



2823 Cherry Street
Toledo, Ohio 43608

1.800.517.2915
opendoortoledo.org

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THE DOOR

JUNE 2021



The Open Door Ministry

DEPENDENCE ON A HIGHER POWER



DAN GAYNOR

to their lives every day, one day at a time – in a row! Over the years I've watched the approach to treatment transform, and new ideas to solve a spiritual malady arise. But the foundation does not change – the 12 Step program and the change that occurs to our ideas, emotions and attitudes is the most powerful and consistent tool one can use to sustain long-term recovery. When combined with the fellowship provided by support networks such as AA and Al-Anon, and combined with true service work expecting nothing in return, individuals and families can find healing and transformation. All we have to do is to continue to “chop wood and carry water”. Living this way of life seems to make it happen around us as we continue to practice spiritual principles almost automatically.

Your support is greatly appreciated and we are committed to provide quality services to those who come to the Open Door for help. Donating to the Open Door is about having the fortitude to believe in the idea that everyone, including alcoholics and addicts, should be given another chance. It's not about getting something back. It's about supporting an organization that provides recovery services to everyday people. Please help us make a difference.

Dan
DAN GAYNOR
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Open Door began serving men in need in 1984, offering a safe and sober environment for those men suffering from drug and alcohol addiction. As we enter our 37th year, I'm proud of what the Open Door, as an organization and community member, has accomplished.

With the many changes and new opportunities taking place here at the Open Door we continue to garner great support from our donors and supporters, the community, and the men and their families that we serve. Support that seems to be backed by love without conditions, and for that we are truly grateful.

Our vision is “Every man who resides at the Open Door will embrace a life of sobriety based on the spiritual principles of honesty, unselfishness and love.” Please help us continue to serve men in recovery by supporting our mission to achieve our vision.

The spirit of our mission resonates through the houses inspiring our residents to embrace the 12 Steps and apply them

OUR VISION

Every man who resides at The Open Door Ministry will embrace a life of sobriety based on the spiritual principles of honesty, unselfishness and love.

OUR MISSION

The Open Door Ministry provides supportive sober living where men recover from substance abuse through the spirituality of the 12 steps and can ultimately return to productive and sober lives.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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FOUNDER'S DAY

Celebrate with us

Each year in June we send men that live at the Open Door on an all-expenses paid trip to Founder's Day – the celebration of the founding of Alcoholics Anonymous in Akron, Ohio. For the past 2 years we have not been

able to send men to this life changing event due to the event being canceled. However, this year we will be attending virtually! Please join us via zoom and participate in this great event, honoring the founders of AA.



86th Anniversary
1935-2021
Alcoholics Anonymous
Akron, Ohio

Founders' Day 2021
86th Anniversary of Alcoholics Anonymous

Save the dates:
June 12th & 13th

The 86th annual Founders' Day celebration will be held as a virtual event.
For registration and details, please refer to Foundersday.org

*In love and service,
The Founders' Day Committee*

WISH LIST

Dale Schaefer our wish list, inventory and supplies coordinator indicated we need the following items.

Jeans
Size 32x32, 34x32, 38x32, 40x32

White t-shirts
Size L, XL, 2X

New or gently used sweatshirts
Size L, 2X

New or gently used tennis shoes and work boots
Size 10.5, 11, 12

We also need men in AA to attend our recovery meetings.

Monday, Wednesday & Friday • 9:30am
Wednesday • 7:00pm
Thursday • 8:00pm

MIRACLES HAPPEN HERE.

“The Open Door showed me how to have the life I always wanted and never thought I’d have.”

ONE MAN'S STORY

In October of 2014 I moved into a sober living home called Open Door, I had no idea what was about to happen to me. I was to have “vital spiritual experiences that appeared in the nature of huge emotional displacements and rearrangements.” When I left the Open Door in May of 2016, my ideas, emotions and attitudes were changed. Today, I’m happily married, I have two beautiful baby girls, I have a family that loves me, I have a good job that I have had for more than 5 years now, I’m enrolled in college working towards an engineering degree, I support myself and am a productive member of society. I am so grateful today. Through the support and encouragement of Open Door’s Sober Living Program, the 12 Steps, the fellowship of AA and my sponsor, I live a happy, usefully whole life today!

The following story originally ran in our Spring 2016 edition of “The Door” newsletter. Today, Derek is as fine of a specimen of a manhood as one could wish to meet.

My experience with the Open Door has been something I felt like I’ve never experienced before. I came there quiet, not knowing anyone, and not having anything but a hand full of clothes with me. From the first day I was told this is your home now and I never felt like it wasn’t. What was a journey through up and down, the staff, the men living there, the emphasis of working a 12 step program, and the place which I called home had saved my life. It is truly hard for me to put into words what I experienced while living there.



The fact that I always had someone to talk to, and had as much time as I needed to focus on myself had helped me tremendously. I never knew there was a life worth living sober, and the Open Door helped me find one. They offered me help with rent and did not pressure me to get a job until we felt ready I was ready to go off into the working environment. They helped me to become a brother, a son, a mentor, a friend, and an employee, not only to my job but an employee to God himself. I never had a concept of a Higher Power, but the relationship that I’ve built, by having time to focus on myself, is a faith that works.

“I never knew there was a life worth living sober, and the Open Door helped me find one.”

Though my faith has been tested and there were times when my ego could of driven me out of there, I stayed and Dan always helped me see when I was fear driven, which happened a lot. Dan helped me see more of who I am as a person than anyone or even myself has ever shown me. I always felt comfortable, and for that I am grateful.

SPECIAL THANKS

Open Door awarded grant

We would like to recognize and thank the Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Lucas County for awarding our Sober Living Program a \$5,000 grant for 2021! We would also like to thank all of our donors who continue to support us financially, without your help we couldn't

provide the programming that helps us help others. We are so blessed to have such great people and organizations support the Open Door's mission.



Back to Basics

Another thank you we'd like to make is to the volunteers that help us carry the message and the solution to our problem. Those men that take time out of their life to attend our meetings, sponsor our residents, and show them the way of recovery. Especially Mr. Andrew Weaver, who has volunteered to host our Back to Basics course for several years now. We are very appreciative of his time and efforts, teaching the “basics” of the 12 Steps to our residents.

THANK YOU ANDREW!





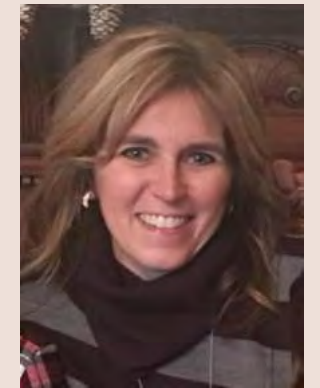
Ameriprise Financial

Patrick R. Convery, CFP®
Financial Advisor
5954 Renaissance Pl Ste B
Toledo, Ohio 43623
491.725.9219
patrick.r.convery@ampf.com
ameripriseadvisors.com/
[patrick.r.convery](http://patrick.r.convery.com)

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491.725.9219
to get started.

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All the best!



We are happy and sad at the same time to say goodbye to our long-time bookkeeper, friend, and supporter, Andrea Henline. As of January 1, 2021 Andrea is no longer handling our books. Her life has changed, her family is growing, her business is more demanding, and she has decided it is time to step aside. It's hard to believe that 13 years has gone by since you first started doing our books!

Thank you for your commitment and service to the Open Door Ministry. You have been such an asset to the organization. You have helped us keep our books accurate and well organized. You have created reports that allow us to easily assess our needs and our reserves. You have advised us based on your experience and helped us become better stewards of our resources. Because of you the Open Door has been a better non-profit organization.

THANK YOU ANDREA!