Social Return On Investment

Guiding Light believes in providing good stewardship of resources. Significant research has gone into exploring the social savings resulting from the donor investment of resources. What impact does this program, and the money, time, and effort invested, have long-term?

This return on investment is calculated based on cost and savings from three areas:

**Cost of Programming**
- Calculated per man for Guiding Light facility upkeep, professional staffing, food operations, and utilities

**Tax Contributions**
- Tax contributions per man at a federal, state, and local level from an average yearly wage

**Social Savings**
- Costs to community members which are saved through sobriety, including not using food stamps or unemployment, not using Medicaid services, no detox facility use, not using emergency room services, reduced on-the-job incidents, reduced employee turnover and absenteeism, reduced recidivism (no drunk driving or theft), no emergency social services.

Social Return on Investment is calculated at the same rate of sobriety for men who have moved to Iron house.

There are many other elements involved in long-term sobriety which are difficult to quantify. One area that is significant but has not been assigned any financial value is the men's renewed relationships with children, siblings, and parents, and the accompanying reduced emotional stress and trauma of knowing your loved one is well. Another area that is enormously impactful but not assigned a monetary value is the improved quality of life for each man; feeling empowered, significant, lucid, and actively involved in life work, and community.