

Dear Friend,

When an addict finally calls Jericho Road from a bed in Detox, jail or a hospital, he has usually **lost everything** – job, home, marriage, friends and reputation. Having hit bottom, he comes to Jericho often with nothing but the clothes on his back. For nine months he receives help, a safe home, food, clothes, friends and support all in the structured 12 step recovery program of the D- House. Like James' Story (on back), **he finds hope for a new life:**

I came to Jericho Road financially broken, addicted to drugs & alcohol and lived only to serve myself no matter who I hurt, lied to or stole from. As soon as I uttered the words, "God I can't do this anymore, please help", God began to do for me what I could not do for myself.

But a recovery program costs money - \$800 a month at Jericho Road. Since most of the men coming to the D-house have lost everything, they apply for welfare. That monthly Ontario Works cheque falls far short of paying the program costs. So these men in recovery need to be subsidized.

JRM program fees are \$800 a month. A man on welfare pays \$500. That's a \$300 subsidy each month or \$10 a day.

Would you subsidize a man today and give the Gift of Recovery?

With Gratitude and Christmas Greetings,



Hope Versluis
Executive Director
Jericho Road Ministries

CHRISTMAS



Give the Gift of Recovery

James' Story

Hello my name is James. I graduated from the Jericho Road Discipleship program July 27, 2011.

Jericho Road has played an integral part in my life and recovery. I first came to Jericho spiritually, physically, emotionally, socially and definitely financially broken. I was addicted to drugs and alcohol and lived only to serve myself, no matter who I hurt, lied to or stole from. I was trying to fill an emptiness in my life and trying in vain to cover up my fear, pain and resentments with substances. No matter how much I used or drank, there remained a vacuum within.

I was full of crippling fear and panic and longed for the end of my life when I called out to God in desperation. As soon as I uttered the words, "God I can't do this anymore, please help", God began to do for me what I could not do for myself.

At Jericho Road, I was provided with structure, information about my illness, my health and sense of wellbeing, a foundation for my spirituality, relationships with others and the most important thing, a relationship with God. Jericho Road, as well as AA, is a spiritual program. We acknowledge that apart from God nothing is possible.

After nine months, I graduated from the program, lived in second stage for a while which provided me with continued structure and accountability and now, I sponsor others in recovery at Jericho. I give back in this way because there was someone to sponsor and support me when I needed help and also, I need to give away what I have freely been given in order to stay sober and healthy.

So what does my life look like today? I wake up, thank God for the day and go to work. I attend my AA home group and meet with my sponsor. My health has returned and I play sports again. I hang out with friends and have a wonderful girlfriend. I have hobbies and interests and am able to go on trips and vacations thanks to financial stability. I've attended school to further my career in arboriculture. My life has been returned and it far exceeds any of the expectation I had when I was down and out.

I am extremely grateful that Jericho Road is where I came to get my life back. I want to thank everyone who helped me along the way, when I couldn't help myself. You are what has made Jericho Road possible for me and for many, many others, and for many more to come.



James