

# Christ-Centered Help for Those in Need

SOBER LIVING CENTER VOCATIONAL TRACKS PREPARE MEN FOR WORK

Work usually plays a vital role in recovery. At Bridge Street Mission, we offer several vocational tracks to help each man take ownership of his own recovery.

When a resident in our Sober Living Center enters the transformational phase of our program, we offer him a scholarship for up to eight months. He will fully engage in our comprehensive curriculum and schedule, taking classes, receiving individual counseling and entering one of our vocational tracks. His options include:

- Culinary Arts
- Facility Management
- Welding
- Production/Assembly
- Retail

Addiction is an obstacle to employment. Many of the men who come to us for help do not have trouble finding work. Jobs are plentiful in the area. Employers are experiencing high turnover in their work force, finding it increasingly difficult to fill their shifts.

(continued inside)

FALL 2022 NEWSLETTER

# EMPLOYMENT IS A VITAL PART **OF SUCCESSFUL RECOVERY**

### **Employment is a major** part of a life journey.

However, when a man first enters the Sober Living Center at Bridge Street Mission, we actually discourage him from going out to get a job until we work through the issues that have been sidetracking him.

Part of the curriculum for our transformational program is Jobs for Life. This class goes beyond finding a job and focuses on the dignity of work and helps our residents determine what they were created to do.

Between this foundational class and our five Vocational Tracks (see cover story), we hope to prepare men to be successful when they return to work. In the meantime, our guys stay active in their classwork and chores, and even serve the community.

Please join us for **Denim and Diamonds** (Feb. 21, 2023) when we will celebrate the next group

of men who will graduate and return to full employment. We will continue to support them by providing transportation for the first six months and helping them set up a budget to live on.

We believe God created everyone to work. He designed all of us with gifts and talents to subdue and steward the earth through work. We find our purpose, meet our economic needs, and worship God through our work. (Jobs for Life)



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Craig Vincent Executive Director



## WINTER GALA

Our Denim and **Diamonds Winter Gala** is Tuesday, February 21, 2023, at the Central Wisconsin Conference & Expo Center.

- Individual Tickets: \$35
- Table of 8: \$250

### **SPONSORSHIPS:**

- Gold Table: \$1,000 (Table of 8, table sign, prominent placement in website and program, stage banner)
- Silver Table: \$500 (Table of 8, table sign, recognition in website and program)

### WITH YOUR HELP...

The ministry of Bridge Street Mission is evangelistic, compassionate and transformational. Through the generosity of our community, men and women are fed, treated with dignity and given hope. Men experiencing homelessness, being released from jail or coming out of rehab are housed, learn to live addiction free and are equipped to re-enter society as healthy contributors.





Hope





Shelter Transformation

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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Chris Menard



#### (continued from cover)

But men who struggle with addiction often cannot keep a job due to poor attendance, attitudes and performance directly associated with their alcohol or drug addiction.

Our vocational training gives residents a valuable opportunity to learn the skills of employment, in a supportive environment that recognizes each unique recovery journey.

# PREPARE MEN FOR WORK

Culinary Arts is taught by our foodservice manager, Bonnie Galloway, and we use our Outreach Center as the learning lab. Three volunteers rotate as instructors in the Facility Management track as they teach the residents while caring for our facilities. A former resident taught the Welding track at an offsite location. We collaborate with Northern Valley Industries and Goodwill for the Production/ Assembly and Retail tracks.

Each of these tracks is immensely important for every man to begin the process of healing and recovery. We help him to explore the gifts and talents he has been given and how to use them to find and advance in a meaningful job. He will develop both hard and soft skills to prepare for employment.

One resident in the Welding track shared how the program helped him get a job and learn useful new skills. "It gave me a foot in the door to a workplace," he says. A resident in Culinary Arts says that it helped him to work better with other people. "I went from being isolated in my room to working with people and serving them."









FACILITY MANAGEMENT



WELDING



PRODUCTION / ASSEMBLY



RETAIL

## **URGENT NEED FOR VEHICLE DONATIONS**

We are grateful for our current vehicles and how they enable the work of Bridge Street Mission to continue. We use our vehicles to help our residents make their court appearances, to get to and from work for their first six months with us, and for other important appointments. Our vehicles are getting older, and the odometers are getting higher. Our three mission vehicles combined have logged almost 600,000 miles!

If you are interested in donating a vehicle, or money toward a vehicle, please call **715-409-3506.** 

## HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS

In addition to our daily meals, we will host two special holiday events at our Outreach Center with decorations and Gospel-centered programs. Please contact us at **715-409-3506 or volunteer@ bridgestreetmission.org** to help with these events.



## **GOLF OUTING RESULTS**

#### Money Raised: \$17,062

Top Trades Team: Top Realty Team: Top Banking Team: Top Church Teams: Longest Drive Men: Longest Putts: Closest to Pin: Closest to Pond:

Radon Man 1 RE/MAX Excel 3 Abby Bank Highland & Mt. Olive 2

Zach Comfort John Roloff & Janet Felch Trey Zagrzebski Josh Barkley

### Special Thanks to Our Sponsors...

Title:	Intercity State Bank
Host:	Crane Meadows Golf Course
Food/Beverage:	Covenant Comm. Presbyterian Church
Tent:	ABC Supply
Cart:	Auto Select
Ball:	Abby Bank
Water:	Runkel Abstrack & Title
Super Ticket:	County Land & Title
Scorecard:	DigiCopy



**THANKSGIVING** Wednesday, November 23 at noon

**CHRISTMAS** Thursday, December 22 at noon

### **STILL GRILLING OUT**

Bridge Street Mission began when the Heath and Traci Tappe family began doing grill outs for the homeless community. In honor of our history as well as to reach out and introduce ourselves to more people in need, we hosted six Summer Grill Outs in Marathon Park this past summer.

These were well received by the community and attendance surged to as high as 120 people! We want to thank the following groups for preparing, cooking and serving the food at these outreach events...

- Covenant Community Presbyterian Church
- Chuck Oelig family
- Wausau Area Funeral Homes (Helke/Brainard)
- Marathon High School Volleyball Team
- Thrive Church/Celebrate Recovery Team
- Kathy McEvoy Highland Life Group



## With your help today, our doors will always be open to neighbors in their time of crisis. HELP TODAY WITH A GIFT ONLINE: BridgeStreetMission.org



115 W. Bridge St. Wausau, WI 54401 (715) 409-3506 BridgeStreetMission.org Bridge Street Mission may use generic names and photos to protect the privacy and safety of our residents. Please also understand that our clients' journeys to recovery are often filled with both victories and challenges. Excess funds of any specific appeal will be used where most needed in the ministry of Bridge Street Mission.