



GUIDING LIGHT
RECOVERY REIMAGINED

2025

IMPACT REPORT

Come and see what we've accomplished together in 2025. Men and women are building new lives through innovative, comprehensive programming that addresses heart, soul, mind, & body.

Thank God for your partnership in moving men and women from death to life, dark to light, and self to service. Our programing, workforce development, and housing is focused on living life in a new way! It's focused on transforming the mind, renewing the spirit, and hard work. Men and women are breaking cycles of addiction, abuse, codependency and government reliance to become renewed citizens in our community. We go deep and not wide because we're interested in true change, not temporary compliance.

Instead of isolating himself, Anthony is sponsoring 2 men and visited his extended family for the first time in 6 years. Instead of debt and theft, Steve saved up money to attend a silent retreat with six other Iron House men. Angela got promoted – again! Ben finished his business degree. Matt's wife invited him to come back home. Tonya is choosing interdependence instead of codependence. Pablo sees his daughter and grandchildren regularly after being estranged for years. Mark got engaged. Jordan and Jared got their driver licenses back. David was allowed to see his children for the first time in 4 years. Sal hosts dinners. Sam SHOWS UP. Craig volunteers at a hospice home. Matt invites men to attend church with him.

THIS IS NEW LIFE. THIS IS RECOVERY REIMAGINED. THANKS TO YOU.

**JESUS SAID,
"OUR FRIEND
LAZARUS HAS
FALLEN ASLEEP,
AND I MUST
GO AND
WAKE
HIM UP."**

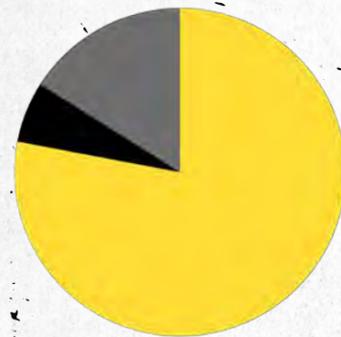
– JOHN 11:11

FINANCIALS

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JUL 1, 2024 - JUN 30, 2025

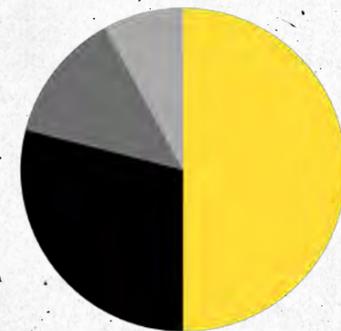
We continue to thank God for the generosity of this community and people like you!

EXPENSES



- PROGRAM EXPENSES – 78%**
Rescue, Recovery, Re-Engagement
- ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES – 6%**
Management and General
- FUNDRAISING EXPENSES – 16%**

GIVING PROFILES



- HOUSEHOLDS – 50%**
- ORGANIZATIONS & CHURCHES – 29%**
- EVENTS & OTHER – 13%**
- FOUNDATIONS – 8%**

For more information, see our fully and independently audited financials on the website or send us an email at Info@GuidingLightWorks.org

FACILITIES UPGRADES

Our main 255 Division building got a complete paint job! While it looks great, the update was less about looks and more about the crumbling and deteriorating concrete on many of our exterior walls.

One of our men's bathrooms was chronically moldy, smelly, and dark. It got a complete overhaul, and we are all thankful for the fresh, clean space.

With our growing women's program, the house on Aquinas' campus was getting tight with very little private meeting space for spiritual direction, counseling, coaching, and therapy. **Just this December, our women made the move to a block away from Guiding Light's main building.** We love seeing our women at lunch now, and having them be more active in the Guiding Light community.

HERITAGE SOCIETY

We welcomed **25 new members** to our Heritage Society this year! Our Heritage Society is a group of individuals who plan to leave a legacy of generosity and transformation by adding Guiding Light to their will. It was especially beautiful to welcome a previous Guiding Light alum to the Heritage Society wall, seeing the work of Guiding Light come full circle.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Our Board of Directors is thriving and more active than they've ever been. We have 12 men and women serving on our Board, which is chaired by Steve Jandernoa. **Thank you to each board member for their heart, time, and wisdom in moving Guiding Light forward.**

2025 IMPACT

MEN'S PROGRAMMING

207 MEN SERVED THROUGH RECOVERY PROGRAMMING **118 DAYS** AVERAGE TIME IN PROGRAMMING

IRON HOUSE LONG-TERM SOBER LIVING APARTMENTS

45 MEN HOUSED AT IRON HOUSE **86%** OF MEN AT IRON HOUSE REACHED A YEAR OF ABSTINENCE-BASED SOBRIETY.

Iron House continues to stay near capacity, and our average length of stay has increased by another month this year. Men stay an average of 13.5 months, and the longer they stay, the more successful we see them becoming. Yes, an increase in wage and job titles, but we're talking about personal growth, reliance on God, restoration with children, debt reduction, back taxes resolved, degrees completed, reconnection with family, and active participation in a sober, values-driven community.

WOMEN'S PROGRAMMING

55 WOMEN SERVED THROUGH RECOVERY PROGRAMMING **92 DAYS** AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY

2026 GOAL: EXTEND THAT TO 120 DAYS!

EMPLOYMENT

\$19.59 AVERAGE HOURLY WAGE AT FULL-TIME PERMANENT JOBS

\$21.21 AVERAGE HOURLY WAGE AFTER 6 MONTHS

RENT, FOOD, TAXES, CHILD SUPPORT, DEBT: Men and women are getting their finances in order by being responsible, not by relying on government assistance.

FOOD MINISTRY

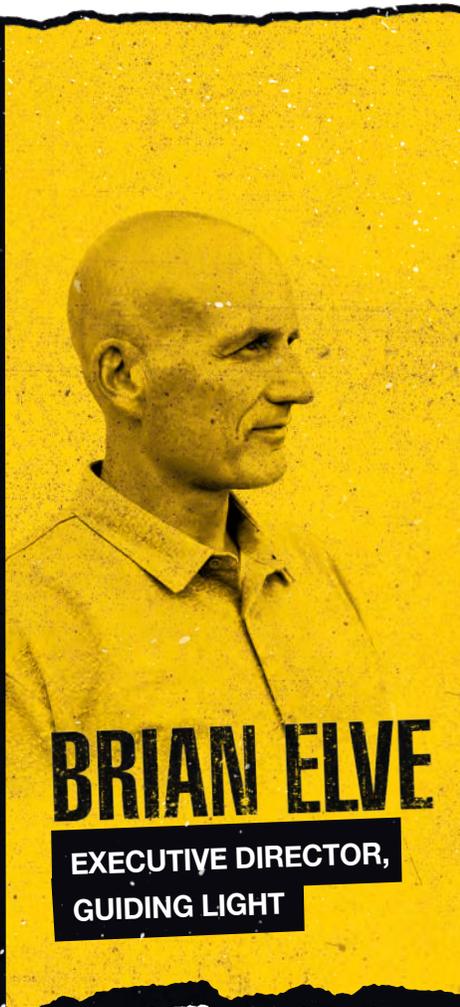
276,064 MEALS SHARED & **35,575** MEALS SERVED AT GUIDING LIGHT FOR A TOTAL OF: **311,639 MEALS**

While we don't talk about the nights of shelter, the clothes, the coats & boots, the showers, the bedding — the basics — very often, these are elements of basic human dignity we offer day in and day out because it's hard to change your life if you're hungry, tired, cold, dirty, and alone.

GUIDING LIGHT

GuidingLightWorks.org

255 S. Division Ave., Grand Rapids, MI 49503



BRIAN ELVE

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
GUIDING LIGHT**



**DONATE HERE
YOU MAKE THIS
KINGDOM-WORK
POSSIBLE**

GuidingLightWorks.org

WHAT'S NEXT?

We greet 2026 with purpose and willingness! Our programming digs deep, investing heavily in individual lives over time. And you can see the results: our men and women are waking up to take responsibility for their lives and are transforming our community one family system at a time. Financial stability, increased program completion, family systems interventions, and deepened community are where our eyes are focused for this coming year.

This work is not easy. Not everyone makes it, and in this work, 'not making it' often means death. We are still flawed humans, trusting God will make our paths straight.

We need you! We need you to talk about Guiding Light to your family, friends, and colleagues. We need you to have the hard conversation with a loved one. We need both your financial and prayerful support. Pray with us, that God gives staff and participants attentive ears to be able to separate noise from the Holy Spirit. That we have courage and strength to do the next right thing. That the eyes of our hearts may be opened to the hope that He has called us to through Jesus. That we may be the hands and feet of God, speaking truth and love.

BRIAN