

## Walk for Change

My husband and I were fortunate to be involved with the 24/7 House Carnival and 1st Annual 5K Race. The first thing I noticed was how friendly everyone was and that everyone worked as a team. The decorations were beautiful. The entrance had an array of balloons announcing the way to the carnival and parking. This was an impressive site.

My 9 year old grandson and his cousin attended the carnival with us. They enjoyed the bouncy house and the various games. They especially loved the concession stand with hotdogs, popcorn, and cotton candy. I enjoyed them being able to run around and play without me having to escort them. Everyone really seemed to enjoy the dunking booth with Mr. Pete and Brandi being dunked. Brandi was being dunked so much I began to feel sorry for her until I saw her Grandmother out there pitching balls to dunk her again.

I helped out with the concession stand. For the first time ever I made cotton candy. It was amazing to watch the cotton candy form and learn that when making it it gets



everywhere! By the end I think I even had cotton candy in my hair.

Later that afternoon a light rain began, but it did not dampen anyone's spirit. One of the things that really amazed my husband Ronnie was that so many from out of the county attended and competed in the run.

Ronnie said while talking with various runners he learned that many of them attended runs throughout the state and in northern Florida. Ronnie was on a runner's high because he won First place in his age division 60-65 years old. And yes there were other runners in that age division.

We are looking forward to next year's event!

**Sheryl Nipper**



## Day of Grace

Our 1st Annual Day of Grace was an awesome event! We enjoyed the fellowship with friends and family. Lots of fun shopping, the shopping, the silent auction, as well as the live auction! Laurie Upchurch the emcee for the event provided lots of encouragement and laughter!

The theme was "Faith of a Mustard Seed," from scripture, "if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, nothing is impossible for you," Matthew 17:20. We praised God through laughter and tears as we listened to testimony after testimony of how God has and continues to change lives. We serve an awesome, loving and mighty God nothing is too great for Him.

Everyone had a wonderful time praising God through song, personal testimonies and entertainment throughout the day! It was a relaxing day of fun & fellowship; as well as refreshing of our spirit.

**Ann Miller**

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ann Miller, *Chair*

Jamie Gardner

Bob Highsmith

Peggy Miles

Tina Pearson

*Brad Park*

*Beth Smith*

*Diane Hallman*

*Sheryl Nipper*

*Joey Hiers*

Brandi Stone,  
*executive director*

Pete Wright,  
*CEO/Founder*

*from the Board of Directors*

I am proud to be a small part of the 24/7 House. It has been a blessing for me to see lives reformed through this program. To see young mothers who have been on drugs get rehabilitated and be reunited with their families, especially their children. Just to see the joy in their lives is over-whelming. We are so blessed to have a facility of this nature in our community to help those who have an addiction get their lives back together. We must remember it is only by God's grace we are not in their shoes. We are also blessed to have the management and staff we have working with these individuals. I have known Brandi Stone for many years and seen her compassion and love for these and others who have problems in their lives. She is truly an inspiration and a blessing to know. I am so thankful for Pete and Glenda Wright having the fore sight, love and concern to start a program such as this. They have been through many obstacles in getting the program where it is today but they have always kept the faith and depended on God to get them there. There have been many lives already touched by this program and we are praying for many more to be blessed by it. Please continue to pray for the management, staff and clients at the facility.

**Peggy Miles**

**24/7 HOUSE STAFF**



Standing Left to Right: Mike Smith, Marie Wildes, Pete Wright, Glenda Wright, Bob Deal

Sitting Left to Right: Mandy Hall, Colleen Layne, Brandi Stone

**Executive Director's Message**

**Brandi Stone**, executive director

As I look back at the growth that 24/7 House has had this year I thank God for his Grace and Mercy because none of this would have been possible without him. I give him all the praise and glory. I'm so excited to see all the changes that are happening here

for the men and women we serve. Also, the support that we have been receiving from our community it is overwhelming.

24/7 House, Inc. ministry serves men and women who are in bondage to addiction. Addiction is a disease that has no known cure. The disease of addiction's ultimate goal is to STEAL, KILL AND DESTROY EVERYTHING GOOD IN YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES LIFE!!! This disease does not discriminate. Everyone that is reading this newsletter has known someone that has been affected by this disease and seen the destruction that it causes to everyone that is involved with the addict or alcoholic. My prayer is that we get educated as a whole in our community so that we can help take away this STIGMA that an alcoholic or a drug addict is useless and can't be helped. I ask that we NOT turn away from the addicted person but lend a hand and help those that are suffering. But, by the GRACE of GOD there goes I. (1Peter 3:8) states, All of us should be of one mind. Sympathize with each other. Love each other as brothers and sisters. Be tenderhearted and keep a humble attitude.

I want to welcome our new board members that have accepted the position to serve on our board of directors; Brad Park, Diane Hallman, Joey Hiers, Beth Smith, John Carter and Sheryl Nipper. I feel that each one has a passion for this ministry and the desire to see it grow and be successful. Thank you all for your giving spirit and your willingness to serve the needs of this ministry.

I want to personally thank you our supporters that have given in any capacity whether it is food, clothes, monetary donation, volunteering or prayer. 24/7 House and the residents appreciate everything you do.

We had our 1<sup>st</sup> Volunteer Appreciation Dinner November 7, 2013, and had an awesome attendance. For the volunteers that were not able to be there please know that we appreciate everything you do. Joey Hiers challenged each one of us that was in the room that we could get 1000 Supporter's to pledge \$20 a month and ask our friends, family and our church families to accept the challenge. Everyone in the room was excited about helping and getting on board with this challenge! I encourage you to share this and see if we can meet this challenge.

Please keep 24/7 House in your prayers. We look forward to what GOD has in store for us in 2014! We wish you a Merry Christmas and hope you have a Blessed New Year.

## Letter From the Family and Alumni

If you or anyone that you may know has a loved one who has an addiction then 24/7 House would be the place to check out. A friend of mine gave me the number to 24/7 House and I had it for a long time posted in my kitchen. On December 22, 2012 my son got up and said he wanted to change his life, I remember (God reminded me) of this number. We took him there that day. Mr. Pete and Brandi met my husband and I and our son. The glimmer of hope was sparked that day; thank God!

The care that my son received and the skills he has been taught are priceless! Today almost two years later my son is alive and well and productive! God is good! But the staff at 24/7 House

continuously stay in contact with him. The gift of 24/7 House keeps on giving! My advice/suggestion to anyone who knows of someone needing help for addiction please contact 24/7 House. It is God sent!

With the Love of the Lord,

Sharon Padgett

God is good! Family support is key and I thank God for mine. Thank you and love you. I first want to thank the staff for their support in my decision to change, but most importantly the Godly wisdom given daily.

The 24/7 House gave me a chance

to stop and realize what I value in life. With daily Bible Studies, Godly instruction and a willingness to listen I began to live the life I was created for. I formed positive habits that I continue to use today. God first! Sounds pretty simple...wrong. But because of the Godly examples I was surrounded by and wisdom shared, I practice these positive habits daily. The Lord has blessed me with a job closer to home, a family I share my life with but most importantly my walk with Jesus. You can only keep what you have by giving it away.

Blessed people Bless people...be Blessed!!!!

Joel Padgett

### NEEDS' LIST

**GROCERIES:** Fresh or Frozen Vegetables, Sugar, Coffee, Creamer, Canned Goods, Tea Bags, Meat, Rice, Noodles, Salt, Pepper, Seasonings, Snacks, Lunch Meat, Bread, Condiments, Potatoes

**KITCHEN SUPPLIES:** Dish Cloths, Dish Detergent, Freezer Bags, Freezers, Refrigerators, Coffee Filters, Industrial Sized Pots and Pans, Cups, Bowls, Silverware, Trash Bags

**HOUSE SUPPLIES:** Twin Bed Sheets, Twin Comforters, Blankets, Twin Quilts, Pillows, Pillow Cases, Towels, Washcloths, Blinds, Curtains, Air Conditioning Window Units, Dressers, Twin Bed Frames, Twin Mattresses, Clothes Baskets, Clothes Pins, Hangers, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Laundry Detergent, Shampoo, Conditioner, Soap, Body Wash, Deodorant, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Hair Brushes, Combs, Feminine Products, Hand Soap

**CLEANING SUPPLIES:** Bleach, Lysol, Windex, Pine sol, Shower Cleaner, Comet, Toilet Brushes, Mops, Mop Buckets, Brooms, Vacuum Cleaners, Pledge, etc.

**OFFICE SUPPLIES:** One Subjects Notebooks, Paper, Pens, Pencils, Recovery Bibles, Serenity Bibles, Staying Sober Books, NA Basic Texts, AA Big Books, Copy Paper, Ink Cartridges, Computers, Printer

**TRANSPORTATION:** Gas Cards, Car, Van, Oil for Vehicles, Oil Filters

**MAINTENANCE SUPPLIES:** Push Mowers, Weed Eaters, Extension Cords, Paint Supplies, Ladder, Power Tools, Hand Tools

I would like this opportunity to introduce myself to the friends of the 24/7 House community.

I am Michael Smith a certified addictions counselor and the new counselor for the men at 24/7 House.

In recovery myself, I can relate to those that suffer from this disease of addiction. It is my calling and passion to help men with this deadly disease and, I have dedicated the rest of my life to do so.

I recently arrived from Damascus Road Recovery located in Covington, Georgia, there I worked with a successful recovery resident for three years.

Today I bring some changes and techniques acquired over years of

education and recovery.

The staff at 24/7 House have welcomed me and allowed me to feel at home. And I welcome the opportunity to grow with this program.

One evening, during prayer, I asked God to open a door where I could better serve and within days I was driving to Baxley to meet with the staff at 24/7 House. A week later I arrived to work with the men here.

I am looking forward to what God has planned for this sacred place. As we grow and change it is my belief that God will send to us those that want help.

Each day brings new challenges and rewards and I look forward in excitement and anticipation for what's ahead for 24/7 House!



Today I am grateful to be part of these courageous men's lives that have made a decision to become the men that God wants them to be.

The miracle can happen because I am proof.

*Michael Smith*

## Family Corner

Holidays bring a lot of different thoughts, feelings and emotions. For families who suffer from the disease of addiction our thoughts are often on the "love on" who suffers from this disease. Our feelings go from hurt, anger, resentment, fear, hopeless, love. Emotionally we become drained of energy; we have loss of interest in our own lives, as well as other family members. We are focused on the one with the disease. We become emotionally, mentally, physically and spiritually drained.

I know this as I have been there. When I realized that there was nothing I could do to change my love one. I surrendered to the only one who could help and change things, God! I let go of control, as I had none anyway. I began to focus on what I could do something about, and that was me. I began to spend more time reading the Bible, in prayer and self-help books. I sought out others who were suffering as I was. Slowly over time I began to get better, I focused on the things I could change. My family slowly became more stable.

God helped me when I was willing for Him to do so. I can see the blessings that He has given me over the years. The greatest of these is to help those who are on the road that I have been on; I get to share His



love and grace with others, if they are willing.

My prayer to the families of residents at 24/7 House is that you will find gratitude, in where your family is at and allow God to lead you to find peace and joy, even in your current circumstance.

Peace, Love and Joy to each of You.

Marie Wildes



1st Annual Walk for Change Overall Winners

1st Annual Day of Grace  
Peggy Miles, Earline Poole



Christmas Party 2012  
Volunteers: Tina Pearson, Kathy Miller, Kristina Sellers, Renee Griffin



1st Annual Day of Grace Registration  
Table Peggy Miles, Ann Miller

Women's Alumni Retreat 2013



**Incarceration has proven not to work. 24/7 House has proven to work. Would you give \$20.00 to save a friend or family member? Every family is effected by alcohol or drug abuse.**

**Help us restore the addict and alcoholic to his or her family.**

**A commitment of just \$20.00 per month can change lives.**

**Will you accept this challenge of a monthly contribution of \$20.00 to the 24/7 House to provide the means to continue the work God has begun?**

**How many of your friends, family and church members would be willing to commit to this challenge?  
Please share and spread the word...**



## LIVE FREE

*Before coming to 24/7 House my life was headed down a dead end road and it had no meaning at all. From drugs to stealing it all lead me to jail. I thought God had given up on me, but He just had better plans for me. Now God ahs revealed Himself in my life and has shown me a new way to live where I can have freedom and have a life with meaning.*

*-Buddy*

*Before coming to the 24/7 House I was lost and felt completely hopeless. I've been living in a vicious cycle of drug addiction for nearly seven years. I was spiritually lost and had nearly died once due to an overdose and even that wasn't enough to get me sober, but I now it was God's will that I am here now and I am truly grateful for being clean.*

*-Ashton*

*When I came to the 24/7 House I was completely broken and sincerely believed that I really did not want to exist any longer. I was in a very dark place in my life and a slave to my addictions. I prayed for death to come and ease my emptiness and pain. After four months in the program here I am a completely different person, with the help of God, the staff, and Mr. Pete Wright I am able to see through the darkness and my world is full of light. I have a new rewarding life to look forward to.*

*-Harvey*

# LIVE FREE

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*The biggest thing I have been given since becoming a resident at the 24/7 House is that freedom to live. To be able to live and enjoy life as others do. To be spiritually alive and to have found meaning in life. I no longer have to be tethered to things of this world. Now I have a chance to be truly alive and free.*

-Spencer

*I've failed a lot in my life, but there's so much success in the future now. The 24/7 House has saved my life and gave me a chance to know who Jesus is. I was broken inside and out when I walked through the door and my life is being put back together one day at a time. I'm grateful to be here and to be a recovering addict with a great network and family.*

-Cierra

*I've been fighting with addiction for twelve years, in and out of jail and other institutions, never staying to complete,*

*always jumped back in my will. The 24/7 House has shown me something different, something I like. 24/7 House has shown me a better way to live, with hope. In all actuality this is God's house. A place to come and surrender.*

-Mary

*This time last year I was in a dark place. I was hopeless and ready to quit life. I cried out to God and said please help me. I wanted out of the life, but I knew I could not do it alone. Approximately two weeks later I walked through the doors of the 24/7 House. To say my life has changed dramatically is an understatement. I thank God for this place and the overwhelming support of staff, volunteers, and the community daily.*

-Brandy

*I am a recovering addict in my 40's. I have merely survived this life from one high to the next believing that was all there was for me. I've now completed the program*

*and I feel so blessed to leave with people that are concerned about me and my recovery. Jesus has placed people in my life to teach me how the disease of addiction operates within me and they have given me tools to help enable me to live drug free. Today I have hope. Today I have a relationship with my Savior.*

-Robin



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