



July 2023

MISSION *Messenger*

A photograph of a man with dark, wavy hair, a beard, and glasses. He is wearing a blue hooded jacket and is smiling at the camera. He is holding a newspaper in his left hand. The background shows a room with a blue wall, a wooden hanger, and a patterned rug.

**“God has been so good
to me for bringing me
through these doors.”**

READ WIL'S TRANSFORMATION STORY ➞

INTRODUCING BRAD TERHUNE

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Rev. Brad D. Terhune
Executive Director

Looking back on his life, Brad Terhune didn't have serving at a rescue mission on his radar.

As God does, He was preparing Brad for this work long before Brad realized.

"I knew I had a call into ministry. It was something in my life I couldn't deny," Brad shares. "That call came my senior year of high school. I didn't know what it looked like yet."

From those teenage days in Plymouth, Indiana, Brad went on to earn his Christian Ministries degree from Indiana Wesleyan. Armed with his newly minted degree, Brad began searching for the place God was calling him. He found his niche in youth ministry.

From serving in churches as a youth leader to moving toward executive leadership in Youth for Christ, Brad has always looked for ways to bring the Gospel to people.

As he was serving in the community, Brad learned about the opportunity to share his skills as a Board Member for Grant County Rescue Mission, which he's done faithfully.

In the past year, after the tragic loss of dear friend and beloved executive director, Rick Berbereaia, Brad offered to serve as our interim director.

Brad thought he would serve short-term, knowing Rick's shoes were big ones to fill. He thought the Lord would have someone else in mind for the future. But the Holy Spirit had other plans for Brad!

"I started thinking back to my first youth ministry job," Brad shares. "We would do different service projects, and we actually brought our youth group to the rescue mission to help sort clothes and serve food."

Since that first calling into ministry, God had been preparing Brad for his connection and service to Grant County Rescue Mission.

Brad is eager to build upon Rick's incredible legacy. "He built trust. He cared for people. He lived in a way that made a difference."

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“I HAD TO TRUST THAT GOD HAD A BETTER WAY.”

WIL'S TRANSFORMATION STORY

On the outside, everything in Wil's life looked good. “I had my own company with several employees. I was married with five children. I had a very successful life.”

“But on the inside looking out, I was a slave to alcohol.”

Wil's drinking started in his 20s when he met his biological father for the first time. Shortly after meeting, Wil's father died. “I started drinking to cope with that loss,” Wil shares. “It turned into full-blown alcoholism.”

In the past six years, Wil lost everything. His marriage, his company, and eventually his home.

Growing up in Marion, Wil knew about Grant County Rescue Mission. But he never thought it'd be a place he'd have to go. When a friend mentioned the option, and Wil was out of couches to sleep on, he humbled himself and came.

At first, Wil admits, he felt humiliated that his life had reached rock bottom. “But as soon as I could get over my pride and accept where I am, there was so much freedom,” Wil explains.

Wil acknowledged his deep need for support and surrendered his dependence on alcohol to God. He began building authentic friendships and a close walk with God. He had accountability, direction, and tools to get well.

“Before I was always fighting with God. Now I feel like I'm working with God,” Wil says.

This summer, Wil graduates from our life change program. He is deeply grateful for the opportunity donors like you have given him to change his life!

“I can't think of a better investment than to give towards someone's opportunity for a completely new life. You're giving directly to the Kingdom of God and the work of Jesus Christ. I'm not the same person as when I walked in here.”

But you haven't just changed one life ... Wil's transformation will have ripple effects.

“It's going to change my kids' life. There's five kids right there. And wherever I go from there, it's a far-reaching investment.”

As Wil shares, “I knew what didn't work in my life.” You gave him a chance to try a better way. God's way. And it's made all the difference.

Wil chats with our new Executive Director Brad Terhune.





INTRODUCING BRAD TERHUNE CONTINUED

"Though it may be different than what Rick brought, I'm confident that God has put me in this community and built up the reputation, connections, and pieces so I can utilize that Kingdom connection to build the Kingdom right here."

Brad's priority is to continue to strengthen the mission so more neighbors can experience the grace and renewal of Christ.

"It's not just a tagline. Life change happens here. And thanks to Rick's leadership, we have the right atmosphere for that to continue."

LIFE CHANGE PROGRAM GRADUATION CEREMONY

THURSDAY, JULY 27 AT 6:00 P.M.

New Life Community Church
2011 W. 10th Street • Marion, Indiana

All are welcome to join for a night of celebration and worship.

32ND ANNUAL FLY-IN / CRUISE-IN PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Saturday, September 2

7 AM to 2 PM

Marion Municipal Airport

■ Adults (ages 12+): \$10.00

■ Children (ages 2-11): \$5.00



Purchase tickets at mygcrm.org/fly-in or pay at the door



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Brad Terhune,
Executive Director

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