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# THE CONNECTOR

The Lifeline-connect Newsletter

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## LIFELINE-CONNECT: OUR 2ND ANNIVERSARY

We are celebrating two years of helping men through personal crisis. Lives are being rescued and rebuilt by the grace of God. Currently, six men are enrolled and are overcoming. In order of left to right: Alex is in Phase II and working a full-time job. Jeffery has successfully completed 5 months, Travis (3 months), Nick (7 months), Rico (just graduated), Gary (1 month) and Thomas (11 months). We're proud of the courage and commitment they exemplify by their voluntary enrollment in LC. They sincerely want to be free from addiction and to live in the abundant life of Jesus Christ.

Your support, prayerfully and financially, is crucial to LC's mission. You and others who believe in LC's vision enable our staff to "re-train", educate, and guide the residents back to productive, purposeful lives. Your loyalty will continue to make it possible for many more to come to the safe haven known as Lifeline-connect. Thank you for believing in the cause—it couldn't be done without you.

To express our appreciation to you, and to celebrate two productive years of Lifeline-connect: we invite you to our Second Anniversary Celebration events on October 26th. We will begin in spiritual celebration and worship in Apostolic Life's noon service. We will hear testimonies of the LC residents, recognize our supporters and hear the dynamic testimony of Ken Cook of Porter, Texas. After the noon service, we will have a fundraiser dinner to benefit our Phase 2 Housing project. We sincerely hope that you can attend. Again, thank you...In Jesus' Name...Thank you. † **D.L. Rogers**, Executive Director





## YOU ARE INVITED

Join us as we celebrate two years of Lifeline-connect ministry. The LC men will share their testimonies, Evangelist Ken Cook will share his testimony of deliverance in the noon service, and a fundraiser dinner will follow as a first step toward our Phase 2 Housing project. Please R.S.V.P. to Brenda Rogers by October 14th at (217) 367-5433. **We hope you can attend!**

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## PHASE-2 HOUSING: OUR VISION

In all aspects of life, there is a time for growth and preparation. It is often through the process of trying, failing and trying again, that a person adapts, learns and grows; the ability to change is crucial. It is a blessing to see that in the hands of God, the trials of each day and our efforts—whether failed or successful—all come together to produce an outcome greater than we could have ever imagined. The Lifeline-connect program is no different. It began many years ago as a burden for men dealing with addiction. And two years ago, Lifeline-connect began. The staff, residents, and the program itself, have all undergone the shifting and molding hand of God, and two years into the program, He is still shaping our vision.

At this point of our growing process, we are ready to push forward and further develop Phase 2 of Lifeline-connect. This transitional phase allows the men to step into more personal responsibilities and start their transition back into society. Our goal is to help them transition into full-time employment, and/or further their education if they desire. Lifeline-connect brothers currently in Phase 2, rent an apartment together, at a facility that is off-campus. However, we have learned through two years of experience, that when LC brothers are ready to return to the work force, it is imperative that they stay “connected”. The location of their housing plays a vital role in maintaining this connection with the church and their LC

brothers. In addition, we have learned that serving others while in program has a direct effect on their ability to maintain their progress. Providing subsidized housing on or near campus would be a great blessing during their transition. The closer proximity would allow them to stay connected, and to sow back into the program by serving, leading and being a visible example of solid growth to Phase 1 residents.

Our course of action in reaching our vision is to build Phase 2 housing on or near campus. We have inquired about a piece of land within walking distance from the church and need funds for it to progress. Achieving our vision for Phase 2 will only materialize at a significant price. We are estimating the cost for the land and housing to be between \$200,000–\$225,000. Currently, all funds donated to Lifeline-connect are dispersed to three categories: general operations, administration and tuition. We are asking for you to join with us and support the next phase of developing Lifeline-connect through your prayer and financial support. It is only in working together that we will be able to reach this goal. We welcome any and all contributions toward this endeavor. Thank you, so very much.

**Want to learn more?** Visit [www.lifelineconnect.org](http://www.lifelineconnect.org)

## RICARDO SAMUELS: LC GRADUATE

“Enrolling in Lifeline-connect was one of the greatest decisions I have ever made. I arrived from Washington D.C. on June 18, 2007. I was 46 years old, and I never believed that I could be free of my addictions. Lifeline-connect took a spiritually blind man by the hand, and helped me see that **God loves me**. I had always believed that I was not good enough, but Pastor Rogers, Director Randy Brown, and Director of Operations Steven Staten would not let me fall. A big thank you to Sister Rogers for believing in me. Lifeline-connect has helped me understand that the devil will use anything and everything he can to keep a man down. I wanted to stop using, but I could not stay clean. I did not understand what was happening to me. **LC is so much more than just a drug rehab program**. I know there are people out there who are at the same place that I was—unforgiving and bitter because someone or something hurt you. LC helped me get through my storms and gave me **tools to handle whatever might come my way**, whether it is good or bad. I am thankful for all the classes that helped me understand. I believe the “Genesis Process” class helped me



see what I could not see in myself. My counselor could see from another viewpoint—thank you, Steve, you really helped me. My brothers who were in the program with me have become some of **the best friends that I have ever had**. I thought that people who were my drinking buddies, etc. were my friends. Alex, Chad, GP, Tank, Nick, Jeffery, Travis and Joey...I know I can call on you. You know me. These are my friends and this program helped me understand what true friends are all about. **During my year in Lifeline-connect I was baptized in Jesus name!** I wanted something better, and through this program I received God into my life. I graduated on July 8th, and on July 11th I married Sylvia! If it had not been for Lifeline-connect none of this would have been possible. This program saved my life and it can save others as well.” † **Ricardo Samuels** (Above: Rico between Pastor D.L. Rogers and Randy Brown)

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## JEFFERY BRANSON



(Left: Director of Operations Steven Staten and Jeffery)

**THE MAN HE WANTS ME TO BE** “I have been in the program for five months, and have experienced growth in my prayer life and my relationship with God. The Lifeline leaders are some of the greatest people I’ve met at Apostolic Life. My favorite two are Pastor and Sister Rogers—they are a big influence in my life. I give thanks to God for his loving mercy, and to the Rogers and Brother Brown for giving me the opportunity to be here. I pray God would make me the man he wants me to be.” *Jeffery, age 22. Jeffery just recently obtained his G.E.D.*

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## NICK MITCHEM



**UNITY FOR EVERY DAY’S BATTLES** “Lifeline-connect is kind of like when someone is on the brink of passing on and they put them on life support to keep them going. God is our lifeline, for I truly believe without Him there would be no life support giving us time for a second chance. The program has definitely taught me to have patience with others and understand where they’re coming from at times. Also, to think of others—not just myself, and how to submit to authority. It encourages me to know that among the leaders and church members, there are people who have similar stories, or at least can relate in some way. It lets me know they understand the battle we fight everyday. My prayer request to Lifeline-connect supporters is to just keep praying for strength, patience and unity for us brothers—**we’re in this together.**” *Nick, age 24.*



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Sign up to receive The Connector via email at [www.lifelineconnect.org](http://www.lifelineconnect.org)



**Randy Brown**, Program Director  
**Pastor D.L. Rogers**, Executive Director  
**Brenda Rogers**, Administrative Coordinator  
**Steven Statan**, Director of Operations

Lifeline-connect is a 501c3 non-profit residential discipleship program for men with substance abuse addictions.

## BELIEVE IN THE CAUSE. SUPPORT LC TODAY.

We are totally dependant upon fundraisers and donations for the operation of Lifeline-connect. If you already support the program, thank you. If not and you would like to, please fill out the form below and mail in with your tax deductible donation.

Along with our need for regular monthly support, we have some special projects that need extra funding. Our current projects include our Phase 2 Housing project and a new van for transportation. If you would like to support either of these special projects, please list the amount on the slip, and designate your choice on the memo line of your check.

**PLEASE MAIL YOUR DONATION AND THE SLIP BELOW TO:**  
Lifeline-connect  
P.O. Box 3332  
Urbana, IL 61803  
Attn: Brenda Rogers

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Name _____	Date _____	\$_____ Monthly Contributor
Address _____		\$_____ One-Time Donation
City _____	State _____	Zip _____
Phone _____	Email _____	\$_____ Lifeline-connect Van

**Thank you for supporting Lifeline-connect.**