

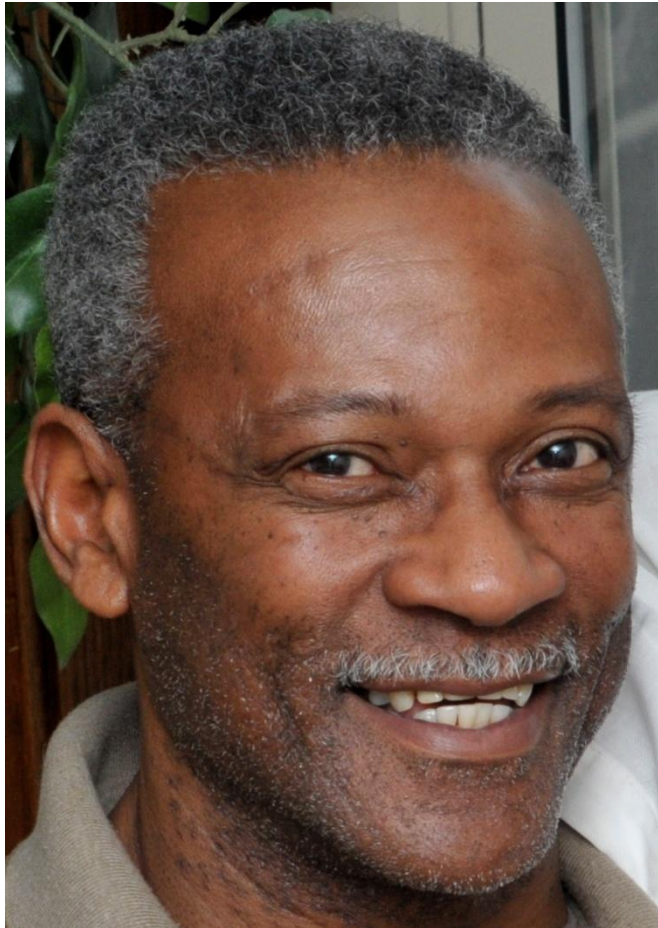
HM

Hope Street Ministry

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The decision to come to Hope Street Ministry changed my life forever. I came to Hope Street from a drug and alcohol treatment program in July 2006. I had been in treatment because of a relapse back into my crack addiction. I thought of going to another structured living program, but became intrigued with the idea of a Christian-centered program after listening to a presentation from one of the Hope Street staff and from listening to some of the talk at rehab about Hope Street. Upon arriving at Hope Street, I did not think that I was going to be there for more than a couple months and I did not have any intention on staying as long as I did. However, God apparently had something else in store for me and it became obvious over time that it was a much better plan. **As I began to attend various Bible classes, I realized that my walk with God could be greatly enhanced if I hung around and applied myself to reading more scripture and learning to be more obedient to God's Word.**

A lot of changes have taken place at Hope Street over the years, but I believe that God was in the midst of them all, using our circumstances to achieve His purpose. **I do not have any regrets whatsoever about my**



decision to come to Hope Street or the subsequent decision to remain for five years (seventy-four months to be more precise). It was one of the best decisions of my life, despite the fact that it took a relapse to get me there. I have been changed forever as a result of my stay because of my new found personal relationship with the Lord. **The Hope Street approach to change based on the Word of God is, as I have found, the best approach.** My opportunity to stay at Hope Street has given me the ability to see that true Christianity is not merely the superficial traditional customs that are practiced by church-goers, but is instead the willingness of individuals to have a personal relationship that will allow one to acknowledge that God does hold us accountable, and is more concerned with our repentance and change of heart and mind than some empty religious gestures. **Consequently, I think now that my life and sobriety are based on a more solid foundation than ever before.** I now have more confidence for my life journey than ever before.

- Frank Pride

This is our year end appeal. Can I have your permission to keep it real? It's important for us to keep track of numbers. Here are some that we think you should know:

- 87 – souls we've served so far this year
- 13 – residents who've left because of a failed drug test this year
- 25 – residents who've graduated this year, like Frank
- 91 – average number of discipleship groups attended per week
- 0 – violent behavior incidents this year*
- 100% – the percentage of residents that are liars
- 100% – the percentage of staff, volunteers, board members and donors that are liars
- 130 – volunteers who have served us this year
- \$37,000 – the amount we hope to raise with this mailing to balance our budget
- 1,491 – the number of people who will receive this mailing
- \$25 – the amount each person who receives this mailing would have to give in order for us to reach our goal of \$37,000
- 30% – the percentage of our budget that we typically raise in the last 2 months of the year
- 1 – the number of true Gods there are that promise to meet your and my needs out of the riches in His storehouses in heaven
- 1 – the number of lives we each have to live
- 0 – the number of worries we should have
- 0 – the amount of our net worth we will take with us when we die

Well, those are some interesting numbers for you and I to think about. But as you do that, I want you to pause and flip this page back over and look at the picture of Frank and reread his story. Now, just please ask yourself this one question: What's that worth?

We treasure the gifts you have already given us. You care deeply about Hope Street and we are moved by your compassion and charity. As this is the last letter you will get from us this year, please let me assure you we will treasure the gifts you give in response to this mailing and steward them to the very best of our God-given ability and regardless of what, if any, you give, thank you much for partnering with us in the Kingdom of the heavens here on earth!

- PB



Pastor Perry L. Brown
Executive Director

*This number is truly astonishing, given the population we work with. Also, we have only had one murder in the 10-year history of this building. We believe these numbers are evidence of God's presence/protection/intervention at Hope Street almost more than anything else.