

# Recharged and Renewed

Robert grew up with strong values in the Church and a good work ethic. He also cared deeply for his family. When his mother was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease, he took care of her every day.

This brought the two closer, and he did everything he could to keep her comfortable and happy. He also worked full time. His days were busy, but he still found time for drinking. The alcohol soothed his stress and worry.

Eventually, his mother required more care than he could manage alone. His mother was placed in a home where she could receive the care she needed.

*"This program is very genuine, heartfelt and caring. They provide hope!"*

Suddenly, Robert had much more time on his hands. He chose to spend it drinking. The habit led him to losing his job and depleting his money. He lost his home and lived in hotels. Thankfully, Robert still had caring friends and family who encouraged him to detox and reach out to Hope Gospel Mission.

Robert did just that. "Since coming to Hope Gospel Mission, I am growing closer to God," he explains. "Attending church recharges me, and I am hopeful for life again."

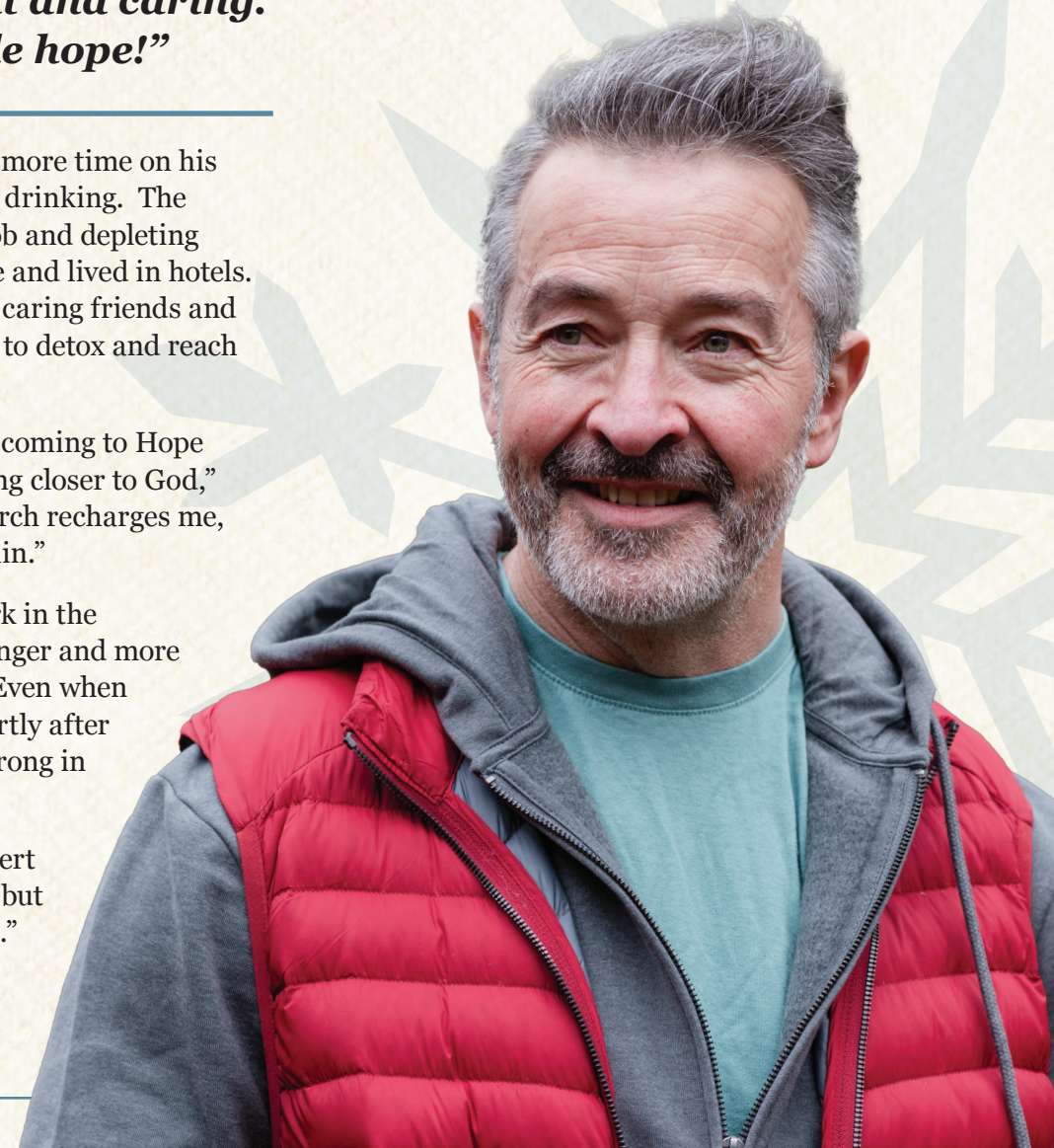
As Robert continues his work in the program, he is growing stronger and more committed to his sobriety. Even when his mother passed away shortly after his arrival, Robert stayed strong in his faith and sobriety.

"I could have given up," Robert says. "I was low and tested, but I trusted and leaned on God."

Today, Robert enjoys being sober and studying modern history. "Drinking made my body and mind tired. Now, I can immerse myself in my studies. I can also strengthen my relationship with family. This would not be possible without Hope Gospel Mission."

Robert is looking forward to spending more time with his brother and his family. He is also eager and hopeful about new possibilities in future employments. "I am learning from my past mistakes and making good choices now," he says.

Robert is thankful for your support and the care you provide. "This program is very genuine, heartfelt and caring. They provide hope! I am so thankful to be here," he says.



# The Impact You Make

Great things happen at Hope Gospel Mission. Thank you for your generous support!

Because you care, men and women receive holistic recovery programming. Residents are given a safe, welcoming place to become healthy and address the root causes of their struggles. Hearts open to the healing Jesus provides, and they become active in local churches and the community.

While in our recovery program, residents work on nine areas of wellness:

- Academics
- Addictions
- Finances
- Life Skills
- Mental Health
- Nutrition and Fitness
- Parenting
- Spirituality
- Vocational

In 2024, with your faithful support, Hope Gospel Mission provided:



## The New Hope Learning Center is Open

Excitement and cheers filled the air at the ribbon cutting for the new Hope Learning Center. The day finally arrived for the doors to open to this beautiful space.

Through much prayer, generous gifts and the Lord's blessing, the new Hope Learning Center is now available for residents to study, pray and receive counseling in this quiet, expanded space. Because you choose to give, more men, women and women with children can begin their journey to true life transformation.

Thank you for blessing those who are hurting and searching. You are making a tremendous impact!



# the hope

February 2025  

**Hope**  
 GOSPEL MISSION  
 LIVES RESCUED. REBUILT. RENEWED

*"Hope Gospel Mission Saved My Life!"*

The Impact You Are Making

PO Box 1127, Eau Claire, WI 54702 | 715-552-5566 | [HopeGospelMission.org](http://HopeGospelMission.org)

Inside: Recharged and Renewed • From Rock Bottom to Redemption



**Sandi Polzin**  
Executive Director

## Embracing the New Year with *Faith* and *Gratitude*

Dear Friend,

A new year is upon us. I look at it with both optimism and faith. The Lord brought us so many good things last year and we look forward to the many opportunities He will send us this year.

Because of your faithful partnership, many found refuge here last year. These residents found a safe place to lay their head, a hot meal to satisfy their hunger, and joy and peace in their spirit. Through your faithful support, they found hope and healing.

As many of you know, life can also bring challenges. No doubt, this year will present challenges to each of us, but we can face these challenges with God who gives us faith to trust Him. Because of this, we can offer the men, women and children who walk through our doors a new beginning.

Thank you for caring for the people at Hope Gospel Mission. You provide a place for exhausted and hopeless men and women to grow strong with God, overcome addictions and find joy again.

I look forward to sharing the challenges and victories of 2025 with you. Thank you for caring.

Sincerely,

Sandi Polzin  
Executive Director  
Hope Gospel Mission

*I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.*

JOHN 16:33, ESV

### A Special Thank You to:

Spirit Lutheran Foundation

You are helping to rescue, rebuild and renew the lives of men and women in our community!

## "Thank You!"

Last year, you gave comfort to men and women here at Hope Gospel Mission. You helped them heal from painful pasts and make a fresh start. Here are just a few of those you helped last year.



*"Hope Gospel Mission gave me back my life, my mind and gave me hope for the future."*

— Blodwyn



*"Hope Gospel Mission transformed me into a new person with integrity and hope. I became the person I was meant to be for my boys."*

— Jim



*"The journey is not always easy, but as long as you hold on, and follow God, it is worth it. I am so thankful for the opportunity you gave me. It does not go unnoticed. Everyone here is thankful for you."*

— Kevin



*"I was struggling with hopelessness and addiction. I'd done a lot of things wrong, and I had a true lack of self-forgiveness. Hope Gospel Mission helped me to forgive myself, to let go of resentments that I had."*

— Calvin



*"I feel worthy again! I used to keep everything inside, but now I can tell people how I feel. Hope Gospel Mission pretty much saved my life."*

— Cherie



*"I was lonely, I was living in my vehicle, I was scared, afraid, I was drinking, using drugs ... until I found Hope Gospel Mission. I get up every morning, and I thank God for what He's done for me. I'm just so grateful!"*

— Shelly

Gifts given in honor of or in memory of loved ones can be viewed online at [HopeGospelMission.org](http://HopeGospelMission.org)

## From Rock Bottom to Redemption

### Mariam's journey to find hope

Growing up in Wisconsin, Mariam was a happy child. Her parents divorced when she was young, but she attended church and lived a good life. She met a man, married and had two children.

Unfortunately, the marriage did not last and soon after, her brother passed away. "I never fully healed from my brother's loss," Mariam says. "I can't pinpoint exactly when it started, but depression and anxiety led me to start drinking."

**"Hope Gospel Mission saved my life, and it saves many others too."**

The drinking went from a few nights a week, to drinking all day. "I was a functioning alcoholic," Mariam admits. "But when I lost my job, I knew I should scale back."

Unfortunately, Mariam continued to struggle with her addiction. Her father and stepmother made the decision to care for her children until Mariam was ready.

Mariam accepted she was unfit to care for her children and sought help.

She went to a short-term rehab not once but twice. The second time was court mandated for DUIs. "I just wasn't ready to leave my best friend — alcohol," Mariam admits, "but I knew it was time to make a permanent change. I was encouraged to contact Hope Gospel Mission, and I am so glad I did!"

On entering the program, Mariam struggled with her addiction and depression. Thankfully, through faith and determination, Mariam worked the program and achieved graduation.

"I had to do it for my kids," she says. "Every step of the program here at Hope Gospel Mission brought me one step closer to reuniting with my family."

Mariam also found the peace she was searching for. She rekindled her relationship with God and the anger she harbored from her brother's death diminished. "Because the programs are Christ-centered, I was able to find joy again!"

Today, Mariam works full time and has her own apartment. She also works at the rehab center she first went to. "Helping people keeps me accountable, and I can share my story with others. I encourage everyone to go to Hope Gospel Mission if they are searching for long-term care."

Thank you for supporting those in need at Hope Gospel Mission. Mariam joyfully says, "Thank you! Hope Gospel Mission saved my life, and it saves many others too."

