

Dreaming of the Future

A few weeks ago as I was driving to work and thinking about an upcoming vacation, I passed a woman on Irby that was sitting in an open lot on a blanket. Her possessions were laid all around her, and she was half in and half out of a sleeping bag. It made me think about what her plans were for the future.

The truth is, if you're homeless, your plans for the future include what will happen in the next 3 or 4 hours. She was probably trying to figure out how long it would take to pack up her stuff and get to the Manna House for breakfast. Then where to go for a warm spot to spend the afternoon, or possibly where she could go to get a few dollars so she could consider a hotel room for the night.

Whatever her plans were, they didn't include a vacation and they didn't stretch further than that day.

For many of the men and women who come to House of Hope, life has been lived in survival mode. When you're homeless or battling addiction, dreaming about the future can feel like a luxury you can't afford. The focus becomes getting through the day — finding shelter, a meal, or even a moment of peace.

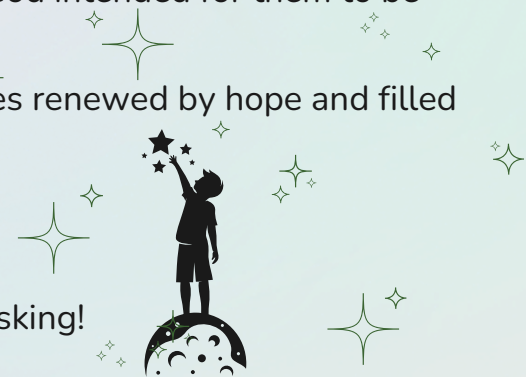
But something incredible happens when people enter our programs. As stability begins to take root, and as healing begins, space opens up for something deeper — hope. It starts small: a thought, a spark, a 'what if'. For the first time in a long time, they can begin to imagine a life beyond crisis.

At House of Hope, we believe that recovery isn't just about overcoming the past. It's about reclaiming the future. We help our residents set savings goals, discover their passions, and step into the dreams that once felt out of reach. Whether it's reuniting with family, pursuing education, learning a trade, or simply becoming the person that God intended for them to be — these dreams are now possible.

And that's what we're celebrating: not just changed lives, but lives renewed by hope and filled with the freedom to dream again.

Keep Dreaming,
Blessings,
Julie Maxham with Ella G. Ward

P.S. My vacation was great, thanks for asking!



Growing Hope: *Fresh Food* *Fresh Start*

There's something deeply healing about the process of planting a seed and watching it grow. It takes patience, care, and the belief that something small can become something life-giving. At House of Hope, we see that same process unfold every day — not just in the garden, but in the lives of the men and women we serve.

Nestled right inside HOPE Village and the Men's Home, you'll find raised beds full of fresh herbs and vegetables. These simple gardens are more than just a way to provide food. They are a symbol of renewal. What we grow here goes straight into the kitchen, where our wonderful chef, Chris, creates meals that nourish and comfort our residents every single day.

Chris Bryan loves finding new ways to incorporate the fresh herbs and vegetables into the daily meals that are sent to all four campuses.

There is a quite beauty in it all. The act of growing what we eat reminds us that recovery is a process. This takes time, care, and the right environment. Just like the vegetables that sprout up from the soil, our residents begin to thrive when they are surrounded by love, stability, and purpose.

It is not just about feeding the body. It is about restoring dignity. It is about creating a space where every meal tells a story of second chances, and every bite tastes like home.

At House of Hope, hope is not just something we talk about. It is something we plant, care for, and share, one fresh start at a time.



Matthew 17:20

He replied, "Because you have so little faith. Truly I tell you, if you have **faith as small as a mustard seed**, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you."

But, we still can't do it without your help!

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Men's Life Recovery Program Graduation



HOUSE of HOPE
THE ARC



HOUSE of HOPE
MEN'S HOME

On April 14th, we gathered at First Presbyterian Church in Florence to celebrate a powerful milestone: the graduation of three courageous men from our Life Recovery Program. With hearts full and eyes bright with hope, Bryan Worten, Marcus Fleming, and Alfred Heath stood before a room of cheering friends, family, and supporters to mark the end of one chapter and beginning of another.

Each of these men have walked through immense challenges with strength and perseverance. Through months of spiritual restoration, accountability, and healing, they've shown what it truly means to surrender to God's process and trust His timing.

We are incredibly proud of the growth we've witnessed in them — physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Their hard work and commitment to change are a testimony to what's possible when hope takes root.

As they step into the next season of life, we celebrate not just their accomplishments but the God who makes all things new.

If you missed this graduation, don't worry we'll do it again in the Fall. Follow us on Facebook for more information!



Mr. Alfred Heath's grandchildren surprised him by showing up!

Missed Graduation?

WATCH THE GRADUTES TESTIMONIES
BY SCANNING THE QR CODE!



Bryan Worten



Marcus Fleming



Alfred Heath



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YES, I/We would like to support The House of Hope and help the homeless.

I/We would like to contribute:

- \$500.00 will provide shelter for five residents for one month
- \$200.00 will provide transportation for eight residents for one month
- \$100.00 will provide cleaning supplies and personal items for one month
- \$ _____ Other
- My company will match my gift.
- I would like to be a **LIGHT OF HOPE** monthly giver.
I would like my gift drafted on
 - 1st or 15th of each month.
 - Use my credit card information below.
 - Use my voided check enclosed.

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Exp. Date _____ 3 Digit Securty Code _____

Name as it appears on the card: _____

Signature: _____

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