



# *Covered Bridge Therapeutic Communities, Inc.*

*"A Residential Substance Abuse Aftercare Program"*

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Dear Friends,

As many of you know, Pastor Steve and Lorie were able to get some much-needed time away with their family. Upon return they looked alive, refreshed, and ready to relieve the respite providers with newfound strength, peace and hope that could only have been provided by Him, our Lord and savior. The residents of Covered Bridge would like to thank all of the people who came forward to offer their time including Larry and Reenie Bergeron, Darwin Jurentkuff, Bill Beaulac, and Tom Hood.

On February 16 the men of Covered Bridge were given the opportunity, and responded enthusiastically to attending the Iron Sharpens Iron Conference at the Essex Alliance Church. The event included a full day consisting of group seminars pertaining to every-day stumbling blocks placed in the walk of Christians. This event marked our maiden voyage in the new van ( ! see page 3 ) as we came together with a number of men from Lyndon Bible Church to join us in the day's activities.

Scott continues to grow in helping the men here and is assuming more responsibilities around the needs of the house to provide more freedom for Pastor Steve and Lorie to minister where they are needed. The respite vacation this month gave Scott the opportunity to exercise greater responsibility in the ministry and he would like to pursue this further.

Alex continues in his walk and is going for his Learners Permit this month. He is currently in school and has recently celebrated a completed credit in typing toward his goal of a high school diploma. Residents are encouraged by the growth Alex has displayed over the last few weeks.

Richard continues college and is currently considering and pursuing work for two companies for full time work. Richard is working on putting together a transfer plan to the University of Maine. Through the grace and mercy of God, Richard has begun the road to reconciliation with his mother and more members of his family are turning to the Lord. Richard is working on the everyday issues that he came here to work on.

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*"Reconciliation To Community By Building Bridges Of Restoration"*

A few needs this month are printer (copier) paper, toilet paper and paper towels.

Dave continues to be steadily employed at the Lyndon Furniture Company and is working on reconciliation to his family. Dave recently won The Light Radio's drawing to attend Family Life's "Weekend To Remember" marriage conference with his wife, Crystal for some much needed time and rest together.

Don has transitioned to the community of St. Johnsbury and continues to work at N.S.A. Don drops by and visits Covered Bridge staying in touch frequently. Don is faithful to remember his pal, Molly with biscuits and other assorted canine goodies! Please remember Don in your prayers for safety and growth in Christ.



Patrick has written a few words he would like to share.

*Hello everyone,*

*I have been praying for over four months for a job and the Lord has answered my prayers with an interview at Price Chopper right here in St. Johnsbury. I have orientation as part of the job requirements in a few days! I am not sure why the Lord has chosen Price Chopper, but He did and that's good enough for me. Pastor Steve, Lorie, and I have been working for a while to get my situation resolved with dental work and on the 26<sup>th</sup> of February I got the bridge to fill the missing teeth in my lower jaw! Praise God!*



*The Lord has used many things and people to teach me patience here at Covered Bridge. Through patience I am able to share the joy of the Lord's work at His pace. Continued diligence in practicing the guitar has really paid off in the advancement of the Lord's kingdom as I'm now starting to play at a bible study and I'm practicing with members of Celebrate Recovery in hopes of starting a worship team for Celebrate Recovery's Friday night activities. I thank all of Covered Bridge's supporters and I hope to be an asset to this ministry, my church, and ultimately, God's kingdom now and in the future.*

Residents of Covered Bridge would like to thank the people who have and continue to faithfully give to this ministry. You are in our prayers and may He rain down on you His heavenly grace and mercy.

Covered Bridge continues to function through the grace of God and donations from caring supporters such as you and we are grateful for your friendship and love.

Earlier in this letter Scott mentioned our **new van**. The 1999 Dodge Ram van has just over 60,000 miles. I'd like to take this opportunity to say, "THANKS!!!" to Pastor Bob Emery who, through his affiliation with Milton Community Family Center, was able to share our need and bring this all about. The Center agreed to sell the van to us for \$2000 (well below book value) with only \$500 down, followed by three monthly payments of \$500. God graciously moved on the hearts of a number of people and churches who, not only took care of the full \$2000, but provided for the insurance for the first year!! God is INDEED good.

I'm reminded that one of the purposes of this monthly newsletter is to share with you God's goodness in His guidance and provision, but it's also to let you know about our needs here. They are many!

Perhaps you can help out with this one. We have two desktop computers here, one for the use of the residents and the other is my personal 8-year old workhorse that has gradually been taken over by the ministry's needs. This ministry originally had Windows 98 as an operating system and 128mb of RAM. I've upgraded over the years to XP and it now runs nearly 1 gb of RAM. The problem is that the processor is old and can only effectively handle just so much. The ministry really needs something that will be more efficient. We have been given older desktops in the past and we do appreciate the gifts. However, we truly would benefit from the increased efficiency of the technology that's out there now. The good news is that you can get more for your dollar than ever before. The system that I'm looking at comes in at just under \$900. Perhaps this is something that you can help with??

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Again, Covered Bridge would not exist without you and your faithful prayers and support. We don't consider lightly the weight of our responsibility to be faithful in the stewardship of what has been entrusted to us. Thank you.

By the way, if you are one of the many who give on a monthly basis, you may want to consider a "recurring donation" through our website ([covered-bridge.org](http://covered-bridge.org)). You'll also find a link there to our IRS 990 Annual Reports through [GuideStar.org](http://GuideStar.org).

In His love & ours,

Pastor Steve, Lorie, and the residents of Covered Bridge