wednesday • February 20, 2019**

The Club • 1 Robert S. Smith Drive • Birmingham

A Luncheon and Marketplace to Benefit The Foundry’s Women’s Recovery Program

Consider these important ways to take part:

- **Be a Table Hostess:** Purchase a table for $1,500 and fill it with eight friends or associates who share your desire to support women battling addiction.

- **Be an Event Sponsor:** Opportunities are available for churches and corporations to receive special marketing benefits.

Watch our website for more details. To become a hostess or table sponsor, contact Julia Charleston at (205) 432-0347 or jcharleston@foundryministries.com.

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**Honor Loved Ones with a Gift that Brings Joy to Others**

“RADIANT” is The Foundry Ministries’ unique and distinctive Christmas card designed by local artist Betty Freeman. Each card may be “purchased” in honor or in memory of someone special to you – loved ones, friends or associates – for a donation of $10. The message on the back of the card describes how your contribution will be used in support of The Foundry’s programs of Rescue, Recovery and ReEntry, bringing joy to hurting men, women and families.

For more information or to order cards online, visit foundryministries.com/Christmascards.
Since the age of 12, Holly had been “in control.” When her mother died, she took responsibility for her younger sister, assuming the role of the parent she missed so dearly in her own life. She believed she was in control too when she started using drugs late into her 20s. “I can stop when I want to,” she told herself. But by age 40, the tables had turned… and her addiction was in control. “I was losing everything a little bit at a time,” she says. “I lost my job. My car was repossessed. I had nowhere to go.” When she was arrested and her daughter was placed in the care of her stepmother, she knew she had to change. Today, in The Foundry Ministries’ Recovery Program, she is giving control of her life to the Lord.

Through our Christ-centered curriculum and our counselors’ loving guidance, she is healing from the hardships she suffered as a child and held inside for so long. “I realized my drug use came into play because I never really dealt with anything,” she says. “Now I know God is on my side – He’s in front of me, behind me… everywhere – and that’s just amazing!” Her vocational training assignments in our Thrift Store are also helping her regain her self-confidence and prepare to rebuild a stable life.

With just a short time left in the program, she’s comfortable with saying she has no definite plans for her future. “For once in my life, I’m OK with not knowing,” she says, confident God will reveal His plan for her in His time.

This Christmas, as Holly celebrates Jesus’ birth, she’ll also celebrate the joyous new life she found inside our doors… because of your kind compassion. “I am a brand new person… a new creation in Christ!”

Holly is pictured above with her daughter, sister and nieces. They are grateful to celebrate Christmas together.

We’re grateful for your gifts and prayers, which empower people like Holly to rebuild their lives and provide a bright future for their children. Your continued support will bless them this holiday season and into the year ahead.
Be Part of the Season of Giving

Share the joy of the holiday season with participants in our residential programs and families served by our Rescue ministries. We offer a variety of ways to let them know they’re loved and not alone during this season of giving.

Boxes of Hope: Provide the ingredients for a Thanksgiving dinner for more than 200 struggling families.

Community Thanksgiving: Distribute Boxes of Hope to neighbors in need.

ChristmasStockings: Stuff stockings full of Christmas goodies for 250 impoverished elementary school children.

Notes of Hope: Share words of encouragement by writing Christmas cards to those in our residential programs.

Gifts of Hope: Create a Christmas to remember by purchasing gifts for children of those in our Recovery and ReEntry programs.

Wrap and Pack: Wrap and pack Gifts of Hope to be ready for children to open on Christmas Day.

Bake and Take: Prepare an assortment of your favorite homemade cookies, cakes or pies for our program participants.

Your generous heart and helping hands are a blessing! Contact Erin Bentley at (205) 432-1089 or ebentley@foundryministries.com, or visit foundryministries.com/seasonofgiving for all the details.

Show Your Company’s Compassion in Action!

The Foundry Ministries’ Compassion in Action program allows companies to engage their employees to connect to a greater purpose, create value among their employees, promote their corporate social responsibility and change the lives of the individuals and families we serve.

As a Compassion in Action partner, companies can offer employees an easy way to engage weekly, monthly, quarterly or annually. Volunteer engagement opportunities include serving food to our neighbors in need through our Mobile Food Pantry, sponsoring a meal, assisting program participants with career-readiness skills, hosting a donation drive, supporting seasonal events and many others!

To learn more about how your company can show its compassion in action, contact Erin Bentley at (205) 432-1089 or ebentley@foundryministries.com.

Make an Impact Through Year-Round Giving

Here are a few of the many ways you can care for struggling men, women and families at the holidays and all year-round.

- Donations of cash are the simplest form of giving and offer the greatest benefit to our ministry.
- Your commitment to send monthly gifts by signing up via credit card or automatic bank account transfer helps ensure a consistent source of donated income.
- Gifts of gently used clothing and household items to our Thrift Stores support our services and provide employment-readiness opportunities for our program participants.
- Used cars, trucks and vans can be utilized in our programs or sold for funding.
- Including our ministry in your estate plan may offer current tax incentives as well as ensure your legacy of giving carries on.

For more information on these and other ways to support our ministry, contact us at 205-424-HOPE (4673) or development@foundryministries.com.