

Kevin's life has been defined by two deaths. The first was his mother's passing, which sent him into a downward spiral. But the second, his close friend at the Good News Men's Shelter, made Kevin realize it was time he, like his friend, accept God's gift of salvation.

"It's not been a good experience, my life in general," said Kevin, 56. "But I'm very thankful that Good News has been here for me." In fact, Good News has been here twice for Kevin when he was in need. The first time came after his mother's death.

It was 2016 and Kevin was living with his mother in her Indianapolis home. One day as she came through the front door she suddenly collapsed. Kevin called 911 and performed CPR, but neither he nor emergency personnel could save her. She was gone and Kevin fell apart emotionally.

"I relived that day for probably a good year when I would go to bed at night," he said. "It would replay over and over in my mind. It did a number on me." Kevin drank to numb his pain. The drinking became heavier and heavier, to the point that he lost his job, then his apartment and he had to move in with his sister. When

Kevin's alcohol problem worsened she asked him to move out, pointing him to Good News where he checked into the Men's Shelter.

For a time Kevin was doing well. He worked in our Small Parts Assembly building and stayed sober. But a few months later, family in Florida asked if he could move there to help with his elderly stepmother. Kevin agreed and headed south but soon fell back into his old ways. The drinking problem resurfaced and he was again asked to leave. By January 2023 Kevin was back in Indianapolis and returned to Good News.

Kevin was assigned kitchen duty, a natural fit for him because he loves to cook and bake. He worked alongside Mark, a fellow shelter resident and longtime kitchen assistant. When Mark fell seriously ill this past March many people were in prayer for his salvation. With guidance from his counselor, Mark came to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ and was born again just one day before he died. This had a profound effect on Kevin.

"It really made me stop and think, 'Kevin, you're 56 years old, and what are you doing?'" he said. Four days after Mark passed away, Kevin was meeting with his counselor and knew he needed the Lord. He prayed right there and accepted Jesus Christ as his Savior.

Today Kevin is taking steps to grow in his faith. He regularly reads his Bible, attends church and intends to be baptized soon. He's also healing emotionally. "I don't feel so burdened anymore. My heart is not heavy like it was and I have a more peaceful outlook on things. It's been amazing."

Please keep Kevin in your prayers as he continues to follow God's leading in his life.



Fun, Food and Faith



You'd have been hard pressed to find a more exciting venue in downtown Indianapolis this past week than the Good News Youth Center! Games, giveaways, good food and the Gospel -- it was all there, and then some. The annual Good News Youth Rally took place April 25 & 26, welcoming inner-city children ages 8-18 for jam-packed nights of food, fun and the study of God's Word. Nearly 200 kids attended over the two nights, with 17 accepting Jesus Christ as their Savior and many others receiving assurance of salvation or asking for prayer for themselves or their families.

"Our hope each year is to get the Gospel out to new kids who come and then challenge our regular Youth Center kids to stay plugged into God," said Anthony, our Youth Center Director.

Both nights the kids were treated to a magic show by Chase Williams, a Christian magician who incorporates Bible truths into his performances. They also heard Bible teaching from a

pastor who grew up in inner-city Chicago and came to know the Lord through a church bus ministry, which was very relatable to many of our kids.

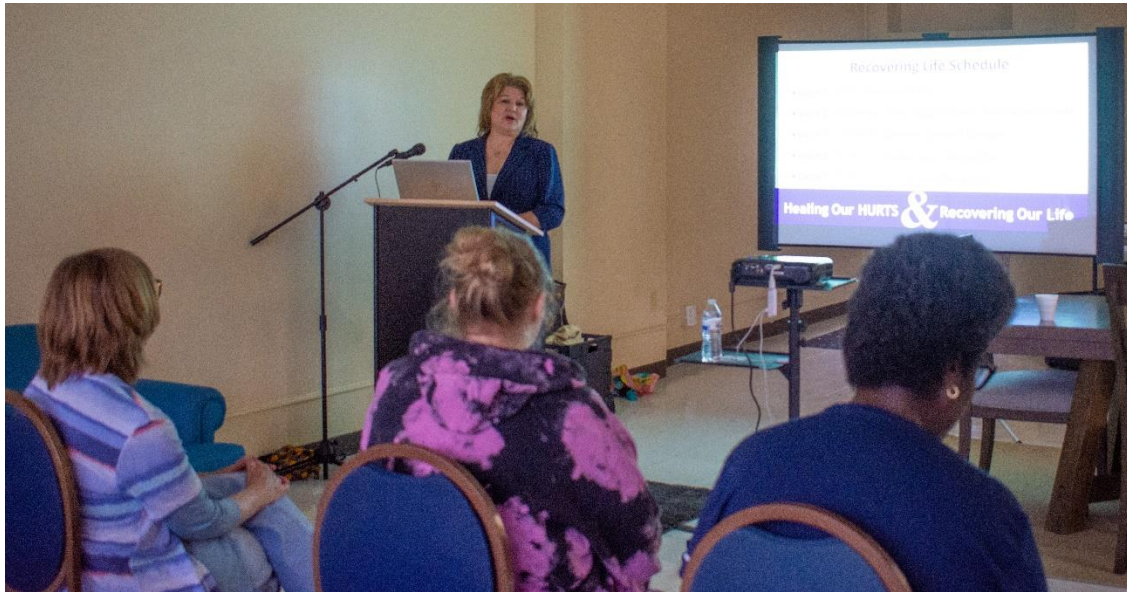
Youth Center regulars were encouraged to bring their friends, and did they ever: one in four attendees were first-time visitors. Every kid bringing a visitor received a prize, from basketballs and skateboards to electronics and even a big-screen TV for the one who brought the most! There were also prizes for competitions that ranged from an inflatable joust to axe throwing. Other fun included face painting, balloon darts, Nerf Warz and the chance to smash-n-bash an old car with a sledgehammer.

All of these activities are designed to draw kids in so we can share the love of Christ with them. "They get to have a good time but, most importantly, hear the Gospel," Anthony said.

Many thanks to the local restaurants that donated pizzas and ice cream for this event, and for the nearly 20 volunteers that assisted Good News staff. Please pray that genuine faith and a love for God will take root and grow in the hearts of all the kids that responded to the Gospel!



A New Program Begins



It has been several years since Good News Ministries has been able to operate its Family Shelter ministry, due to our Director retiring after his wife passed away. But we are praising the Lord that He has allowed us to once again minister to adult ladies who are struggling with life-dominating sins.

A few weeks ago a new partnership began between Good News and Bobbi Hookfin, founder of Recovering Life, a weekly program that offers Biblical solutions to women struggling with sinful habits and poor choices.

The program meets on Tuesday evenings in our Family Shelter group meeting space and is free to participants. Starting on April 2nd, from four to eight women, ages 20-60, have gathered for the weekly meetings where they confront the source of their problems and learn practical Biblical solutions. Program director Bobbi Hookfin explained that some are dealing with alcohol and drug addictions but for most the issues run much deeper.

“They have relational problems, financial problems, mommy-daddy issues, children in DCS (Department of Child Services) and criminal records which keep them from getting jobs or a job that they could do well,” she said. “It’s all about brokenness and addictions and healing hurts. If you’re healing your hurt you’re usually healing your addiction, too.”

The Recovering LIFE program addresses what Hookfin calls the “ABCs” of recovery:

- Things we must **A**dmit: Having a problem--brokenness is caused by sin--taking ownership of choices--God can set me free
- Things we must **B**elieve: A relationship with God can only be restored through faith in Jesus Christ and is the basis for all lasting change in our lives--growth in God's Word and His Spirit within me conquers sin and gives victory over the flesh
- Things we must **C**hange: Fleshly attitudes and relationships while committing to God and His way

"We talk about God and we talk about sin," Bobbi said. "We work on the heart and then the rest will come. As the Bible says, seek first the kingdom of God and all this will follow."

Bobbi founded Recovering LIFE in 2016 after sensing God's call while finishing a master's degree in counseling. She served in a few counseling programs through her church and other organizations, and began volunteering as a tutor at the Good News Youth Center. It was that connection that led to Good News offering Bobbi a permanent location for Recovering LIFE. The partnership is working well in its initial few weeks and lives are being transformed, not just emotionally but, especially, spiritually.

"The women have to want to know the Healer more than the healing," Bobbi said. "We want them to have a little heaven on earth."





There's still time to register your team for the 30th annual Good News Open Charity Golf Tournament! Over the years our golfers and sponsors have played a major role in helping us provide hope for the hopeless in Indianapolis. To mark this anniversary year and to say *thank you*, we're planning our best tournament yet! There will be fun competitions and prizes throughout the course, DQ Blizzards at our all-you-can-eat buffet lunch, special additions at the steak dinner and, for every player, a custom JBL Go3 Bluetooth speaker, "The One" golf glove, and a gift basket for your spouse!

The tournament will be held at the **Eagle Creek Golf Club in Indianapolis**. Lunch starts at 11:00 a.m. and tee time is set for noon. To register or find out more information click the button below, or contact Alecia at 317-638-2862 or aschwab@goodnewsministries.com.



Spring Flower Planting

Come join us on Saturday, **May 18th from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.** for our annual spring flower planting! In one day, we will plant over 1,500 flowers and turn our campus into a beautifully landscaped oasis.

Gloves and garden tools will be provided or you may bring your own. Never planted before? No green thumbs required! Guidance and instruction will be offered. To sign up or if you have questions, call Alecia at 317-638-2862 or email her at aschwab@goodnewsministries.com. We will have



We Still Need Interns

Our Summer Youth Programs start in just 3 short weeks and **WE NEED YOUR HELP!** College-aged young adults are needed to serve as counselors and interns during this busiest time of year for our Youth Center and Boys Home. When kids are out of school for the summer, our programs offer alternatives to being home alone or falling victim to the negative influences around them. With us they can hear the Gospel,



Urgent Food Needs

It takes a lot of food to fill our pantry and keep everyone well fed.

Currently we are **critically low on ground beef and ground sausage.** If

you can help us, donations can be brought to the back door of our Men's Shelter! For more information contact

Kathryn at kfralic@goodnewsministries.com or call 317-638-2862

refreshments and lunch for everyone that comes to help.

have the influence of Godly mentors, be challenged to know and follow Christ and enjoy safe recreation and activities. Apply at <https://bit.ly/GNMSummer2024>



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