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opendoortoledo.org

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WISH LIST

Dale Schaefer handles our inventory and supplies and asks that if you can help, we could use the following:

Short pants sizes 36, 38 & 40

Men's underwear sizes large and XL

Bottled water and other refreshments (soda, Gatorade, individual juice bottles)

New or gently used refrigerators and gas dryers

Call Dale at 419.242.7281 with questions or for pick up any donated items.

We would like to invite men who have recovered, who are willing to sponsor and help new members understand the program, attend our in-house recovery group meetings on Monday, Wednesday & Friday mornings at 9:30am, Wednesday night at 7pm and Thursday night at 8pm. This is a great opportunity to share your experience, strength and hope with the new man.

Partnership opportunities

Our 2022 annual fundraising campaign is underway for 2022!

We hope to raise \$150,000 this year to pay for a substantial portion of operational costs of the Open Door's Sober Living Program for Men. With your generous support, we have met this goal for the last four years! Support the men at the Open Door with a one time, multiple time or monthly life changing gift by partnering with our organization through corporate and individual giving. If you would like to partner with us or would like to know more about this opportunity to support men in recovery, please contact our offices by calling 419.242.7281.

Special thanks

Open Door Board member Eric Morgan was instrumental in facilitating the Maumee Rotary Service Foundation's grant of \$3,500 to Open Door Ministry with the help of Rotary Member Dave Bodner. Dave is pictured here with Dan Gaynor, Executive Director of Open Door. We will put this money to good use by sending our residents to the 87th anniversary of the founding of Alcoholics Anonymous, known as Founder's Day in Akron, Ohio. Thank you Dave and the Maumee Rotary Service Foundation!



THE DOOR

JUNE 2022



The Open Door Ministry

ANSWERING THE CALL



DAN GAYNOR

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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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.

As Executive Director I have been working for more than 12 years here at the Door and it has been my honor and privilege to serve the more than 850 men who have come through here since 2010. When my time is done, and in the spirit of rotation, I will step aside so another can take the helm of the Open Door into the future, providing hope and a solution to homeless, addicted men who wish to change their lives and become sober, productive members of society.

DAN GAYNOR
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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 to apply the principles of those steps into 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

MIRACLES HAPPEN HERE.

Founders' Day



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.

This year we were fortunate once again to have a 15 passenger van that we typically rent, donated to us to use by Dave White Jr., of Dave White Chevrolet. Thank you Dave for your thoughtful generosity!

NEWSLETTER SPONSORED IN PART BY

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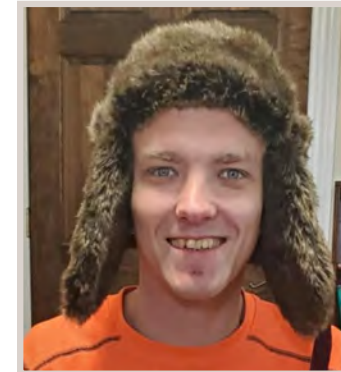
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One Man's Story



"All of the struggles have been worth it."

JACOB MOORE

My name is Jacob and I'm an alcoholic. I came to the Open Door after in-patient rehab in March of 2020 because I had nowhere else to go. I believe I was born alcoholic. Growing up I remember a lot of fear, feelings of not fitting in and just plain weirdness – no sense of direction. Once I discovered alcohol and drugs, everything changed. Using made me feel normal. My life soon became dedicated to maintaining this feeling whatever the cost.

The first major consequence that I suffered as the result of my lifestyle happened in 2010 during which time I was sentenced to three years in prison. During that time I swore that I was done using and that I was going to straighten my life out. I didn't use drugs nor did I drink any alcohol while incarcerated. Once I was released, I started using again – that same day! I had no resolve, all of the promises I told myself for those three years in prison vanished. I had absolutely no defense against it.

For the next two years I continued using and drinking, lying, cheating, fearful and all of the other side effects of the alcoholic life. I was desperately trying to hide it since I was on parole. During those two years of hell, I checked myself into a psychiatric hospital several times to try to stop using. Eventually I checked myself into a residential treatment center for substance abuse. That was in 2015 and from there I remained clean and sober for another three years. Unfortunately, I was unable to enlarge my spiritual life and my insanity returned and I picked up another drink. In 2020 I had finally had enough misery. I just wanted to die, I had no hope, and I had no desire to even want to try at that point. I was done. I was at the end. That was my first real talk with God. I asked Him for an end to what I was doing, I just begged for it to be over. On January 6, 2020 I ended up in the ER again and was placed in the psych ward again and from there I ended up in a treatment center again.

The treatment center told me about a place called the Open Door and when I left the treatment center, I moved into the Open Door. The first thing that I was told by the residents when I got to the Open Door was "Welcome Home". That's where I began to learn about my disease and the solution to it. There I was given the opportunity to focus solely on 12 Step recovery, learning the 12 Steps and putting them into practice in my life. I started to develop a relationship with God and I finally began to feel happiness. I followed their directions and from the day I entered the Door as a homeless, penniless, jobless, hopeless alcoholic who had nothing to live for - I became the opposite of all those things.

My time there was productive and the journey has been very interesting. All of the struggles have been worth it.

Today I have my family back in my life, I now know how to live sober and be happy, I have a good job, I bought my first car ever and now live in my very own apartment. These basics of life would never have happened for me without God in my life, the 12 steps and the help and dedication of the Open Door. Thank you all so much, I look forward to coming back to help those who were like me.