

Merry Christmas from GraceWay

Not just another year-end fundraising letter ...this is your *invitation...*

From recently deceased spiritual author Henri J.M. Nouwen:

"Fund-raising is proclaiming what we believe in such a way that we offer other people an opportunity to participate with us in our vision and mission. Fund-raising is precisely the opposite of begging. When we seek to raise funds we are not saying, "Please, could you help us out lately because it's been hard." Rather we are declaring, "We have a vision that is amazing and exciting. We are inviting you to invest yourself through the resources that God has given you- your energy, your prayers, and your money – in this work to which God has called us."

Finally, something YOU can do to combat addiction ... one woman , one day at a time.

Won't you invest yourself in the Miracle of GraceWay?

God called and blessed GraceWay's mission
and our founder's leap of faith and obedience when our doors opened to respond to women in need of substance abuse recovery and soul surgery. We recently celebrated our fifth anniversary of satisfying the various unmet needs of women desperately seeking sobriety, spirituality and a fresh start.



We were encouraged by our community donors who told us that one of the reasons they give to GraceWay is not because we HAVE needs, but instead, because GraceWay MEETS needs.



For those of you who were unable to join us at Darton on November 20th at our Fourth Annual Slice of Life with Paula Deen Benefiting GraceWay - we have recapped the evening. Over 800 generous guests joined us for our Silent and Live Auctions with Paula Deen and Family and Friends. Guests raved about this year's new offering of tomato pie. The highlight of the evening, however was a testimonial given by a grateful mother of a GraceWay 'Graduate'. You could hear a pin drop in the gym as Mary Beth ("the Mom") and Paula each shared true life experiences about despair, renewed hope, healing, serenity and restoration. The gratitude in this mom's eyes and smile and heart blanketed the entire gym with warmth and God's love . (continued on back)

Mary Beth beamed as she relayed how God's gift of GraceWay brought her daughter back to life. It was a raw, beautiful and sacred moment. Amazing grace. This is why there is a GraceWay. It is about real lives and real women ...one day at a time. By the grace of God, we will remain here to offer hope and divine intervention to women and their families.

Step 12

GraceWay utilizes the 12 Steps ... Step 12 is a grace-filled step.

of Alcoholics Anonymous states: *Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to others, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.*

A major factor determining the quality and the success of our recovery is our willingness to assume new, healthy, self-responsibility. We must remember that this growth is a process with one of the growth directions being toward God. Having been ushered into a spiritual awakening, we are charged to radiate God's grace to those around us.



During this Christmas season, we ask you to ignite your fire of charity and heroic love for others.

“A candle loses nothing of its light by lighting another candle.” James Keller

(continued) We need every newsletter reader to join us and recommit to our mission. We created an event that raised a third of our budgeted operating expenses. Thank you, all who supported this. This leaves 2/3 unmet and this is how each of you readers can assist us to do God's work. The residents go to work to support themselves after 90 days. GraceWay teaches accountability and responsibility. In addition to maintaining sobriety we encourage residents to seek holiness, and to live life on life's terms...God's way. Will you help one woman receive the recovery help she desperately needs until she is healthy enough to go to work on day 91 to begin her new life? Will you help light her way on the road of recovery?

We promise to be good stewards of your sacrificial gifts that help us meet these women's needs. Please help us by returning your 2008 year – end gift in the envelope provided. No gift is too small. Every gift is life-giving. We keep all of our benefactors in our prayers and ask you to keep us in yours. On behalf of our Director, Debbie Mazur, our staff, residents and their families, **God bless your Grace in Action.**



4th Annual Food, Glorious Food!

“A Slice of Life with Paula Deen”

Benefiting GraceWay Recovery Residence

Was a Huge Success!

GraceWay's Board, Staff and Residents are grateful to Paula and her family and friends, our Silent and Live Auction donors, Darton College, Cousins Catering, Custom Interiors, the Junior League of Albany, “A Team” (Amazing Ambassadors), Clear Channel and Long Leaf Financial Advisor volunteers, each guest, and our generous sponsors for their support of our mission... one woman...one day at a time.



CENTRAL BANK
OF GEORGIA



Doherty, Duggan
& Rouse Insurors

**CATHY &
ALTON
DARBY**



The Albany
HERALD
We're All About You!

CLEAR CHANNEL
MEDIA



Mediacom

LAMAR