

Project Rescue Alabama History

Charles and Martha Baggett visited Project Rescue Georgia a few times. Charles wanted to start a similar program in Alabama. He persuaded Ronnie and Jeanie to move the program to Alabama.

We (Ronnie Crocker and 5 Project Rescue program members) arrived in Alabama in January of 2011. Jeanie stayed in Georgia taking care of loose end business and personal matters. Charles and Martha Baggett opened their home and allowed the men and me to stay with them.

It was an enormous task to move 8 apartments of furniture, kitchen supplies and washers, dryers, plus three vehicles from Georgia.

In March of 2011, Jeanie and our daughter Kim and granddaughter Marlee arrived, and we moved into our present facilities at 179 Cave Spring Road, Decatur, AL. We enjoyed a beautiful 19 acres, made possible by a wealthy couple and their children. We lived in the main house which was surrounded by 12 two and three bedroom apartments.

We moved Jeanie's parents, Bill and Gerry Nicks into the Terrace Assisted Living facility, which was about a mile away! At 91, Bill continued to teach a daily class to the program members.

One of the greatest accomplishments was establishing a new board of directors, thanks to the diligence of attorney Calvin McBride, a deacon at Beltline. We can't say enough about the work he has done so quickly and efficiently. The 501(c)3 corporation we had established in Georgia has expanded to Alabama with all the i's dotted and the t's crossed.

Regarding the apartment complexes in Waycross, Georgia, Jeanie and I turned over all three facilities to the Board of Directors, along with \$10,000 from our Georgia bank account.

In Alabama, when we moved into the main house, all the apartments were occupied by renters. While we were still getting settled in the house, the first renter moved out and apartment #1 became available. We immediately diverted our attention from unpacking our belongings and attacked that apartment. It required some major cleaning - carpets, oven, refrigerator, cabinets, bathroom and several coats of paint. After a few days of group effort, it was sparkling and ready for David Wallace to move into. David is our house manager and a valuable addition to our staff. He joined us from Georgia soon after our arrival here. He shared his apartment with several men over the last couple of months.

Gradually, other apartments opened up so we repeated the above process several times. We were blessed to have program members with many talents so they were able to do the work. This kept us from having to hire professionals from the outside.

We experienced some hard and difficult growing pains during our first few years in Alabama. Thanks to God and several good, strong, wise, and spiritual Christian men, we survived those years!

Here are our overall stats:

In the last nine years (2011-2020) we have accepted 284 men into our care.

Of these 284 men, 149 are continuing in the faith (52.46% success rate).

Of the 52 members who stayed in the program 6-months, 38 are continuing (73.07%).

Regarding our one year graduates, 31 out of 37 are continuing (83.78%).

Since January of 2011, we have baptized 60 men.

Here are our 2019 Total Stats:

We accepted 48 men into PR in 2019. Thirty-seven out of 48 of these members are continuing in their recovery. This is a 77.08% success rate for 2019.