



Good Shepherd Ministries

1115 E Third St, Dayton, OH 45402
Rev. Dino Leiffer, Executive Director

513-816-8089
Shawn Trapp, Program Manager

My name is Dwain, a recovering brother in Good Shepherd Ministries. I just celebrated 16 months of clean time. I am sharing my story to help or inspire somebody else to get clean. I know how it is to feel at rock bottom and feel like taking my life.

I suffered a lot of physical and mental abuse as a child. My mother was an alcoholic and my father has some mental disabilities. Growing up I spent my childhood in and out of foster homes. I was always wishing and thinking one day I would be reunited with my parents which never happened until I turned 18. I could never get my feet planted at home because every time I thought I had a loving family something would happen. Finally, I moved in with my father at a time when I was drinking and using drugs to numb a lot of the pain from childhood abuse, I had suffered. My father and I fought a lot and he verbally abused me about my weight. I have struggled with weight issues my whole life and was picked on by kids at school and in foster home. My father kicked me out because he had a girlfriend who did not like me. I got my own place with a friend and the drugs and alcohol got worse. I kept in contact with my father and mother hoping that one day we would end up back together. Unfortunately, that never happened. My drug use caused me to end up in the hospital and then I finally surrendered. It took me six times going to jail, treatment and then I finally surrendered. I graduated from Woodhaven treatment and went to a place I kept hearing good things about, Good Shepherd Ministries. I had a new lease on life, a second chance. I was determined to get my life back together. I enrolled in GED classes thru the ministry, graduated with my GED then graduated from forklift classes. This was the first time in my life I had completed anything. I had a great opportunity to run Good Shepherd Thrift Store... the first job I ever had in my life and I got an actual paycheck. I was able to obtain a S-10 pickup truck that had been donated by a supporter. I love that truck and quickly got my driver's license. I have enrolled in college in a computer software course. And I have a new family, the Good Shepherd brothers who support me in my new life with these great opportunities. I was able to pick up my father last weekend in my own vehicle and he stayed with me a while we went fishing at a great event, the "1st annual Good Shepherd Harvest Fest at the farm" We spent the week together, the first time I had seen him in two years. He said "I love you son and I am proud of you", something I thought I would never hear from him. I still stay in contact with my mother on the phone. There is life after drug addiction. I am living proof! I am spiritually full and thankful for what God has done for me, my family, and my brothers here at Shep. I truly can say I love life today and am full of gratitude for what this ministry has done for me (saved my life). P.S. there is Hope!



We offer Residential & Commercial Snow Plowing, also professional Grass Cutting.

Thank you & God Bless,

Good Shepherd Thrift Stores: Mon-Fri: 10 am - 4 pm

We can pick up your donations.

Donate Online at: thegsm.net & click DONATE

Send Donations To:

**Good Shepherd Ministries 1115 East Thirds Street, Dayton, Ohio 45402
937-938-5781**



“P.S. There is Hope” “Miracles in Recovery”

Congratulation's:

Adam Loos, D'Antonio Lynch, Hunter Smith

Dean Hipsher, Alex Dennis, Mathew Emerick, Celebrating Two years of sobriety.

Jeremy Fagin, Dwain Thomas, Jerry Bemmes, Michael Haas, Celebrated 18 months.

Michael Corser, William Stevens, Greg Johnson, Celebrated one year clean.

You don't see that much clean time in one program. We have been tracking our alumni last three years and are running at 65% success rate three times national average.

Greg Johnson, Bobby Lanting, Mathew Emerick, Alex Dennis, all completed phase 1 and started great jobs through our job program.

Dwain Thomas, William Stevens, Michael Haas, Ben Tracy, saving money and paying off fines and getting license reinstated.

A big thank you to all who sponsored some great clean up events on the Eastside neighborhood with our ministry. Includes building a playset for neighborhood kids, 5 neighborhood

clean ups (where we cleaned up over 8 tons of trash on the

Eastside of Dayton), Halloween trunk or treat event. Thank you to CLC Church, Vandalia, Living Word Church, New Hope Church.

A big thank you to Dayton/Phoenix paid for White Water Rafting trip for the Recovering Brothers. First time a lot of them ever been out of town. And three recovering brothers got to bring their sons. Also, our Sober Shep softball team another great year of teamwork.

A big thank you to Greg McAfee and McAfee heating & air. Donated over \$18,000.00 of Central Air and Hvac equipment for all the recovery houses.



“Garden of Hope” Sober Bus Project!



We are excited to say we have received a grant. We have \$5,000.00 to purchase bus and need to raise and invest an additional \$15-\$20,000.00 through grants and supporters of the program. We have found a 25ft bus, 1996 International Bus, with only 160,000.00 miles diesel engine, Allison transmission. This bus will help us promote Good Shepherd Ministries in the community and sober events, also inform people in the community and surrounding areas what we do. This

Bus will also be used for our Feed the Streets Program. Currently we feed anywhere from 80-100 lunches daily at our 709 Xenia Avenue Recovery in Dayton Ohio with collaborating with Food for the Journey. We could double that number on feeding the Streets. Every Thursday at 12 p.m. We will be installing a kitchen and a grill, canopy, we will be able to pull up and share client's recovery stories of hope, hand out socks, clothing feeding the

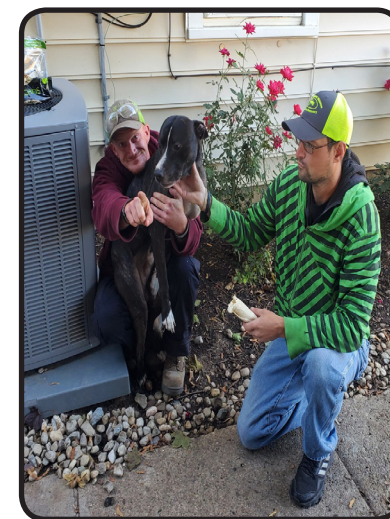


hungry. Also, we will take

our recovering brothers out west each year for a yearly sober trip, a lot of the clients have not been out of town, or out of the city. Also take out sober camping trips, community, and neighborhood outings. Also, we have our Garden of Hope which we could set up a mobile vegetable stand to feed the less fortunate with produce from are gardens. “Help us help others”



The Garden of Hope was remarkably successful this year. Thanks to all who have supported that mission. It is getting bigger and bigger each year.



We have adopted a couple of malnutrition dog that were stranded by the houses, and the recovering brothers helped Frank and Cash get their weight up and their health back. William former military recovering brother said “it's comforting sleeping with Frank and helping him get healthy it reminds me of what I have been through and recovering from. I sleep so much better at night having Frank by my side. Frank also helps me with my ptsd from my military days.

