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**R. J. Eaton**, Director of Operations  
**Pastor D. L. Rogers**, Executive Director  
**Brenda Rogers**, Adminstrative Coordinator  
**Randy Brown**, Director (and wife, Lesa Brown)

Lifeline-connect is a 501c3 non-profit residential discipleship program for men with substance abuse addictions.

## BELIEVE IN THE CAUSE. SUPPORT LC TODAY.

Your monthly support isn't just an investment in a few men. It's an investment in your own life and community. Because every individual that overcomes drug and alcohol addiction is one more step toward healthier families, safer communities, and a more stable society. And that's a worthwhile investment. Please send your tax-deductible donation today.

Please designate donations made to the "Future Housing" project or "Transportation Fund" on the memo line of your check. Thank you for believing in the cause.

**PLEASE MAIL YOUR DONATION AND THE SLIP BELOW TO:**

Lifeline-connect  
P.O. Box 3332  
Urbana, IL 61803  
Attn: Brenda Rogers

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Address \_\_\_\_\_ \$\_\_\_\_\_ One-Time Donation

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ \$\_\_\_\_\_ Future Housing\*

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ \$\_\_\_\_\_ Transportation Fund

**Thank you for supporting Lifeline-connect.**

\*For more information on this project, please call Brenda Rogers at 217.621.9649.

04.2012

# THE CONNECTOR

The Lifeline-connect Newsletter



## SAVE THE DATE!

### 6th Anniversary Celebration

October 13 –14, 2012

Homer Lake Pavilion, Homer, IL

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Zoning Permit Granted!

LC Resident Testimonies

LC Needs a Ride!

## LIFELINE-CONNECT...A ROADMAP TO CHANGE

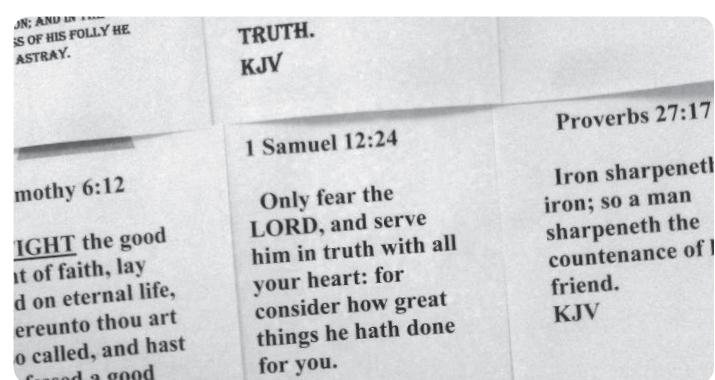
It has been said, “If you want to change your life, change your mind”. Okay...but how does one change their mind? It’s like saying, “If you want to get to Opportunity, Montana just follow the road.” Obviously to get to Opportunity, Montana one would need a roadmap, MapQuest, GPS, etc. The same is true concerning changing our life—we need instructions and tools. Lifeline-connect is that “Roadmap to Change” for every man enrolled.

For a life to be changed, the heart and mind have to change. Those suffering the effects of alcohol and substance abuse have been “stuck” in self-destructive coping behaviors, pain, shame, and fear. Their minds are “loaded” with subconscious fears, victim mentalities, survival lies, projected lies, false perceptions, and confusion. The good news is that when they become a part of Lifeline-connect and are willing to renew their minds, they begin their journey to a changed life. Through honest self-evaluation and the safe environment of LC they are obtaining lasting personal change.

Of course they are able to change thanks to the grace of God and turning their hearts toward Him. Fear is overcome as they place their faith in Jesus Christ and His salvation.

It is most amazing to witness men being “released” from behaviors that originate deep in the heart. By exposing themselves to the transforming power of the Holy Spirit, restoration and healing comes. Hope is reborn. (Romans 12:2, John 3:3-7, Ephesians 4:22-23, Ezekiel 36:26-27)

And yes...there is an Opportunity, Montana! And yes, your support of LC helps give hurting men an opportunity to change. Thank you for your support. † D.L. Rogers, Executive Director



Scriptures posted in the kitchen by LC residents provide daily encouragement and instruction as they renew their minds.

# Testimonies and Updates from Our Current Residents



Tim Heard



Cameron Gordon

Thomas Mann

Matthew Savage



Steven Bigel



Brian Doubek

## Tim Heard

I would describe my life before Lifeline-connect with Psalm 31:10–12, “For my life is spent with grief, and my years with sighing; my strength fails because of my iniquity, and my bones waste away. I am a reproach among all my enemies, but especially among my neighbors, and am repulsive to my acquaintances; those who see me outside flee from me. I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind; I am like a broken vessel.” I now live by Romans 12:2, “And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”

**NEWS:** Tim has reached the one year mark, completing Phase 1 and 2 and has chosen to commit to Phase 3. He resides off campus and works at Menards. He has also earned his GED and obtained his Driver’s License.

## Matthew Savage

“I came to LC with the state of mind of a scared, lost, broken little boy. No self-esteem to speak of, zero social skills, and no work ethic. God has used the last ten and a half months to change that. I am now comfortable knowing that I’m a son of God and have value to Him. He has blessed me with a job and driver’s license in the past couple of months. God is putting me back together...”

**NEWS:** Matthew is now in Phase 2 and works in the electrical dept. at Menards.

## Cameron Gordon

“After coming to LC, my decision process has completely changed for the better. This program has definitely taught me to think things out before acting to be more successful in the future.”

**NEWS:** Cameron is now in Phase 2.

## Thomas Mann

“Since I’ve come to Lifeline-connect, I’ve been shown the love and mercy of God. I learn something new everyday about God’s Word and I have been delivered from drugs, alcohol and cigarettes. I have been baptized in Jesus’ name and have received the Gift of the Holy Ghost, which gives me a peace that I’ve never known. Living one day for God is better than living a thousand days for myself. LC has changed my life and given me the tools to live a sober, happy life.”

**NEWS:** Tom is now in Phase 2 and does carry-out for Menards.

## Steven Bigel

“The biggest change in my attitude is who I am. If asked to describe myself, I would have told you I was a real estate appraiser. Now I respond, ‘I am a child of God with all the disciplines and privileges of a Christian man.’ The Bible tells us in 2 Corinthians 5:17, ‘Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things have passed away, behold, all things are become new.’”

**NEWS:** Steven has completed “90 Days”.

## Brian Doubek

“My mental state was one of hopelessness. My self-pity and resentments were at an absolute high water mark. The insanity of the things I did were incredible. The extremes I went to to get money for drugs were devastating to my credit and me. I truly used heroin to live and lived to use heroin. But even when I had it, I was mostly miserable and fake. The worst were the mornings when I got up. I would swear off using at night, but wake up so sick from withdrawal and depression I had to use. I could truly understand why people committed suicide.”

My life is so much better now that my thinking has changed. I try to put God first to the best of my ability. The classes have taught how to do this, as well as the instructors. I’ve learned how to avoid temptation, how to pray, and the reality of salvation. I’ve gotten rid of old resentments that made me miserable. I have changed thinking patterns like gossip, fault finding, pride and vanity to a very large degree. I have no desire to use or self medicate. I can take life on its terms. I have a long way to go...change is ongoing...but I’m well on my way. I have no or very little denial, I admit when I am wrong and truly try to turn my back on that behavior. This is not behavior modification. It is true change.”

**NEWS:** Brian has completed “90 Days”.

## Lifeline-connect is E-X-P-A-N-D-I-N-G



Yes! After three years of public hearings we have the “green light” to expand the ministry of Lifeline-connect. We are authorized to house up to twenty-four men. This means a new dorm and training center are being planned. It will be constructed on the present campus. Most of the time we are at capacity so we need this expansion to accommodate all the requests for enrollment. Of course the LC staff has to grow with the enrollment as does the financial support base. Because this is such a genuine and indisputable need we have no hesitation in asking for financial support. Please pray that more donors will join us. Thank you for your continued support. Lives are being changed because you give. **† D.L. Rogers**, Executive Director

## Cars, Truck and Van Are Needed

Many of our supporters have asked us to let them know when we have needs. We are currently in need in several areas. With the approval to expand we will need to raise funds for the new dorm. We are seeking out different resources and ask that you pray with us for the Lord's direction and provision.

We are also in great need of donated vehicles or a financial donation to purchase them. We need a couple program cars. One to use for program transportation needs (2 or 3 men attending a class, grocery runs, etc). We are currently using a 15-passenger van for all errands, and of course it

is not very gas efficient and is costly. The other car is for Phase 3 residents who are at least 1 year into recovery, live off campus, work a job, begin managing money and day to day life yet with accountability.

LC also needs a work truck and we will very soon need to upgrade our van for group transportation as ours is on its last leg and in constant need of repairs. This is the first time we have ever “asked” for donations for vehicles. They have always just happened. The Scripture says, “Ask and you shall receive!”

## Here's How You Can Help:

If you or someone you know has a vehicle they no longer need and would be willing to donate, or would prefer to make a financial donation toward this need, please mail in the form on the back or donate through PayPal via our web site, [www.lifelineconnect.org](http://www.lifelineconnect.org). All donations are tax-deductable.

Thank you so much to all of our supporters. Without your continued support, we would not be able to continue doing the work of helping men recover from alcohol and substance abuse.



## Behind the Scenes

Lifeline-connect residents and staff enjoy fellowship and lunch together on Thursdays.



Michael and Meagan Savage (above) were married January 6, 2012. Michael was a 2011 graduate, and is currently involved in the ministry of Solid Rock Ministries in Fenton, MO.

Lifeline-connect extends congratulations to Billy and Julie Aceto (2010–2011 resident) on their recent wedding. They were married March 3, 2012 in Tennessee.