

# BIC Overcomers

*"GIVING FLIGHT TO THE NATIVE AMERICAN SPIRIT . . .  
ONE FAMILY AT A TIME"*



Greetings and blessings to all from the high desert.

We have begun another session here at the Overcomers and we would like to introduce you all to the five men God has brought to us, John, Ricardo, Paul, Eli, and Stan. We have already passed through our first week here and it has been a joy getting to know each and we are looking forward to what God has lined up for us all. We also want to welcome our second couple, Chris & Sue Gray from Pennsylvania.

## SEASON OF CHANGE

The following vision has developed over the course of many years and experiences. One door opened, which led to another and another. The past two years has seen a significant increase in ideas and brainstorming. In the spring of 2014, prophetic words were spoken by a couple who had no knowledge of us or the ministry until being introduced that evening. The summer of 2014 saw the vision take root and blossom as a result of discussions amongst several of us. We have been officially released to pursue the vision God has laid out before us. The task is daunting but with God nothing is impossible. We ask that you keep the vision and staff in prayer as we walk out the path God has laid before us

### I. BIG PICTURE VISION

#### A) Reach More Men

- 1) Run three 90-day programs each year instead of two.
- 2) Multiplication through duplication of the program at different locations.
- 3) Provide housing for Home Living Coordinator couple from other areas where we have already been in consultation with interested Native leaders. This will allow them to experience the program up close and personal.

4) Help leaders to set up a rehab program modeled after the Overcomers.

#### B) Raise and Nurture Native Leadership

- 1) Provide housing during and between programs for graduates with a heart and desire to help.
- 2) Mentor men during recovery. Walk side by side with them.
- 3) Give them more and more responsibility, along with the tools to put them in a position to succeed. The end result: Turning the Overcomers Program over to Native leadership.

#### C) Increase Local Involvement

- 1) Local church volunteers (Home Living Coordinators, teachers).
- 2) A local church network of support for graduates.
- 3) Continue to build upon good reputation with the courts and law enforcement.

#### D) Increase Local Business Involvement

- 1) Jobs for graduates.
- 2) Sponsorship of program.

#### E) Greenhouse For Produce

#### F) Area To Raise Horses and/or Livestock

### II. BABY STEPS

#### A) Year One—Legitimacy of the

#### Overcomers Program

- 1) Restructure 501c3.
- 2) Create a voting membership list.
- 3) Recruit and form a new Overcomers Program Leadership Team (BOD)
- 4) Rewrite/reshape the bylaws.
- 5) An independent outside audit.
- 6) Become state accredited.
- 7) Present vision to Chapter Houses to get approval from elders.

### III. BIG STEPS

#### A) Year Two

- 1) Increase funding sources through donation drive and grants.
- 2) Continue to build upon connections and contacts.

### IV. GIANT STEPS

#### A) Year Three and Beyond

- 1) Seek new property.
- 2) Build new facility.
- 3) Reach out to other areas—for example amongst the Cheyenne and the Sioux, the two areas of contact where God has already opened doors.

# **Yoder Family News**

Walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma. Ephesians 5:2 Ralph and I are truly empty nesters now, as Maddie who lived with us for the previous school year has begun her college career. We are enjoying the time together, along with our 4 animals. Josh has finished his internship with Mending Wings, and is working toward building a future together with a beautiful young lady he met in WA, Abby Tomaskin. We are looking forward to a visit from them in January. Kayla is picking up a few more hours with her job at Interra CU, hoping for a full time position soon. She is ready to move forward with her own apartment and really enjoys her job. She continues to be involved with her church and has moved from being her nephews caregiver to just fun Aunt Kayla. Ashli and Frank are working and watching young Joey grow and change at a fast rate. We are hoping that they may be able to come for a visit sometime next summer. I had a wonderful opportunity to make a very quick trip to IN during the month of July, just in time to go with Kayla, Ashli, and Joey to PA. Mom knew they were coming, but I was able to surprise her. It was so nice to be able to spend a little time with her as well as family in the area. Our trip back to IN was an adventure with an overheated radiator, lost radiator cap, and some frustration. We however, did get to see our family in northern OH for lunch in the middle of it all. We also had the great pleasure of being stranded for a couple of hours in Dalton OH, where Lou and Ruth Cober so kindly opened their home to the hot, tired, and frustrated travelers. God was always in control and orchestrating things for us as we traveled. Needless to say, Kayla was ready to sell her car there and then, but it seems to be running okay now, with Uncle Omer and Frank keeping an eye on it for her. We are so blessed and grateful for your continued support of the BIC Overcomers ministry and our family. Blessings, Ralph and Bonnie Yoder

## **Prayer Requests and Praises**

**Praises-** The awesome staff (both full time and volunteer) that God continues to bring to us. We could not function well without them.

We continue to see growth, despite set-backs, of the men just graduated as well as men who have been out of our Program for a while.

We are so very excited for the vision and path opening up before us for the future of the Overcomers. The vision is large and at times seems overwhelming, but we have a God who is bigger than we can imagine.

The group—Convicted by Christ— an accountability group that has become a part of our program and a place for the men to stay connected to after they leave here.

Knowing, feeling and seeing the presence of God every day in our lives as well as the lives of the men who are here as clients.

For Chris and Sue Gray as our other HLC. They have fit right in, building relationships with the men. For Ryan Jim, a former client who is back helping us out.

**Prayer requests-** We are always looking ahead for couples willing to come see lives changed. We are looking for couples for both the spring and fall sessions of 2016.

Pray for John, Stan, Ricardo, Paul and Eli, as they become immersed in what God has prepared for them while here.

That financial avenues will open up for the Program in the future as we walk forward into the vision opening up before us.

Financially the program will be able to support itself as well as things that will happen in the future.

We continue to have a strong prayer warrior support for all that happens here with the men, staff and program.

Continued continuity and cohesiveness of our staff during programs as well as in-between programs.

Keep us in prayer as we continue to seek His direction as we move forward into the vision being opened up.

### **Executive Directors**

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