



SAVE THE DATES

Sat 10.17.2015 » 4pm

9th Anniversary Celebration Dinner
and Fellowship held at Apostolic Life.

Sun 10.18.2015 » 12pm

The celebration continues during the
noon service at Apostolic Life.

March 2016

Lifeline-connect will host a "Recovery
Conference". More info TBA on our
website, www.lifelineconnect.org.

*Apostolic Life is located at
2107 N. High Cross Rd. in Urbana, IL.*

Lifeline-connect Donors Made It Happen!

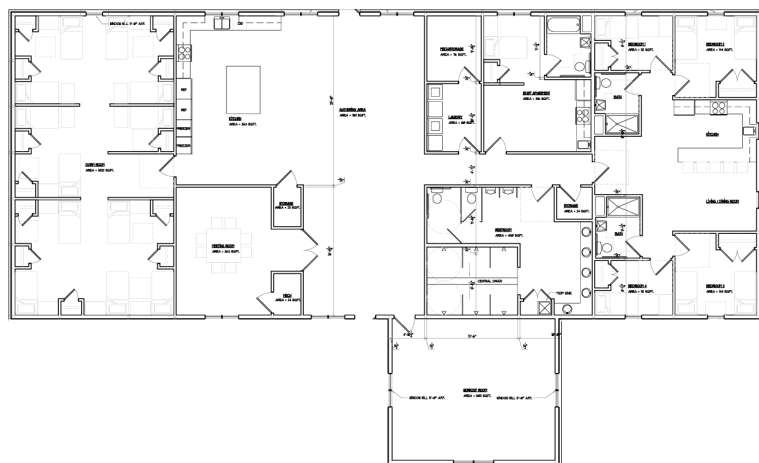
Our mission is to make a difference in the lives of men who are bound by addiction. You, our faithful supporters, are joining together and are making it happen! During our 8th Anniversary Celebration Weekend (October 2014), we asked our supporters to help raise the \$108,000.00 operational budget needed to cover six men in program for one year. We all were so thankful that over \$40,000.00 in pledges and donations were made that weekend! While still celebrating, a couple weeks later we received a call from an anonymous donor who wanted to present us with a challenge that God had put on her heart. She challenged us that she would match any new funds up to \$55,000.00. We are so thankful that many of you got involved in the 30-Day Christmas Challenge. It was nothing short of miraculous to see your funds come in a little at a time, then escalate the last couple of days. We are so excited to report that with the help of our donors, Lifeline-connect raised \$56,400.00 in additional funds, which the generous challenger was delighted to match even though we exceeded her challenge. The total funds raised through the Christmas Challenge was \$112,816.00! Having the yearly budget supplied, we are now able to focus on other needs.

Expansion

We want each and every supporter to know that we are diligently seeking the Lord for the green light to proceed with the building of a new dormitory for 24 men. We have been approved by County Zoning and are finalizing building plans. We are thankful for Andrew Fell of Andrew Fell Architecture and Design, for donating his time and wisdom working with staff to design the new facility. We will need \$631,000 to complete this project, and it is our full intention to build without debt. We are waiting on direction from the Lord and the finances to proceed, and are open to ideas and suggestions from our donors as to how to do it debt free.

Please pray with us. And again, we sincerely thank you.

Brenda Rogers, Administrative Director
brdr72@gmail.com
217-621-9649



Above: Floor plans for the new 24-man dormitory.

Recent Lifeline-connect Graduates



James Pelham

Phase 1, 2 & 3 Graduate

James is currently working full time at Menards and has decided to make



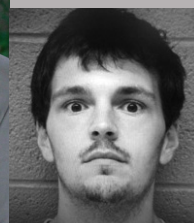
Champaign-Urbana his home. James serves on the Guest Services Team and Transportation Team at Apostolic Life.



Wesley Taylor

Phase 1, 2, & 3 Graduate

Wes is a teacher in the children's ministry and part of the choir at Apostolic



Life. Wes was recently Employee of the Month at Menards and is currently working for Lanz Heating and Cooling.



A Guide Home

Drew Cooke Phase 1, 2, & 3 Graduate



Looking back it seems so far away. But the truth is, it was only a year-and-a-half ago. I can only keep distance between it and me by moving forward.

My name is Drew Cooke, and I am a husband and father of three beautiful girls. A year-and-a-half ago, I was nothing of the sort...I am a product of grace. If you know the parable of the prodigal son, my story will sound familiar.

I was raised in a Pastor's home. I was born and raised in Truth. My grandfather established and pastored the First United Pentecostal Church of Conway, SC. My father became pastor when I was very young. I had a rich heritage of truth and holiness. I was born into the "father's house". And just like the prodigal son, I took that blessing for granted. I wouldn't come to understand how rich and blessed I was until I arrogantly and pridefully turned my nose up and walked away. You see, I didn't understand that what was given to me on a "silver platter", others were desperate for. Others had to wait for someone to bring truth to them.

The road away from the "father's house" never leads where it promises. I thought I was walking away from rules and standards that held me back. I thought I was escaping a prison of do's and don'ts. I was sure I was walking toward freedom and fulfillment. At first, I did feel free; but that illusion quickly dissolved, as I allowed my flesh its every desire. It's strange how you don't notice the light slowly fading the further you travel down that road. It's such a slow fade. I can't begin to tell you all of the places that road led me to.

I *can* tell you that every experience leaves a mark, and you never leave empty handed. Guilt, shame, and condemnation are a few of the souvenirs I collected. Drug addiction was another.

A back injury introduced me to opiate pain killers. They were like magic, numbing the physical *and* the emotional pain. And just like every addict, my mentality said, "If one is good, ten are better". I quickly became addicted both physically and mentally, turning my walk down that road into a run. I'm skipping over a lot of the story; but you've heard it from a thousand addicts if you're somewhat conscious in today's society. Addiction treats everyone the same.

I soon reached the end of the road and another wall of bars. I was faced with the hard truth that I was wrong. I had not walked out of a cage into freedom; I had walked from freedom into bondage. An even harder truth was that I couldn't remember the way back...but this is where God really showed up and came face to face with me. Circumstances miraculously led to contact with Randy Brown and Lifeline-connect, and God began to speak into my life. He challenged me like no one ever had. At the end of the road, God healed me of the injury that led me to the opiates that had me convinced I could never be free. God cleared the way and sent me a guide to lead me home. Working this program has been the hardest work I have ever attempted. The man in the mirror is hard to look at. Condemnation, bitterness, regret, shame, and fear are hard burdens to set down. God has anointed the ministry and the ministers of Lifeline-connect to reach into the haze of false beliefs and false realities and shine the light of truth. Over the last year-and-a-half, God has transformed my life and my mind. I wear a new robe, and a new ring. God has restored my family and given me an amazing job with Lanz Heating and Cooling. He gives me opportunities every day to share my testimony, and to be a witness of his greatness. It is my greatest desire to live for Jesus, and my greatest prayer to be used as a guide home for a brother in pain. I was reduced to dirt, but dirt was and is God's favorite medium for creation. Thank you, Jesus!



Current Residents



From Left to Right: Kevin Spencer, WI; Mark DiPlacido, MO; Phillip Blaine Henson, IL; Adrian Jones, MO; Eric McCloy, IL; Steven Leonard, IL



A Second Chance Through Christ

Eric "Gator" McCloy

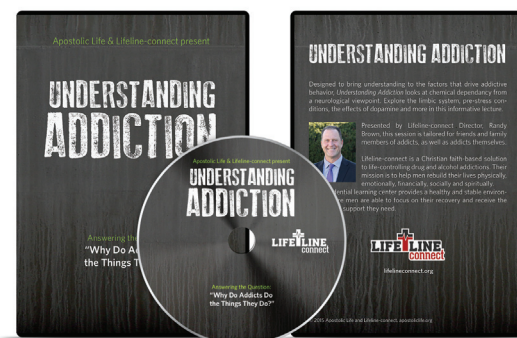
I was adopted at five months old and grew up with a good home life. I was well taken care of, raised in church, and well disciplined. I started taking amphetamines at twelve years old for ADHD. This "kick" started a need for medicine in order to feel different. I always thought there was a drug for every problem. Drinking at fourteen with friends led to more drugs like meth, cocaine, and other "uppers" and "downers", but the worst was heroin and alcohol. This caused me to be a violent and untrustworthy person who treated my family and the people around me like dirt. I thought I would never do drugs, but something grabbed ahold of me. My family had spent thousands on treatment, all at secular rehabs, but money can't buy recovery if you are not willing to change and God is not involved — I know this for a fact! After my third overdose and barely making it out alive, I realized I needed to change, but didn't know what or how. Then I heard of a program that was faith-based, nothing like I'd ever heard of, focusing on God as the healer. God *needed* to be my higher power, He was the only chance I had. Coming to Lifeline-connect was the hardest, but best decision I've ever made. God has freed me from my addictions and bad behaviours. I now have a second chance through Christ. I am learning how God works in my life, how to be involved in ministry, and am easing back into society at a healthy pace! I thank God for what He's done and for reconnecting me with my family. Thank you Lifeline-connect for a second chance!



LC staff defend against current and former residents during the 8th Anniversary Celebration basketball game.

Now Available on DVD

Designed to bring understanding to the factors that drive addictive behavior, "Understanding Addiction" looks at chemical dependence from a neurological viewpoint. Explore the limbic system, pre-stress conditions, the effects of dopamine and more in this informative lecture. To order, visit www.lifelineconnect.org.



Coming Soon on DVD

"Your Love is Killing Me"

An open discussion about learning to love an addict toward recovery.

“ THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS A LOST CAUSE ”



D.L. Rogers, Executive Director
Brenda Rogers, Administrative Director
RJ Eaton, Director of Operations
Randy Brown, Director



A Special Thank You to Our Supporters

Thank the Lord Jesus Christ for this amazing offering! Every donation, from \$10 to \$24,000, played a vital part in us reaching our goal. Thank you for getting involved and participating in this fundraiser!

We want to extend a special thank you to the following people for giving \$500 or more:

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| - Pastor Virgil March Banks/Family Worship Center | - Brian Hickox | - Brian Pelham |
| - Derek and Melissa Brashear | - Dan and Judy Houk | - Ken and Reneé Pride |
| - Randy and Lesa Brown | - Jimmy and Shirley Howe | - Jim Putman/JK Contracting LLC |
| - Yong Bundrick | - Kerri Hurd | - David and Brenda Rogers |
| - Clella Camp | - Marty and Cindy Kirman | - Michael and Maegan Savage |
| - Ben and Rebecca Cooke | - David Lowry | - Pastor David Stovall/Calvary Tabernacle in Toledo, IL |
| - Mark and Jane Cotrill/ United Pentecostal Church of Bourbon, IN | - Chad and Sara May | - Rob and Deb Titus |
| - Les and Emily Cotton | - Pastor James Manning/Solid Rock Ministries in Fenton, MO | - Dennis Young |
| - Adam Culp | - Dale and Teresa McCloy | - Pastor Lashley/Pentecostals of Peoria in Peoria, IL |
| - Kris and Jen Dillingham/First Apostolic Church in Toledo, OH | - Scott and Susan Olthoff | - HL Precision Manufacturing, Inc. |
| | - JC and Ramona Panska | - Our Anonymous Donor |
| | - Vicki Patterson | |

Thank you to the following team leaders who were part of “Team Lifeline-connect”. A special thank you to Michael and Maegan Savage, the highest non-staff fundraising team with \$14,199.00.

- | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| - Michael and Maegan Savage | - Tammy Roberts | - Chris and Traci Duxtator |
| - Derek and Melissa Brashear | - Kerri Hurd | - Roy and Melissa Lane |
| - Chad and Sara May | - Les and Emily Cotton | - Chris and Angie Sims |
| - Drew and Jennifer Cooke | - Team Taylor: Family of Wes Taylor | - Kris and Jen Dillingham |

Thank you to Chris Sims, Reneé Pride, and Kyle Stokes for coaching, design, video, and promotion. Thank you to Tammy Roberts for bookkeeping. We couldn't have done it without all of you.