



BOULWARE MISSION

Newsletter

Fall/Winter 2017

CLIENT SPOTLIGHT: A CLIFF NOTE

The philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche was quoted as saying, "That which does not kill us makes us stronger." This statement would apply to many of Boulware's clients, including Clifton Davis.



Cliff came to Boulware Mission after his life hit rock bottom in June of 2016. The good thing about hitting rock bottom, is that there is nowhere to go but up.

While residing at the Mission, Cliff went through the substance abuse treatment program and entered recovery from drugs and alcohol. He attended employment skills and financial literacy classes and eventually started working again.

Amidst all of the changes taking place in his life, putting

his thoughts and feelings on paper became part of Cliff's personal therapy.

After a while, he began sharing his words of wisdom with friends at the Mission and before long, others began to show interest in his writings. Soon they were being sent to acquaintances and shared by people Cliff hadn't even met.

This continued even after Cliff moved out of the Mission, at which point there were over one hundred people receiving his daily texts.

One of Cliff's readers suggested that his writings be published, then one thing led to another and God provided a way for Cliff to share his heart beyond daily text messages.

Cliff's first book, *A Cliff Note* is being published by Christian Faith Publishing and will be available in January of 2018. *A Cliff Note* is a compilation of his notes of inspiration and encouragement.

Cliff wrote this book in order to reach out to others who have found themselves in situations similar to what he has gone through. With a humble spirit, Cliff said, "My hope for my readers is to remind each of you that YOU are not alone in the struggles of life. I hope that my thoughts will, in some way, help you face each new day with a greater strength and a more positive outlook."

Cliff's story is a reminder of how strong one can become amidst the valleys of life and we are excited to announce his new book to you, our supporters!

We would like to thank Lonnie Mercer for his contribution to this article.

GOOD THINGS HAPPEN HERE

As the year comes to a close, we wanted to share some of the exciting things that are happening for Boulware Mission and our clients.

The year 2017 has been a bit of a transition year for the Mission. Leigha Taylor stepped into her new role as Executive Director and we've seen some staff come and go.

We've made improvements to our programs, in order to better serve our population. We've also been able to witness several people make significant changes in their lives and get that fresh start that they so desperately needed.

This year we've seen one client become a writer and

another start his own landscaping business; several clients began working stable, full-time jobs and many have moved into their own apartments for the first time. We've even had a first time land owner! Most importantly, though, we've seen many clients reunited with their children and given a second chance with family.

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OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP

Most often, when people first come to Boulware, they need help with overcoming unhealthy lifestyle patterns that have contributed to their current situation. Boulware offers a comprehensive continuum of services to help guide clients from 'where they are' to 'where they want to be' - that is, healthy, productive individuals.

This time of year, we receive lots of calls inquiring about how people within the community can help.

Boulware relies on volunteers to assist with many of the services we provide. We utilize volunteers to teach classes, lead

Bible studies, cook and serve meals, answer phones and help with basic client needs.

If volunteering is not a possibility, we are always in need of in-kind donations. Things such as personal hygiene items, postage stamps, and cleaning and office supplies are constant needs and the *Messenger-Inquirer* publishes a current wish list each month.

Finally, the biggest need for help is for funding. The majority of Boulware's operating income comes from private donations. That is why our faithful supporters are so important to us.

Without funding, we could not equip people right here in our community with the tools they need to be successful.

If you are interested in helping in any of these areas, please contact the Mission at (270)683-8267. In-kind donations can be delivered at any time and monetary donations can be mailed in using the enclosed donation envelope or made online at: www.boulwaremission.org.

Whatever your ability to help, we know that we could not do it without you and we thank you for your support!

GOOD THINGS CONT'D

So far in '17, we've had the privilege of serving 289 residential clients; 160 of whom have completed substance abuse treatment, entering recovery from drugs and alcohol. An impressive 84% took advantage of our on-site financial literacy course, learning how to budget, how to make better use of their money, and how to repair their credit. Many have even been able to pay off debt and save for the future.

We had a door opened to us this year presenting the opportunity to open an all-female substance abuse treatment program.

The program is led by women for women and focuses on the unique challenges and needs that women in addiction face.

Coupled with the treatment program, these women also receive the other benefits of Boulware's Self-Sufficiency program that are usually reserved for residential clients, which include case management services, financial literacy classes, and employment skills.

The program is open to the public and offers participants the ability to live at home while going through a licensed treatment program.

Because of this program, we have been able to serve more women from Daviess County in the last several months than we served from Daviess County in all of last year!

Boulware was the recipient of grants from two sources, the Owensboro Health Community Health Investment Grant and the Kentucky Bar Foundation, to help fund this important project.

In addition to the women's treatment program, we have expanded our services to residential men by introducing a transitional phase to our program with a goal of helping them to better prepare for the next steps of moving out on their own.

Clients in the transitional phase are given more time and freedom to integrate back into community and family while still living

in a structured environment. This opportunity allows more time for growth and enhances clients' chances of lasting recovery.

Finally, Boulware has been blessed throughout the year by partnerships with local businesses and individuals that have helped us succeed in making a difference in our clients' lives.

Earlier in the year, Boulware Mission was honored to be recognized by one of our partners as the *Greater Owensboro Chamber of Commerce 2017 Non-Profit of the Year*. This award means a lot to the Mission and has allowed for some special opportunities for community awareness.

We are so excited to look back with you at all of the good things that have been happening and can't wait to see what 2018 has in store! Keep up with us on our Facebook page as we look forward to sharing more with you!

Boulware Mission was honored to be recognized as the Greater Owensboro Chamber of Commerce 2017 Non-Profit of the Year.



GREATER OWENSBORO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
2017 Business of the Year



WE GIVE THANKS FOR YOU

With the holidays approaching, charities all over are in great anticipation of year-end gifts. Boulware is no different. The next couple of months are critical to Boulware's operating budget, as much of our support is received during this season of giving.

Since that is the case, we would like to respectfully ask you to remember the Mission while you are considering your holiday giving this year. Whatever you can do this season, please know that "No act of kindness no matter how small is ever wasted." (-Aesop)

We also want to take this opportunity to THANK YOU for your support—for your partnership in changing lives.

It is because of donors like you that we are able to give those in need a safe place to stay; that we are able to assist in recovery from drugs and alcohol; and that we are able to help people regain control of their finances and their lives.

We want to take this opportunity to THANK YOU for your support—for your partnership in changing lives.

But it is so much more than that...

It is because of you that this small but

MIGHTY organization has had the privilege of serving Owensboro and the surrounding area for 96 years...and counting.

It is because of you that we are able to provide hats and gloves to men who are walking in the bitter cold. It is because of you that those same men get 3 hot meals a day and a hot shower after work. It is because of you that they have an advocate to speak up for them.

It is because of you that women trapped in addiction are able to get the help they need, while caring for their children. And it is because of you that men are learning what it means to be a "father" to their kids. It's because of you that those kids are getting a second chance at growing up with a family.

It is because of you that three people have come to faith in Christ this week during Bible study.

It is because of you that Tom, although disabled, has a place to give back while he saves up enough money to afford his own place. And that Andrew is celebrating his daughter's birthday this weekend after rescuing her from a dangerous situation. And that Amy is still working and providing for her two young daughters after fearing that she had lost them for good just a short while ago.



It is because of you that Ralph and Ruthie and others who were once all alone in the world now have people that they can call family.

It is because of you that the clients residing here will celebrate Christmas with a nice meal and a gift from someone who cares. And it is because of you that our staff get to work in a place where they know they are making a difference.

You will probably never truly know the impact that your support provides, but we see it on a daily basis. And we give thanks for YOU!

Thank You So Much

DANCING WITH OUR STARS OWENSBORO STYLE

This year's DWOS, held on August 12th, was such a great event for the Mission. Our flagship fundraiser continues to grow and improve each year.

We really want to recognize all of the dancers from this year's event. They went above and beyond and raised a record amount of money in support of our programs. Their performances were amazing and are available to view on our

Boulware Mission YouTube channel. A million thanks to Tyler Shookman & Brandy Janosa, Kathryn Raymer & Phillip Page, Dr. John Murray Adams & Jessica Hodges, Jason Koger & LeAnne Musick, Brad Moore & Kaitlin Nonweiler, and our 2017 champions, Brandi Rone & Joey Barr!

We would also like to thank all of our sponsors for their support, especially Old

National Bank, for everything that they do as the title sponsor. We hope you'll save the date for next year's event on August 11, 2018.



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GOD'S WORKSHOP

Hello my fellow alcoholics,
addicts & troubled souls TOO.
Don't fret my friends,
because I was once like YOU.

My story is not sad
though it might appear to BE
So read all of this
so you can really SEE.

I bet my story
has a familiar TONE.
Self medicating & isolating
until I was totally ALONE.

My life had hit bottom,
as low as can BE.
Freedom lost
was all I could SEE.

The Judge said guilty,
lock him AWAY.
He said, Do it now,
do not DELAY.

Locked up with
no hope in SIGHT.
I thought I would die,
I believed I MIGHT.

Incarceration is terrible
we all can RELATE,
Everyday is the same,
you just wait, wait, WAIT.

Then one day
out of the BLUE,
God shined His light on...
you know WHO.

He sent me to a place
I'd never heard OF.
God really showed me
the power of his LOVE.

The place was full of people
who seemed to CARE.
It had a strange name to me,
they called it BOULWARE.

This place gave me
a shining LIGHT.
It gave me every reason
to fight the good FIGHT.

God put me in this place
and saved me from HELL.
So I hope with my words
you will follow my TRAIL.

My life is good now,
I feel ALIVE.
Because of the power of God...
I'm starting to THRIVE.

If your life gets rough
and hard to BEAR
Stop by and visit
the mission called BOULWARE.

A Cliff Note
By Clifton Davis