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# THE CONNECTOR

The Lifeline-connect Newsletter

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## GREAT IS THE REWARD

For almost three years we have experienced great rewards as we've witnessed lives being rescued, recovered, and restored. Several men who have enrolled in Lifeline-connect have been successful in their recovery, re-entry into employment and steps toward self-supported living. Currently, eight men are enrolled. Some have just completed their first ninety days towards recovery and others over twelve months of restoration. It is exciting to see these men regain confidence and a sense of accomplishment. Each of them can testify, *"I have strength for all things in Christ Who empowers me"*. (Philippians 4:13)

Friend—your support and prayers for Lifeline-connect are what enable the program to continue. You and the LC staff believe that no matter what destruction and havoc has happened in a man's life due to drug and alcohol addictions... there is hope. By the amazing grace of God and the dedicated effort of all who assist the program we are seeing men regain that which was lost. Thank you for your support and financial contributions. We thank the Lord for you. On behalf of our entire staff...in Jesus Name, thank you. † **D.L. Rogers**, Exec. Dir.



Our Third Anniversary Celebration of Lifeline-connect will be Saturday, October 17th and Sunday, October 18th. Saturday's event will be a cookout extraordinaire—with special guest Kelly Caywood of EXTREME MINISTRIES and a concert by Larry Carter of Doniphan, Missouri. Sunday, we will celebrate again during the noon service of Apostolic Life/Iglesia Vida Apostolica. We'll hear testimonies of the LC residents (current and former), recognize our supporters and hear the dynamic testimonies of Larry Carter and Kelly Caywood. We'll also bring you up to date on all the news of Lifeline-connect, including future plans for expansion and our new "extension program". **We sincerely hope that you are able to join this celebration!**

## A SENSE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT

The good news throughout this issue of the Connector is the excitement about how much the Lifeline-connect program is working! There is a growing sense of accomplishment—for the staff who are seeing lives transformed and within the individual residents. Three Lifeline residents have entered into Phase 2 of the program—living off-campus and successfully maintaining employment. They have completed the required LC curriculum and 25 weeks of LifeQuest education (basic life skills for handling stress, responsibility and life's challenges). In addition, Travis and Jeff have completed a computer training course at Parkland Community College, sharpening their computer skills and job employability.

But the greatest reward and accomplishment for these men is their growing self-esteem about who they are and what they are able to do. Their emotional and spiritual growth is giving them a new confidence and hope for their future. The combination of Bible studies, LifeQuest education and job training are transforming these men. Thank you for believing in the cause—you too deserve a sense of accomplishment for your continued support of Lifeline-connect.



(Lifeline-connect Phase 2 Residents: Tom Martin, Travis Nave and Jeff Branson)

We asked Tom, Travis and Jeff some questions about their personal growth and accomplishments—and their responses speak volumes about the impact of Lifeline-connect.

### TOM MARTIN

What is one thing you have a strong sense of accomplishment about since coming to Lifeline-connect?

“Staying clean as long as I have. It will be 19 months on May 24th. It's the longest I've stayed clean since starting drugs.”

In what areas have you grown the most?

“My self-esteem and peace. And my attitude about everything has improved alot—I don't even think the same”. (Tom continued next column)

How has Lifeline-connect helped you?

“LC has taken me from 13 years of life on drugs and time in prison, to the person I am today. I've given my life to God completely and am becoming the person I was meant to be.”

### TRAVIS NAVE

What is one thing you have a strong sense of accomplishment about since coming to Lifeline-connect?

“Having a personal relationship with God... I went to church a lot in my life but lacked a daily intimate relationship.”

In what areas have you grown the most?

“Now that I have been delivered from the bondage of addiction, God has given me freedom to express boldness in prayer and worship! This really means a lot to me.”

How has Lifeline-connect helped you?

“When I came to lifeline-connect I had already been through three secular rehab programs without success. I had lost my wife, my three children, my home and my purpose due to my drug addiction. Today, after eleven months in LC, God through Lifeline-connect is helping my wife and children and I reconnect. When it looked like divorce was imminent, today we have a new beginning!” His wife Shelly adds, “The change in Travis is nothing short of a miracle from God.”

### JEFF BRANSON

What is one thing you have a strong sense of accomplishment about since coming to Lifeline-connect?

“In the past, I felt I had no hope and no real future. Now I have great friends, am a part of the greatest church ever, have a good job and I have even begun saving money! I have goals I want to attain and God has given me hope and He has plans for my future.”

In what areas have you grown the most?

“In my maturity and attitude. My life was miserable without peace or enjoyment of life. I was depressed, selfish, addicted to drugs, and I guess I really didn't care. I have now been drug free for 20 months and have learned to live life with true joy and peace. That is something the drugs couldn't do.”

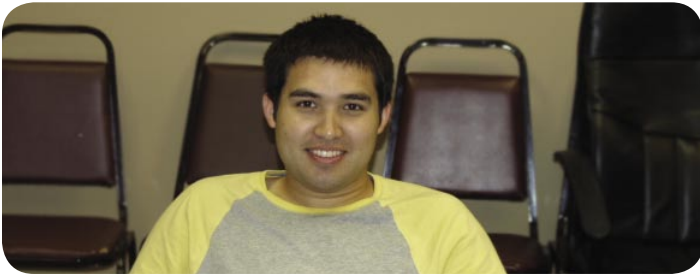
How has Lifeline-connect helped you?

“After coming to Lifeline-connect, I now have a strong relationship with God. LC has given me tools to help me cope successfully with all the situations in my life, and I am still learning to make wise choices and I'm maturing everyday.”



To learn more about our Future Housing Project for LC residents, please visit [lifelineconnect.org](http://lifelineconnect.org) and click on “Our Needs”.

## LC RESIDENT: LES COTTON



### FINDING RESTORATION THROUGH LIFELINE-CONNECT

"I am 27 years old and I'm from Louisiana. Before coming to Lifeline-connect I was addicted to drugs and alcohol for seven years. I came from an Apostolic background and was raised in church until I went to college. During my college years I completely turned my back on God. I partied and did drugs six nights a week. Before I realized it I was addicted to prescription meds, alcohol and the party lifestyle. I completely drifted away from God and lost all my convictions. This lifestyle brought me down to places I never imagined I could be. In seven years I got two DUI's, spent time in jail, and two weeks in ICU due to an overdose; I ruined a nursing career and experienced a broken wedding engagement. At one time I was full of life, but now I was lost in a deep depression with no will to live. I was

in bondage and could feel the chains of sin heavy in my life. I was sick and tired of who I had become. It was time to make a decision. I knew I desperately needed help. While searching for a rehab program I knew it would take more than a secular program. I knew I needed Jesus and the power of the Holy Ghost. My Pastor helped me find Lifeline-connect and I have been in Lifeline-connect for two months now. From day one I began to see changes in my life. God refilled me with the Holy Ghost the second day I was in the program. My life is being restored spiritually and emotionally. I have a fresh start at life, with a strong foundation in Christ, and I am being equipped with the necessary tools to have a successful and fulfilling life in my Savior Jesus Christ."

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## LC RESIDENT: JASON WILLIAMS



### FROM LIQUID DRUG TO LIVING WATER

Jason penned this poem when asked to give his testimony.

"Not long ago I stumbled 'round lost  
and like a bag of trash, my life I had tossed.  
Lived my days in a hole that alone I had dug,  
and I spent all my nights with my liquid drug.  
I tried to just hide it, and always stay numb,  
but nothing was funny about this clown I'd become.

Once ambitious and full of life,  
my addiction had cut me like the blade of a knife.  
What once was for fun and I did for a kick,  
now was my life, it was nothing but sick.  
Didn't think it would change cause what else could I do?  
After so many years, it was all that I knew.

With some fear and excitement I leave all that behind,  
because finally one thing is clear in my mind.  
Hand it over to God, my new life he'll direct  
with some help from my friends at Lifeline-connect!"



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Sign up to receive The Connector via email at [www.lifelineconnect.org](http://www.lifelineconnect.org)



**Randy Brown**, Program Director  
**Pastor D.L. Rogers**, Executive Director  
**Brenda Rogers**, Administrative Coordinator  
**Steven Staten**, Director of Operations

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

## BELIEVE IN THE CAUSE. SUPPORT LC TODAY.

We are totally dependant upon fundraisers and donations for the daily operation of Lifeline-connect. Along with our need for regular monthly support, we have some special needs that require extra funding. If you would like to support LC, please fill out the form below and mail in with your tax-deductible donation.

To learn more about our Future Housing Project: click on **“Our Needs”** at [lifelineconnect.org](http://lifelineconnect.org).

**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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Name _____	Date _____	\$____ Monthly Contributor
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