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Growing Like Dandelions!

Over the years, the Glory House has grown like a weed to better meet the needs of clients. Many new buildings have been established and more beds have been added for men and women. In addition, more programs have been added and expanded.

Like dandelions, Glory House continues to grow, spread, and never seems to wither away. When I ponder the ministry and passion that Roger Fredrikson expresses in his book “God Loves the Dandelions” I am humbled to be a part of this life-changing ministry. Our mission, like our clients, cannot be swept away. And Jan Pay summed it up the best when she wrote, “I’m no rose, just a dandelion. But God must love them because He lets so many of them grow and you just can’t stomp them out.” Our growth to meet clients’ needs has happened thanks to many friends both locally and statewide. And it truly is a testimony to what the Spirit can do. Thank you for all you support over the many years, and particularly as we have sprouted new weeds! ■

Employer Appreciation

On Friday, Aug 21st Glory House hosted an Employer Appreciation Luncheon. This served as our way of thanking those companies who choose to look beyond our clients past and help them to ensure a better future for themselves and their families. There were ten employers in attendance who were able to partake in a wonderful meal that was catered by HuHot Mongolian Grill.

We had two speakers who are current clients of the Glory House who helped to paint a picture of how employment is a vital part of assimilating into society. At the time of the Luncheon, Glory House had 75 clients and an 81% employment rate. ■w

Come Celebrate with Us!

Come enjoy a free pulled pork lunch with us at The Glory House as we celebrate September Recovery Month. The lunch is open to the public. There will be tours of the facilities and door prizes.

Where: Sands Freedom Center
Parking lot at the
Glory House

When: September 18th, 2015
11:30am-1:30pm

Who: Everyone!
All are welcome!

The Glory House
4000 S. West Ave.
Sioux Falls, SD 57109
(605) 332-3273
www.glory-house.org/



Living Free

A message from your Executive Director... Dave Johnson, MS, LPC

For most people, coping with addiction/mental health issues or maintaining a crime free lifestyle is easy. Little, if any thought has to be given to it, as it is as natural as the air we breathe. Most have a value and belief system in place that supports living healthy and happy. So what about those that then do struggle with these concerns?

That is where the Glory House comes in. Our mission, “Helping people claim their lives with Christian compassion, resources, and support” is geared to help individuals claim

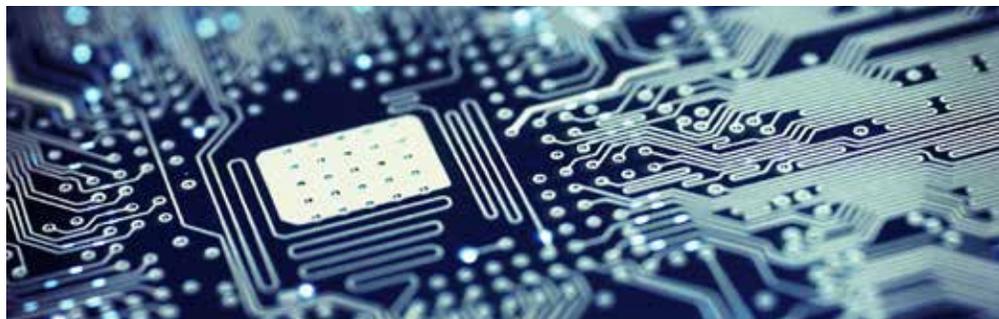
their place in life as positive, capable and meaningful human beings. To do this, Glory House utilizes evidence-based practices and qualified professionals to help people to help themselves. Utilizing a variety of tools, an assessment of the individual is completed. The measurements look at mental health, substance abuse and criminogenic needs that our multi-faceted clients present. These screens and assessments, done with licensed/certified professionals, help lay the foundation of a plan towards success. Each piece of their plan, created by themselves and the staff, creates structure to help clients each step of the way. Ineffective, harmful patterns related to values, beliefs, addiction and mental health struggles are explored, with a replacement being offered to help clients change their thinking. And as the thinking changes, so do some of the harmful behaviors. A reassessment of values, of beliefs, and of the “inner-core” follows. A relationship with something far greater than ourselves takes place. And the path of “living free” begins. ■

The Glory House Board of Directors

Hal Perry, President
Mike Johnson, Past President
Jim Schmidt, Vice President
Bob Litz, Treasurer
Ryan Kolbeck, Secretary
Dave Johnson, Executive Director
Nicole Dvorak, Compliance
and Human Resource Director

Board Members:

Todd Nelsen
Dave Husby
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Erik Syverson
Jason Mueller
Robert Carr
Chad Belitz
Cynthia Howard



Tech at the House

GPS: (Global Positioning System) tracks offenders in real time every 5 minutes based on satellites. Currently 63 clients use this technology.

SCRAM: (Secure Continuous Remote Alcohol Monitor) ankle monitor used to detect alcohol based on a person’s sweat and temperature. Currently 8-10 clients use SCRAM ankle monitors.

Code a Phone: Strategic color-coded system designed to assist agencies in maintaining random drug testing for their clientele. Over 700 clients through the Glory House were assigned to this program in July. Clients call in every morning and are told if they need to come in and give a urine sample for analysis.

The Glory House does over 1500 urine analysis every month throughout its different programs.

We also have 24/7 and sweat patch programs for alcohol detection.



A word from Nicole Dvorak-Ripperda Human Resource and Compliance Officer

As we approach fall, or football season, that leads me to reflect on the events of the year and how quickly 2016 will be here. Even though all goals are seldom achieved, it gratifying for those that was achieved. Glory House is accredited with the American Correctional Association, which requires certain training hours for the employees. Glory House was able to provide with internal trainings as well as outside trainings approximately 1450 of training hours in 2015; this equates

to 30 hours on average per employee. This is an amazing goal for our agency. It is well-established employees who have a strong understanding of best practices, are more likely to facilitate and deliver exceptional services. In a recent outside audit this is one of the comments a staff member shared, “I was very well trained when I started, I had great co-workers, and we had an awesome team lead that was very knowledgeable with policy and procedures. We had sufficient training that was specific to our needs for the area we worked in. When we first started we were put through a standard corrective thinking/ethics class with Dave Johnson and TR Moves which was extremely informative and really set the standard of what was expected of you.” In addition to trainings for Corrective Thinking, the agency has a certified staff in CPI (Crisis Prevention Intervention) which 70% of the new hires in 2015 have completed! ■

We Say Thank You!

The Glory House continues to receive contributions to our operations on a monthly basis. We continue to be especially grateful and want you to know that without your thoughtfulness and caring we could not do what we have done for the past 40 years. While your monetary gifts are important to us we want you to know that your physical gifts continue to provide a valuable service as well. An important part of making people positive, productive citizens is to provide them with the necessities for everyday living. God bless you for your continued supports, especially your prayers! ■

Here is a list of products that are in constant need at The Glory House...

- Clothing and shoes
- Bicycles (to assist clients in getting to work)

For the rewards closet...

- Phone cards
- Stamps
- Soda
- Candy
- Notebooks
- Towels
- Home essentials
- Male and female hygiene products
- Movie tickets
- Plastic hangers
- Greeting Cards/ stationery
- Novels

I want to help The Glory House

Please accept my gift to help Glory House residents gain the skills they need to be successful in transitioning back into the community.

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____
 Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____
 State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____

P.O. Box 88145
 Sioux Falls, SD 57109-8145
 605-332-3273
 Fax 605-332-6410

What the Glory House did for Sophie...

The Glory House provided me with a safe, helpful, structured environment to live in a time of need. I definitely did not want to be there, however, it was exactly what I needed at that time and I wouldn't have had it any other way. I am extremely thankful for the programming, staff, other residents, that there was a safe place to stay, and that there were people looking after me, looking back at it now. It was also a place where my family and I were able to start to reconnect and rebuild our relationships in a healthy effort thanks to the visitation, groups and awareness of healthy relationships. I learned quite a few things while staying there, and continue the process of learning now that I am out of there as well thanks to the healthy transition from isolation, unhealthy behaviors, and destruction to surrounding myself with healthy encouraging people, recognizing and changing behaviors, and restoration.

One of the things I learned and had to practice often was having to ask for what is needed, which is a skill I lacked before, and like I said before, it is a continuous process for me so it is still difficult sometimes for me to do. However, the factor of fear of getting a negative choice (also known as dots) on my chart highly influenced as well as learning from others and their behaviors and choices and consequences. So, if I did not know if something was okay to have or do or what I was supposed to be doing or if I was able to go somewhere, or if I had any questions at all, I asked. And wouldn't you know? The staff was actually



there to help me.

Another huge key to the life I live today is acceptance, and that is a principle I struggled and fought my way through to learning at the Glory House at first; but if it wasn't for the struggle and pain, I wouldn't have received the benefits and the blessing of the lesson I learned, which was surrendering. Letting go of my way, opening up to and accepting a different way, which all in all was the absolute best thing for me. Not to mention once I accepted my surroundings and myself exactly the way I was and where, things moved along so much smoother and I even started to see things differently; as if all the shades of colors intensified and I could identify them.

I moved up levels rather quickly after that and was shockingly able to complete my entire, short, 45 day stay at the Glory House dot free! That was a miracle for me, completing it, because when I waked in there I did not plan on staying. Making no negative choices was just a bonus in a learning experience of just doing what was asked and in the process it helped and healed me. I also learned it is all what you choose to make of it. Since completion and even some during residency, I have had several opportunities to give back through the Glory House by participating in Speaking of Sobriety, speaking engagements with boards members, after care groups and others.

It is an honor every time to share what has been given to me, which is hope, help, and love. ■

The Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT) Program

The Glory House utilizes programs which are evidenced based practices and cognitive based programming in an effort to reduce recidivism in our clients. Glory House has been a provider of the Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT) program since 2001. MRT was developed in 1985 by Gregory Little, Ed.D., and Kenneth Robinson, Ed.D., and is a cognitive-based program to increase moral development within a criminal offender.

Clients involved in the MRT group complete a workbook, which consists of 12 steps completed while in the program. The steps include drawing and written exercises, testimonies,

and public service hours all outlined with morals to help the individual take back control of their life. The program is built around learning to do what is right, simply because it is what is right. There is a strong focus on learning to follow the rules, even if we don't like or understand them. MRT also helps individuals raise their awareness on how their behavior has affected others, ranging from their family to the community.

A unique aspect of MRT is an individual participating in the program can only pass certain steps if others in the program feel they have met the requirements of the step and have been practicing that particular moral concept associated with the step work. This creates high accountability within the program as

continued...

continued...

well as ample opportunities for constructive feedback. Many successful clients within the program have shared this is a program you cannot “fake your way through.” Those that are not engaging in the program are not likely to successfully complete.

A former client shared “MRT combined with CBISA opened my eyes to who I had become and gave me a plan specific to myself. This plan has improved my relationships, helped me be accountable for my morals and actions, and has been the pillar of my sobriety.” The MRT program has not only provided change

for the participants, but also for the community and family members of those that have completed. A family member of an individual who successfully completed the program shared that it was not until the person completed MRT did they truly make life long changes.

For more information about the MRT program, feel free to visit the Correctional Counseling, Inc. website at www.ccimrt.com. If you are interested in making a referral to the MRT program at Glory House please contact our Outpatient Coordinator. ■



Success Story

I would like to illuminate the experiences I have had with a client. This client has been a severe alcoholic for approximately ten years. He spent several years in prison and was frequently homeless. He lived through domestic violence as a child, perpetrated by his step-father. He was involved in an alcohol-related car accident which nearly claimed his life. Prior to his placement in Glory House he was terminated from an alternative local transitional facility for chronic alcohol use and accountability issues.

When this individual first arrived at Glory House he was sanctioned with several negative choices for missing programming. The staff at Glory House helped him to manage his time and secure full-time employment for the first time in his life. He and his counselor have utilized Cognitive-Behavioral interventions, such as thought change records and guided visual imagery, to work toward decreasing his desire to abuse alcohol. These interventions have also helped this client to manage his anxiety and depression. He has learned

about how his alcohol use and mental health symptoms have been interrelated. Currently, he is on level IV and has not had any accountability issues for nearly a month. He has embraced the AA system and is adamant that he plans to continue working the steps long after he discharges from Glory House. He has stated that he has a sense of pride and accomplishment that he has never before felt, perpetuating his motivation to live a crime-free lifestyle. He is saving money and plans to begin searching for an apartment. His main goal is to be able to provide a stable living environment for his girlfriend and his two young daughters in order to break the cycle of poverty and alcoholism in his family's history.

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Sioux Falls, SD 57105
(605) 988-9128

Remembering Dennis Kunkel

Dennis was a 25 year employee of the Glory House. In this day and age where employee's time on a single job is only 4.6 years, Dennis was a "throw-back" to how company employees used to be. He has literally mentored thousands of individuals, staff and clients alike, during his work here. Many staff saw Dennis as a grandfather figure, and I know even more of our clients did. In the last 25 years, Dennis performed our Mission in many different ways. He was a resident supervisor, facility manager, employment coordinator, chief flower and garden



organizer and planter, did case management before it was an official position, and was always an ambassador for the Glory House and for the clients we serve. Prior to working at GH Dennis was a high school teacher and coach, a salesman and a farmer. His people skills were extraordinary as he knew just what to say and when to say it to help motivate people to be their best. Dennis lived through the many twists and turns of our agency, providing a joke, a smile or a word of encouragement when things were tough. He would send me an article with a note attached, giving me an opportunity to appreciate a story on the wild wolves of Yellowstone or an article on the Denver Bronco's. Glory House will miss Dennis. I will miss Dennis; he was one of the "good guys." Our clients lost a real advocate, the agency a loyal employee. God Bless and be at Peace Dennis. ■

Enjoy Florida, Linda Atkinson

Linda Atkinson, LAC, retired this year after spending 22 years helping clients, staff and community be healthier and happier. Linda's leadership and perseverance served her well as she rose through the ranks of Glory House, serving as Associate Director for over 7 years. A job well done, and our appreciation for all she has done! Enjoy your retirement!

"This was a hard decision for me to make, as working with our populating of folks is so dear to me. But it is time for the big move to Florida. You are all a great bunch of people to work with and I will never forget my experiences here. It really does feel like it was just yesterday that I started here, and Dave thought I was applying to live here. :)" ■



A Testimonial from Brian

I was asked to write a little something about what kind of impact the Glory House has had upon my life. When I walked through the doors 12 years ago I had no idea what to expect. I thought, here we go another institution. I'm no stranger to that kind of lifestyle. You see, I had been an aspiring drug dealer since I was 13 years old. I can't say I was ever very successful at it. For some reason I kept waking up in prison. As a result, my loved ones, friends, employers, and society at large had given up all hope of any kind of successful turn around for my future. Yet here I was walking through the doors of the Glory House. A faith based recovery home. I am hesitant to say half way house. After they so graciously accepted my application I was given a home. I walked through the door with the clothes on my back, a pair of prison issued boots, and a bent and broken mind, body, and soul. These strangers that dedicated their lives to walking people out of a hopeless state of being, lifted me up out of the dark emptiness that was my future. The little things that so many of us take for granted: clothes, food, a job, a safe place to rest, and most importantly a place where I could be loved and encouraged to be successful. These kind and caring individuals loved me at a time in my life when I had no idea how to love myself. They proceeded to guide me into the transformation of my life. It's been a few years now and I still go there from time to time to lend a hand or lean on my loved ones, Lord knows I will never be able to reimburse the staff at the Glory House for love, education, and life path that they've provided. I pray that they know how truly grateful I am for having a choice today to be the man that they saw in me. Any, and all of my success is a direct result of the time, effort and patience they provided to transform this bet and broken man into a child of god and recovering addict. ■