

# PLEASE JOIN WHATS YOUR WOUNDS CAMPAIGN TO HEAL OUR NATION AND LET'S TAKE OUR CITY'S BACK!!!!!!!!!

Forty-six years ago, my father lay in the snow all night, after having been beaten, and robbed. All for the 10.00 he had in his wallet. He later died from exposure. In other words, he froze to death. At forty years old, he

left us. My mom was left alone to raise me, and my two older sisters. I was six and my sisters were 10 and 12.

For the next four decades of my life, I fought a war with mental illness, addiction, and self-destructive behavior. Today, I know it was all the result of not being able to adequately feel, and express that early trauma. After looking for help everywhere, I found freedom when I was finally able to face, feel, and resolve the trauma of the past.

The trauma of losing my father, and the unresolved grief it left in me, fueled an addiction that I now have been free from for almost five years. Today, I am using my experience to launch a support mission to heal trauma, which is the "root" of all addiction. We call it "The Purple Rose of Trauma." We are asking that you join us in fighting this war.

The purple represents the bruises on my father's body, and the bruises his death left on my soul. The Rose is for my mother, whose name is Rose. My mother was an unwanted child. Her life as a child was horrendous. She was cold, hungry, and often left to fend for herself on the streets of Washington, D. C. And although she did her best to give us the life she did not have, her wounds left her unable to give me the love and support I needed after the death of my father. Her guilt and grief left her a shell that nothing could penetrate. Although she is still alive today, she still grieves his death. Her heart died with him, and my unresolved grief at losing them both cost me everything, including my three beautiful children. This year my youngest daughter will turn 13. I have not seen her since she was an infant. My other two children I lost in a battle with the department of social services, when I relapsed after years of sobriety, in an attempt to manage the emotional wounds that left me unable to cope. One decision to smoke 50.00 worth of cocaine cost me and my children everything. That decision resulted in my losing my home, my dignity, and eventually my parental rights. I was not able to handle the long list of things I had to do to be able to even visit my children, and soon enough the grief and shame of losing them left me unable to do anything but give up. I did and soon after lost even my right to have pictures of the children I loved more than life itself. This was so unfair to me and to them, and is happening to too many of our helpless families. It is my intent to bring that to an end.

After that, I continued on a downward spiral until I was arrested in 2014. At 48 years old, and almost dead, I realized I had to face the pain in my heart, or else die. I finally cried out to God, and became willing to face the pain I had been using drugs to avoid. Those 110 days were the beginning of my journey to wholeness. At times, my grief has felt like my heart was being ripped out of my chest, but it has brought a healing I have sought all my adult life in medication, hospitals, and treatments of every kind.

What I am proposing is a plan to help others like myself. Because there was no place to send me when the grief in my heart arose, I am proposing that we create a place where the Lorries of today and their

children can come. Where mothers and children can heal together and avoid the suffering I have experienced. Most programs have impossible expectations for the mother and do not allow the child to stay with them, and even if they are allowed to stay, it is not set up for the healing both need to succeed. We hope to offer a unique approach that will give the struggling family a real chance to heal.

### THE PURPLE ROSE OF TRAUMA

# The Purple Rose of Trauma is for my momma and daddy, and the children I lost.

Like the Purple Heart given to our war veterans who are wounded in battle, but ours is for those who are fighting wars with trauma. Our wounds may not show, and they often go unnoticed. But, nonetheless, they are there. They are the bruises of our drug addicted. They are the unspoken cries of the mentally ill. They are the silent screams of our bullied and abused children. They are the unspoken words of our suicide victims, and they are the criminals behind the walls of our prison system. They are all of us. And, no matter if those wounds show up as addiction, or depression, they are still wounds. They all stem from the bruises in our hearts, and they are all important. Whether experienced in childhood, or as a result of wrong decisions, we are all God's children, and we all deserve to be heard.

Our hospitals, streets, and jails are filled with people who need our help. This is why we want to build...Holy Spirit House...my freedom did not come easy, and it does not come easy for the addicted. Before I was delivered in June of 2014, I lost my home, my children, and my dignity to a system that did not understand. I hope to use this tragedy to change our system for the better and help others to avoid the same tragedy I experienced.

My dream is to bring my experience to you, in order to help us join us use what's good about our existing treatment and recovery centers, and eliminate what is not working. In this way, we can come together to build a facility which will address the underlying cause of addiction and mental illness, which is trauma. Please join with me to make this dream a reality. Help me use the tragedy that should have killed me to build a house for all the Lorrie's of Today. A place where trauma victims of all kinds can find hope and healing.

In 1986, on May 25<sup>th</sup>, billions of people held hands in a human chain for 15 minutes across the United States. This event raised billions for charity, as most participants donated 10.00 to secure their place in line. On that same day, I was being arrested in a hotel room in Washington D. C. I was 20 years old, addicted to drugs, being used by older men to support my habit, and overdosing daily.

As I was being led from that motel in handcuffs, I remember thinking how sad it was that I was going to miss this event. Little did I know, 33 years later, I would be inspired by God to have a similar event to help the Lorrie's of today. That was my first arrest, but it was not to be my last. I spent the next three decades searching for a way out of an addiction that had me bound. After twenty sets of arrests, seeking every treatment known to man, and living through the hell of losing everything but my life, I found healing. At the age of 48, I was "rescued," for the last time. I was again in a hotel room, but this time was different. As I realized that my life was almost over, and that I had but one more chance, I

cried out to God in a way I never had before. And He heard me. I began a journey towards healing that would lead me to write a book about what trauma did to my life, and to write this vision.

I was raised by an alcoholic father and a mentally ill mother. At the age of 6, my daddy was brutally beaten, and left. My father froze to death. My mother died emotionally that day, and I would eventually be led into a life of addiction trying to kill the pain of that loss.

#### WE ARE LOSING OUR CHILDREN TO THIS EPIDEMIC!!!!

I was led into drugs, as most young people are, by an older person. The same thing is happening to our children today, but at a much higher rate. I was a full-blown addict by the age of 14, all because I wanted the love and acceptance all children do. Today, by the grace of God, I am clean almost 4 years. Unfortunately, it took almost my whole life to get here. My heart is to help our children avoid the same path I took. I have lost everything to this addiction, including my three precious children. There are so many in the same bondage as I was. Please help me help them.

Like many addicts, my addiction was arrested many times, but I never found true healing. I always returned to drugs or sought a substitute because the root of my addiction was not in the drugs themselves, but in the unresolved grief and trauma in my soul. It was only when I finally faced the grief that I could begin to heal. In our treatment centers and jails, it is not safe to talk about the grief. We offer medications and tell them how to change, but it is to no avail without the deep inner healing work that grieving offers.

My trauma had to be acknowledged and felt. The roots had to be completely pulled out, so my need for the drug ended. This took time, and love. I had to have the support that I am proposing to make this happen. No type of treatment could help me until I faced what was in my heart. I want to teach others to do the same before it's too late!!!!

I have spent the last almost five years healing and have an approach that will help addicts and anyone who wants to heal. I will teach how to go through the deep grieving process that is necessary to become whole, while at the same time improving our economy and health care system. To fund this project, I want to have an event like the one in May of 1986. It will be similar in that we will hold hands across the nation, but instead we will hold hands and pray. Prayer was the beginning of my road to freedom. It is what keeps me free today, along with the other tools I am proposing.

#### PRAYER AND UNITY CAN HEAL OUR NATION

In 2 Chronicles 7:14, it promises us that if we will humble ourselves and pray, seek His face, and turn from our wickedness, then God will hear us.

Much like the event in 1986, we will ask each person to contribute 10.00 to reserve a place in line. The 10.00 has special meaning for me, as my father had only 10.00 in his wallet when he was robbed that night. I am doing this for the life he lost, and for the life I have been given.

All proceeds will go to fund Holy Spirit Led treatment facilities, and each donation will enter you in a drawing where we will have prizes.

We have BIG DREAMS AND HOPE TO HAVE STEVEN CURTIS CHAPMAN AND THE BALTIMORE RAVENS endorse this event which will take place on May 25<sup>th</sup>, of 2019. But even if that does not happen this year, we will still have the event and hope you will consider donating.

Please contact Joy Jenkins at purplerockshop@gmail.com to become a participant.

In a recent article in the Cumberland Times-News, Governor Larry Hogan said, "we have tried everything," referring to our heroin epidemic. He went on to say, "we need all hands on deck to deal with this problem." In the following we will describe the one thing that has not been tried, and which will absolutely have "all hands on deck."

We know that, as we show this to be successful, our program will be adopted by other organizations and cities seeking relief from the same problem. We are proposing to use our already existing resources such as the elderly and animal populations, and the blighted properties in our area.

Although the target will be the heroin epidemic, this approach will also take pressure off our society as a whole and increase revenue for our region. This will be a three- year approach, THAT WILL TAKE ALL OUR US, AND ALL OUR EXISTING RESOURCES!!!!!!!!!!

# WE MUST HAVE A SAFE PLACE where the healing process can begin.

The staff will be specially trained to offer the services which will enable the client to focus on the healing, and not the addiction. This will differ from other programs as the focus will be on allowing the pain that is fueling the addiction, to surface, and be dealt with, while at the same time, teaching coping skills, and different ways to heal. We will focus on healing the root cause of addiction, which is trauma.

#### THE ELDERLY

Each individual will be connected with a mentor, which will be found within our senior citizen population. In churches, senior centers, and in our own neighborhoods, are hundreds of lonely, lost people, who have lost their loved ones, and feel they have nothing to live for. Others are sick and forlorn, shut away in our many nursing homes and assisted living facilities.

These people hold the wealth the addicted need. A wealth of love and wisdom lies within them. That hidden treasure can be given to lost souls who desperately need it and want it. These elderly folks will get a chance to live again. To feel useful, and to be able to use the wisdom of their mistakes, failures, and life lessons to both mentor and to guide this lost person, while at the same time giving them a reason to wake up each day.

Knowing they are needed, and that their life has not been lived in vain, will give them a sense of redemption. Just knowing their life lessons are being used to help another, will give them a reason to go on. Knowing their life still has meaning, and the mistakes they have learned from, can be turned into assets, will cause a great change in them. In most treatment facilities, rehabs, and halfway houses, there is one staff for up to 10 people, or more. It is not possible for the staff to give to each client, the individual attention each one needs.

This way, the addicted person will get the individual attention they need, during this first phase of healing. During this time, they will be allowed to talk to their mentor and have one on one visits. They will be able to discuss deep things with this person and hopefully start to form a bond. This will enable the addict to experience the bonding, and the love they never got in life, or have abandoned for the drug. It will also serve as an outlet, where they can vent their deepest secrets, and so find the acceptance they so desperately need. The most broken, will begin to feel that redemption is possible, and they will be giving love to someone who needs them too.

The staff will be trained to encourage healthy bonding, while at the same setting healthy boundaries. This will help curb the staff's need to give everything, and help prevent staff burnout.

Another problem that occurs when there is not room for individual attention is that the clients have to fight to get it. This causes rifts between clients, and staff, and can even lead to acts of aggression or violence. It will also encourage the clients to go to their mentor, and not to each other. This never works, because the clients are all in various stages of healing, and if allowed to, they will feed off, or look to each for support. This creates unhealthy bonding and does not allow the client to focus on getting their own needs met, and the healthy expression of feelings.

We will work to ensure that clients and mentors are matched properly, and continue to monitor to help both client and mentor to maintain a healthy relationship.

# **Healing-first phase**

During this first phase the focus will be on healing. Unlike other facilities, they will not be asked to work during this time. Instead, the focus will be on feeling the repressed emotions, and learning to live again. Without chemicals, the client will want to latch on to whatever is closest. We hope to provide healthy things, and people, to latch onto. This will give them a fighting chance at survival.

Individually, the client will learn about themselves, and what they need. Healthy food and exercise will be used to help their body heal. Quiet time will help them learn to relax. Music and art therapy will be used to help bring the emotions to the surface.

We will begin by encouraging them to get to what is driving their use of drugs, or other addictive behavior. Once the feelings start to emerge, they will be given tools to express them. Other behaviors will then be learned to replace the old ones.

In most programs, the days are filled with classes, work, and other duties. There is literally no time to sit still and feel. Therefore, the emotions never surface, and no healing can occur. It is impossible to fill minds and souls that are filled with pain and turmoil, with information. The turmoil must first be emptied, and then they will be able to take in what they need.

We will start by teaching them how to spend time with God, and allow Him to break open the wounds, that they have been medicating with substances. Through worship, art, and healthy expression of emotions, the client will be allowed, and encouraged, to connect to their pain. To what is driving their addiction. This will be done slowly, and in layers. I believe once they are given permission to feel, they will indeed, begin to heal. It is truly what we are all looking for, in any addiction. And we hope to offer just that.

#### NOT EVERYONE FITS THE SAME MOLD

We will do this based on each person's individual personality and need. No one person is the same, and no one person can heal in the same way. We will offer healing tools and fit them to the client's individual needs. We will carefully screen each individual to be sure they are ready and willing, to begin this process. It will not be easy, or painless, but it will provide results.

# Healing Center

The healing center will be modeled after the property located at 86 Baltimore Avenue.

The first floor will be a kitchen where food will be prepared and stored. We will work with the various farms in the area to teach preparation and healthy nutrition. We will also feed the homeless at certain times of the day and offer shelter for a short period of time to those who need it.

This will be patterned after the union rescue mission in Frederick Maryland.

It will be much like Sheppard Pratt Trauma Unit, where people come from all over the country to be treated for trauma.

Only ours will be Holy Spirit led, and we will use faith-based methods, combined with art and music to heal, rather than medication and traditional therapy.

We will partner with the community of faith and all other existing organizations by offering workshops which can help clients already using these services; (archway, friends aware, union rescue mission, hope house, etc.)

# GROUPS, RETREATS, WORKSHOPS

The second floor will be where we will have groups, and therapy sessions, as well as weekly meetings with the mentors. This space will also be used for healing retreats, and workshops. It has a set up for computers, and desks. As the client heals, and can begin to function, they can seek out where their individual interests lie, and seek what they want to do with the rest of their life.

#### YOUTH DANCES

We will use it for Holy Spirit led dances for the youth and show them how to have fun without drugs. My descent into hell came after a youth dance, where I was seeking to be accepted by my peers. I was led into darkness by an older band member. I hope to use that experience to help our youth avoid that same fate.

#### OFFICE SPACE

The third floor is where the offices will be. There is also a small dance studio where we will help people to heal from body memories or trauma which is stored in their body. And the sound proof walls will make it perfect for the deep expression of emotion which is necessary for healing.

#### WE ALL LOVE ANIMALS

# Animal therapy

As we all know, Cumberland is known for its love for animals, and its huge animal population. We will work with any shelter that is willing to allow our clients to have a one on one with an animal.

This will be set up similar to the elderly component. Each person will be paired with a cat or dog. They will be responsible for their care. We will transport them each day to take care of, and bond with their animal. This will enable to client to form a bond with a living thing. At the same time, it will take pressure off the shelter, and give the animals the attention they need. Most trauma victims are not able to bond with a person but may be able to with an animal. This will be important to their healing. For as the memories surface, they will have something to love, connect, and bond with to help them through it. It will also give them hope to hold on to, when it gets hard. Knowing they are needed, and that if they complete this phase and get strong enough, they will be allowed to bring the animal home in Phase 2. Most addicts have nothing to go back to and feel very alone. They also carry great guilt and remorse. By fostering this connection, it will give them a sense of redemption and purpose. By knowing they are able to save an animal that is also alone, will ease their guilt, and at the same time giving them a reason to go on. It's a win-win situation all around.

As I said before, this will take a lot of pressure off the facilities that house both the animals and the elderly. The elderly people are lonely, and often irritable. This causes pressure on the staff that can be lessened, by giving the client renewed purpose. It may also lesson illness and encourage an overall happier environment. We think the children and loved ones of these clients will love the idea and knowing that their aging loved ones are happier will give them renewed hope also. A win win approach for everyone. The animals are in a similar situation. There are too many of them for the workers to handle. This causes pressure on the workers and the animal. The workers will feel better knowing the animals they cherish are being loved, and the animals will be easier to handle since they are being given the attention they need. It will also ensure adoption for the animal at the end of the process, and free up room at the shelters. And even if the adoption does not take place, the animal was still cared for, for a time.

The addict is getting high to avoid pain. We want to give them ways to feel the pain, thus elimination the need for the drugs. And once they find this kind of healing, and natural feelings of enjoyment, they will want to continue to live without drugs. Once you find euphoria in drugs, it must be replaced with euphoria in Jesus, or they will return. Our program will focus on healing the mind, body, and spirit. We will focus on teaching boundaries, balance, and healthy relationship tools.

#### PHASE II

In this phase the client will move into one of our homes. They will at this time be reunited with the animal they have been bonding with. They will continue their contact with the mentor and in some cases the mentor will also live on the premises. We hope this will possibly help support those in danger of losing their homes as they grow older.

Cumberland has a lot of blighted properties. We plan for this to be set up much like Archway. They will be monitored and still have access to the healing facility and its programs and tools. They will have someone from our program who checks in with them and helps them with the transition.

The third phase is where they will start to help others like they have been helped. Whether working with us is or going in another direction with the healing they have required. It they chose to stay with us, they will be required to put back into the program to stay.

We plan to fund this vision in three ways. Groups (train and lead groups), crowd funding (outreaches) and speaking engagements for my book (Bird with the Word)

Groups: Designed to bring healing through the word of God, art therapy, music, dance, and healing relationships. All are based on my personal experiences with substance abuse and how I used each one to heal.

# **GGASS Groups**

Guilt and shame support services

# "Hole to Whole"

Uses word of God and other healing tools to help fill the hole inside.

# <u> Momma Trauma and Daddy Drama</u>

Helping to heal childhood trauma that involves parental pain

### 48's not to late

Teaches older folks that it's never too late and is based on my personal experience with starting recovery at 48 years old.

# Stuck at six

I use my experience to train and teach health care officials how to help those who are stuck in childhood trauma.

# **Rocks 4 Socks**

Outreaches teaching how to lay down our rocks (judgments, habits, grief, etc.), against one another and ourselves, and replace them with God's word using art, music, and creative expression.

# **Bird with the Word**

Speaking engagements where I will tell my story and promote my upcoming book.

# Please join Whats Your Wound and....LETS TAKE OUR CITY'S BACK!!!!!!!!!

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO SUPPORT US OR IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DONATE, PLEASE EMAIL OR CALL US...bless you for your support.

joy@whatsyourwound.org

ALL DONATIONS CAN BE MADE TO THROUGH THE PAYPAL LINK BELOW