

# Christ-Centered Help for Those in Need



Support, Accountability and Skills: You Give Men the Tools They Need for Recovery and Re-entry!

Men's Recovery Center Manager: Derek Fullerton

Data Manager: Harold Osland

Resident Advisor: Keith Beck

Residential Care Staff: Matthew Kjos, Mark Kananen

**SUMMER 2024 NEWSLETTER** 

## FINALLY FREE, DANIEL IS NOW A DISCIPLE

When other teenage boys were going on first dates and learning to drive, Daniel was in prison.

At age 27, Daniel was released. But having spent 11 critical years of his life behind bars, he was ill-equipped to re-enter society, and he had no one to help him.

"I didn't know what to do, so I took off," Daniel recalls. He went on a seven-week crime spree

from Kansas through the

Midwest, ending up in

Wisconsin, where he

was arrested.

"I was facing 96 years in prison. That brought me to my knees. That's when I accepted Jesus Christ as my Savior and surrendered myself to Him."

Daniel served three years, staying in Wisconsin upon his release. He started a family, but soon, his old habits resurfaced. Both Daniel and his girlfriend abused methamphetamine, creating a toxic environment for their children.

"The addiction was tearing my family and my life apart," Daniel admits. "I fell so far away from God."

Eventually, Daniel was jailed on drug charges and his children were put into foster care. "My life was a complete mess. But I knew God had a plan for me. He was the only one I could turn to."

Above anything else, Daniel wanted to get clean, for good. He entered rehab and read the Bible every day. He rekindled relationships with his family and sent letters to his children. After completing treatment, Daniel needed to find a place where he could live sober and build a new life. God led him to Bridge Street Mission.

"Since being here, so many great things have happened," Daniel tells us. He is having regular visits with his four children. Their mother is also sober and seeking the Lord. And his sister and aunt came up from Kansas to celebrate his graduation from our program in February.

"I've been clean and sober for over a year. God has restored my life," Daniel says. "I go to Bible study and learn the Word. I'm a disciple." Daniel is employed at a local small business delivering appliances and is thriving in his new job.

Daniel is grateful to you for supporting Bridge Street Mission. "You gave me the opportunity to get well so I can be a good father," he says. "I've been in and out of institutions my whole life. Nothing gave me the love, support and encouragement this place has. The Mission saved my life and restored my family through the grace of God."

"I KNEW GOD HAD A PLAN FOR ME... I'M A DISCIPLE." -DANIEL

# THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING RECOVERY AND RE-ENTRY

When a man like Daniel arrives at our Outreach Center, hurting and homeless, it's just the first step on a journey toward health and wholeness.

The journey begins with **stabilization**, as he identifies the driving force behind his addiction and sets goals to overcome it.

Next, he enters the **transformation** phase of the program. Here, healing and recovery begin. Through classes, counseling and job training, he lays a foundation for meaningful work and sound financial health.

Finally, in our **re-entry** phase, the program graduate prepares for life in the community: working, budgeting, reducing debt, finding a church home and pairing with a mentor.

Your support moves men from crisis to success, walking in friendship with Christ. Thank you!





**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23** at PINE VALLEY GOLF COURSE

229691 N. 136th Ave., Marathon, WI 54448

- \$400 registration for teams of 4
- \$200 hole sponsorships
- Sign up to play or sponsor at bridgestreetmission.org/golf-outing





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.

### WHERE CREDIT IS DUE

We are so grateful for the staff and volunteers who serve at Bridge Street Mission. They're unsung heroes, for the most part. This is not glamorous work. It's tough. It can be heartbreaking. But it is also deeply rewarding, especially for those who make connections with our residents.

Harold, a full-time volunteer on our men's recovery team, worked with Daniel, featured in this newsletter. He witnessed how the Lord worked in Daniel's life over the past 18 months, transforming him into a disciple of Christ and a devoted father. Harold (pictured below on the right) also played

an important role in Daniel's transformation, encouraging him to keep a journal of the blessings God brought into his life, praying with and for him every day and even buying a children's Bible for Daniel's children.

I give our staff and volunteers, including Harold, credit for every resident who leaves Bridge Street Mission and becomes a contributing member of our community. Their dedication inspires me every day.

I also acknowledge donors like you who keep the Mission running year-round, and those who went above and beyond to fund our successful May Challenge appeal (which raised \$16,000). You are the lifeblood of the Mission!

Of course, credit is due — and praise is given every day — to our Lord Jesus Christ, with whom all things are possible.

Many wonderful things are still to come in the months ahead. Please continue your support and consider coming to see the good your gifts are doing firsthand. Thank you and God bless you!



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**Craig Vincent**Executive Director

### Christ-Centered Help for Those in Need

Bridge Street Mission is equipping individuals who struggle with homelessness, addictions, hunger and sustaining a stable life to become healthy contributors to society.

We believe that the demonstration of love opens the door to hope and transformation for even the most wounded person.

We meet people in crisis and move them toward success through the power of the Gospel.

We accomplish this through compassion, evangelism, transformation and community.









Shelter Transformation

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