



A work of the churches of Christ

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www.projectrescue.org

Everybody loves a great “rags to riches” story. Here is a spiritual version regarding one of our graduates, David Irvin. David is a beloved former member of Project Rescue who has devoted his life to helping others in the bonds of addiction. His abbreviated story is below in his own words.

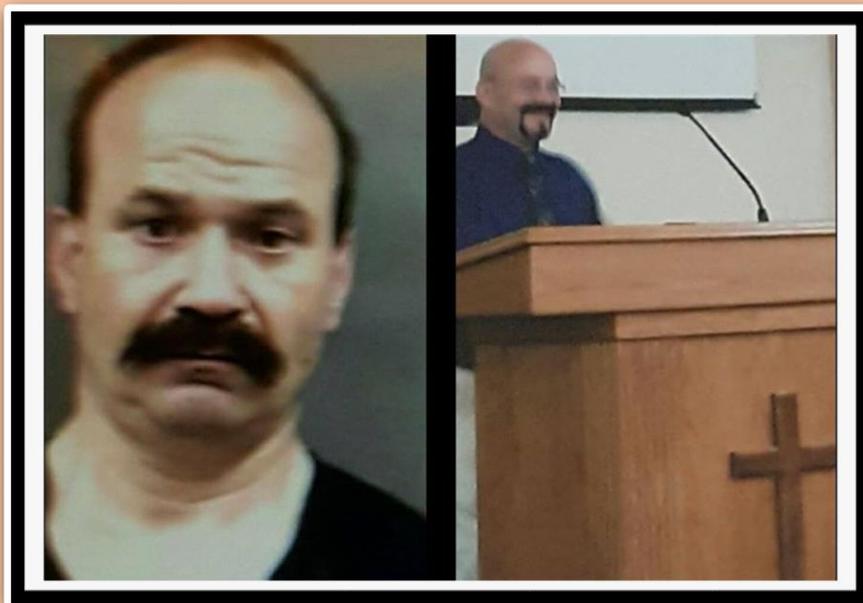
**“Being an addict of over 30 years, I thought I was a functional addict. I served in the Marine Corps in the mid-eighties, I had a good job, a family, a house, kids, and the American dream.**

**In 1999 the suicide of my brother put me over the edge. My heroin and meth use got out of control fast! I lost my family, my job, and everything I worked so hard for! I chose to deal drugs to maintain my habit, but multiple incarcerations and a near-fatal fall from a roof, forced me to live with my sister in Missouri. That’s where I found Hillcrest Church of Christ where I was baptized.**

**I still relapsed once after that, but they found Project Rescue for me where I was taught the gospel intensely. I was there from 2012 to 2014.**

**I am now enrolled in Sunset Bible Institute, I have reconciled with my daughter and some of my family members, and I have started a Ministry called “Addiction Recovery Through Christ” in Memphis to not only help those struggling with the family illness of addiction, but to teach the gospel of God’s love and mercy and Grace.**

**My name is David Irvin, and I am a Christian forever, but I am a recovering addict my short time on Earth which is but a vapor.”**



**From PRISON. . . . to the . . . . . PULPIT**



David is the proud husband of his beautiful wife Kristen and proud papa of his precious daughter Bobbi.

He comes back to visit us regularly and to check on his “band of brothers” at Project Rescue.

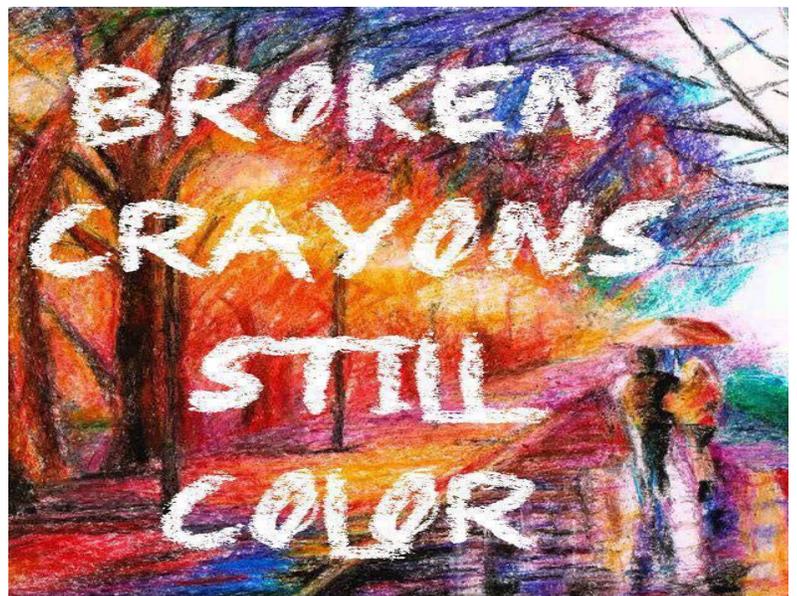
We are so proud of David and his willingness to spend and be spent for the cause of Christ.

## Attention Kroger shoppers!



We recently received a letter from the Community Rewards program at Kroger saying we had accumulated \$11.50. Please help us make that number grow. Go to Kroger Community Rewards, set up an account and list Project Rescue as your organization of choice. Our number is **94193**. Your help would be so greatly appreciated!

**Isn't it great to know God can still use us in spite of ourselves?**



# 6

# th Annual BBQ Fundraiser

to support

PROJECT RESCUE

Gal 6:1

179 Cave Spring Road, Priceville, AL  
Saturday, May 20, 11:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Project Rescue exists to treat men with addictions. Through spiritual guidance, it assists in returning them to a useful and fulfilling life. Help us support a great cause by pre-ordering your selection from the list below. The deadline to order is May 13th.

Come and join us May 20th for great food, music, silent auction and fellowship!

## Bar-B-Que For Sale

\$30 Boston Butts

\$25 Whole Rack Ribs

\$12 Ribs Dinner Plates

\$12 Pulled Pork Dinner Plate

Dinner Plates includes slaw, baked beans, potato salad & banana pudding

For more info contact

Wayne & Lisa Bates 256-221-4353 or 256-476-0050  
mewilliams4@yahoo.com • [www.projectrescue.org](http://www.projectrescue.org)



David Irvin called one day last week and asked how we managed to work in this field and not get burned out. Strangely enough, I was experiencing a severe case of burn-out myself at the time. It is a very prevalent syndrome in this work.

Seeing someone like David is encouraging and motivates us to keep on keeping on.

This is our tenth year with residential addiction recovery. It is difficult, demanding and life consuming. Making constant life and death decisions regarding souls in our care is stressful at best.

We are currently filled to capacity which adds an additional heart-break. What do I say to a weeping mother who calls with high hopes of getting her son into the program? How do I tell her there is no space available? Turning someone away is one of the hardest things I have to do.

The need for this particular mission field in our country is so great. It is overwhelming! Every congregation needs to consider addressing this problem in some form or another. If I can help, please let me know.

**Sometimes,  
I just want someone  
to hug me and say,  
“I know it’s hard. You’re  
going to be okay. Here  
is chocolate and 6  
million dollars.”**



**HIGHER PERSPECTIVE**  
CONNECT . REVEAL . TRANSCEND.

My wife tried to encourage me  
with this message.



The hug and the chocolate are helpful, but the 6 million dollars would be great! We could open a bunch of programs across this great land of ours and try to rescue so many more than we are able to handle here.

In lieu of that, your prayers to the God who owns all the cattle on a thousand hills would be so greatly appreciated! He is our refuge and our strength.

Our heartfelt thanks to all of you who are so faithful to support us and remember us in your prayers.