

# CAM UPDATE

*Christian Aftercare Ministries for Ex-Offenders*

*OCTOBER 2014*

Non-profit Organization

[www.christianaftercare.com](http://www.christianaftercare.com)

Established 1994

**FROM THE DIRECTOR/EDITOR, PAUL R. ROUSSEL**

## **ANNUAL CAM DINNER –**

Again this year we had an outstanding CAM fundraiser with a capacity crowd in attendance. The chicken cordon blue dinner was prepared by our chefs David Grant and Mike Grady, and with the help of the College and Career group from Merrimack Valley Baptist church, it was served with cheerfulness and graciousness. The music was provided by Sue Brown who delighted the audience with her heart-felt solo, and she led us all in praise songs which touched our hearts. Jason Gardner shared his testimony as to how the Lord transformed his life.

Pastor/Chaplain Dana Hoyt from the Berlin prison, spoke of the Bread of Life and how each one of us can spread the bread upon the waters thereby sharing the message of salvation with those who are seeking to know the Lord. **The Lord blessed us with a generous love offering for which we thank Him and our loyal supporters.** Jean Metzger, a CAM Board member, was recognized for her many years of service in prison ministry. She and Virginia Adams greeted each person as they entered and gave them name tags. The table setup was done by Dave Rattigan with many people helping. Kent Threlfall was our MC. Overall, the evening was a memorable experience for all who attended.

## **CAM STEWARDSHIP –**

We take our responsibility seriously in regard to the stewardship of the assets given to CAM by our supporters. We pray about each donation to individuals. We look for sincere hearts in those people who want to turn their lives around with the help of the Lord when they request our help. In some instances, men are re-incarcerated for parole violations and then they are released again. We pray about helping them a second and third time, and we also remember the Lord has forgiven us many times, so too we must forgive these men who struggle with backsliding. Through the years many men have said to me, **“Don’t give up on us. Give us a second or third chance.”** This is what we prayerfully do. As a result there have been many men and women who finally surrendered to the Lord and are now walking faithfully with Him.

## **PRAYER FOR CAM CLIENTS –**

We receive many requests for prayer from our ex-offenders. Recently Frank, one of our clients, asked if we would pray about a need to visit his wife and attend church in Rochester NH on Sundays. We obliged. A few weeks later he called to say the request was granted and the Parole Board will consider a permanent move after six months. Frank said he believed the Lord was with Him at that hearing.

**How faithful the Lord is in answering the prayers of His people!**

## PLANTING THE SEED

By Jack Shuler, Board Member

Estaban (not his real name) had "maxed out" his multi-year sentence, thus was able to skip the "Halfway House" going instead directly to parole. He claimed to have accepted Jesus as Savior while incarcerated, and we at CAM helped him find a room in the city in which to live. We also were encouraged by the fact that we had been able to assist him in finding a job --- roofing. To us, the Lord had provided that job. The next step was to assist him in finding food necessary for him to begin his new life.

As he and I stood in the long line at the food pantry, he kept averting his eyes from everyone around him. "Why are you trying to hide from everyone?" I asked. His reply, simply put - "I don't want anyone to SEE me in this line." "Estaban," I said, "You claim to have accepted Jesus as your Savior. Only YOU and JESUS really KNOW the truth of your decision, but the fact remains that you have dug yourself into a hole! Let me give you one piece of advice: The first thing you must do in order to get out of this hole, is to stop digging and start claiming God's promises." "Doc", he mumbled, "One or two calls to New York an I could have \$100,000 in a few hours. Before I went to Jail, I had over  
(Next column)

100 pairs of sneakers, two houses, and two cars." When I inquired as to how much he made a year and how he got it, the answer came swiftly - "\$200,000 or \$300,000 a year as a result of a couple annual deals," (he had been a drug dealer). "I kept telling myself" he said "I was going to quit, but the money was too easy." Now, contrast this with a small-wage roofing job in the sun. **Do you see a possible problem??**  
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## MY PERSONAL TESTIMONY

*By Glen Ford*

I grew up in Wilmington, MA, went to schools there, was raised Catholic and went to church Sundays. My parents separated when I was about age twelve – and I lost my motivation to do well. I started drinking and soon was out of control. In my teen years my drinking escalated and I was later charged with my first DWI at age 23. I was living with my girlfriend and she became pregnant and gave birth to my son. Over the years my drinking progressed into my forties. I eventually lost everything: my home, my business, etc.

In July 2012 I was arrested for DWI and sent to jail. While there I started attending Bible studies with Mike Grady (CAM Board member) as I realized my life was unmanageable and out of control. When I was released in August 2013, I had nowhere to turn. In desperation I went to the CAM Helping Hands and met with Paul Roussel, the director. **Paul shared Jesus with me and since I was out of options, I realized I needed Jesus in my life. At that instant I asked Jesus into my heart as Lord and Savior.**

Since then, the Lord has blessed my life in countless ways: clean and sober since then; a supervisory position at Helping Hands; wonderful Christian friends; and I help facilitate Guy Torgesen's Bible study every Monday night. I have been to Gospel Baptist church and my plan is to start attending every week.

Now, as a staff member at Helping Hands, I encourage, offer hope, and actively listen to the men living in the building and try to share wise counsel with them.

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( PLANTING THE SEED continued from page 2)

I offered him help, and one-on-one discipleship, for I well knew only Christ could totally change a life, and spiritual growth takes time. Estaban promised to return Wednesdays, or one night a week --- and to attend church. Most of all, he would, "**KEEP IN TOUCH.**" This was three years ago. I never saw Estaban again.

We at CAM faithfully give the "good news." The Holy Spirit persuades and convicts. Put another way, "You can lead a horse to water but you can't make him drink." We explain, pray, and come alongside, but we must constantly realize GOD gives the increase. Only HE truly knows the results of the seeds we sow. Here briefly is a list of helps we offer:

1. Bible studies within the prisons (Paul, Mike & others, at CAM's office, Calumet house Thursday evenings (Mike), Monday evenings at Helping Hands (Guy Torgersen)
2. One-on-One meetings for discipleship (Jack, Paul, Mike)
3. Addiction/Recovery Programs. "Reformers unanimous" at Gospel Baptist Church (Pastor Carlson) and Merrimack Valley Baptist Church, Fridays at 7 p.m. "Celebrate Recovery" meeting at Concord State Prison Chapel, Fridays at 7 p.m.
4. Alcoholics anonymous/Narcotics anonymous meetings around Manchester during the week at different locations. In Fact – there are 17 help-centers in the greater Nashua/Manchester area.

There is help out there. There IS A LIFELINE. But this help must be grasped and participated in by the needy ex-offender.

Back to Estaban. I was initially discouraged following the above-mentioned incident. Then the Lord soothed my exasperation. He inwardly assured me, "**Just do your job. The results are up to ME!! Spread the 'good news' and come alongside the needy.**"

*May our Lord give strength as we persevere in our ministry.*

### HOW TWO CHURCHES RECEIVE DONATIONS FOR CAM:

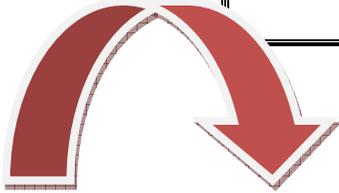
Milford United Methodist Church: Margie Frank, coordinator, and Bob Morgan place a large box in the foyer where generous donations are deposited. These are combined with donations from MUMC's annual Yard Sales. There is also a CAM request notice in our Sunday bulletins and our monthly Newsletter, "OUTREACH." Donations are combined with the Bridge Church (Milford) where Eloise Carleton has a donation basket as well as periodic donations from their Thrift Store, "Bridge Bargains," where Amy is manager. Neighbors, and friends find yard sale items they buy and donate. Margie, Eloise or Bob then take trunk loads of donations to Paul Roussel's house or to CAM offices in Manchester.

(Please see page 4 for CAM's critical needs.)

**CAM UPDATE**  
Christian Aftercare Ministries  
50 Lowell Street  
Manchester, NH 03101

**Non-Profit Organization**  
U.S. Postage PAID  
Manchester, NH 03101  
Permit Number 434

TO ADDRESSEE OR CURRENT RESIDENT:



**URGENTLY NEEDED DONATIONS: BEDS, SHOES, JEANS, T-SHIRTS, WINTER COATS, BOOTS, GLOVES, TOWELS, BED LINENS, POTS, PANS, & DISHES.**  
**FOR BEST DELIVERY TIME, CALL OUR OFFICE: 603-669-5090**

**CHRISTIAN AFTERCARE MINISTRIES**

Co-Laborers with the Church in ministry to ex-offenders since 1994  
[www.christianaftercare.com](http://www.christianaftercare.com)

Office hours: Mon. & Wed. 8 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Thursday: 2:30 – 6 p.m.  
Phone: 603-669-5090

CAM UPDATE is issued tri-annually  
Compiled by:  
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Prepared by:  
Marjorie Frank  
Financed by:  
Your donations

Tax deductible donations may be made payable to Christian Aftercare Ministries. Send to:  
50 Lowell St.,  
Manchester, NH 03101  
*Thank You*

Thank you for helping to meet our needs.

**NOTICE:** If you would like a CAM board member to visit your church or group to speak about this ministry, call Paul Roussel, Director, to schedule a date. Phone: (603) 669-5090.

Board Members: Paul Roussel, Mike Grady, Kent Threlfall, Jean Metzger, Jack Shuler, Sampson Duclair, Dave Grant, Ernie Kilman, Debbie and Neil Corriveau, Ron Menard.