



Lazarus House

Newsletter

Fall 2017

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK.....

Dear Friend(s) of Lazarus House,

It's been a while since you heard from us. We are slowly and smoothly transitioning to being part of Youth Services System, Inc. (YSS). The mission remains the same. The Mary & Martha House for women has re-opened, and the Lazarus House continues for men in need of a safe place to call home while getting back to work after active addiction.

As for myself, I am working part-time for now. John Moses and YSS asked me to stay on through the transition. I am not sure how long that will be, but am hoping to be here for the next year or so. Apart from having a reason to get out of bed in the morning – my dog Millie gets me out of bed anyway at 4 a.m. – the work is important to me because of the extent of the problem we continue to face in our beloved West Virginia. Lazarus House has been more than a job to me; it has been my life, and I love it.

There is a lot less stress in my life as I am no longer the boss! Much of the administrative and financial work is in the capable hands of YSS, and the maintenance crew is fantastic in helping to address long-term issues with these beautiful, but aging, houses. Electrical work is a priority, with Mary & Martha House needing more attention than Lazarus House right now. A new roof is needed for the M&M house, and some new flooring for Lazarus House.

Lazarus House is full! The men who come here carry the cross of the usual addictions to heroin and opiates. I am noticing a lot more people presenting with meth addiction (methamphetamine). There is not much news from "the streets" right now on the use of the synthetics ("Spice"/"Vanilla Sky", "Bath Salts" etc). The big fear with heroin use right now is the addition of Fentanyl, a synthetic opiate which can be fatal.

I hope to see you at the Lazarus House dinner on Sunday, November 12th from 11.30 to 4.30. It is always a great community event, and I love seeing you so much. You are our family! Thanks for being part of the miracle!

Love and prayers,

Pat Condron

Director of Lazarus House



**LAZARUS HOUSE ANNUAL
FALL DINNER**

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12

11:30—4:30

**AT THE
SOUP KITCHEN**

Menu

Baked Chicken

Parsley Potatoes & Green Beans

Coleslaw & Rolls

Beverages & Great Desserts

Cost: \$8 or \$4 for Kids

Take-out Available: 304-233-2992

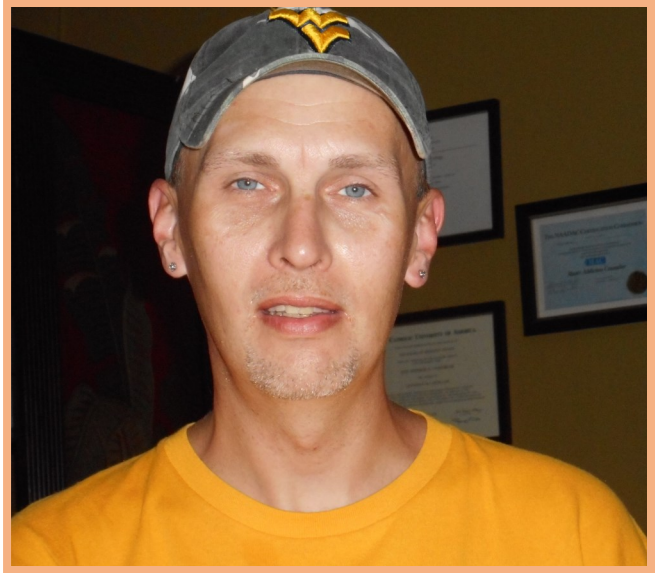


Great food, Great Folks, Great Place, Great Cause

Benji's Story

My name is Benji. I am a recovering addict and this is my story. When I was 18 I was in a horrible car accident which broke 3 vertebrae and my leg – this was the start of my addiction. My addiction escalated until I moved to WV. I met the love of my life, Robert. Meeting him made me realize all of what I was missing while being under the influence. He made me want to be a better person, a recovering and sober person. I got myself involved in recovery and stayed clean for 8 years. I was happy, functional and in love. We decided to embrace our love and get married. A month later I woke up to my husband dead. He had had a heart attack.

I quickly unraveled. I relapsed within a very short period of time. I had lost all that I had gained. I was again lost and desperate for two and a half years. I remember the morning I woke up, realized that I couldn't do this anymore, and called the WV Help Line (1- 844-HELP4WV). Here I am today, 108 days clean, getting back all that I have lost. If it weren't for the help and support of the Lazarus House and Northwood I may not have had the opportunity to share my story. Thank you.



Patrick Condron



Dara Whiteman, Mary & Martha House manager with friends.

A Message from Shelley Rohrig, co-founder of Lazarus House



Hello Family & Friends of Lazarus House,

We are starting a new Era at Lazarus House-- both Same & Different!

The Big Difference is new Management!

The new owner , Youth Services System , is the answer to both Fr. Pat & myself! We so prayed for our Homes to continue to exist because they are so needed here in our Ohio Valley. YSS was our 1st & only choice for new Management. Having observed the great work that they Lovingly provide for the Teens & Adolescents here in Wheeling, we felt they have the Heart for our adult home too !

The Blessed Sameness is that Lazarus House will still be operated as a Memorial to my Mark, & operated with the same Mission Statement, Rules, & Loving Care for our Recovering Occupants.

Fr. Pat & I will still be connected to Lazarus, too! This has aided us in our Heart-filled ability of "letting go" of the operation & ownership of our "Blessed Recovering Homes"!

I also, want to thank each one of you in sharing in our Ministry, & in keeping our hopes alive! I pray that you will remain connected to Lazarus, too. You are also part of our "Lazarus Family"!



Shelley

