



## LIFE TRANSFORMED

“I came so that they would have life, and have it abundantly.”  
John 10:10

Gang violence. Addiction. Drug dealing. Prison time. These are some of the nightmares that defined Ronald B.'s past.

“I was just existing,” he recalls. “Now I’m actually starting to understand the value of my life and how to live.” While in an addiction recovery program, Ronald took weekly ICO classes in financial management, job readiness and setting life boundaries. He says I Care Outreach (ICO) helped transform his life.

“At I Care Outreach, I was given the practical information and tools and tactics I needed to live successfully,” he says. “But the root lesson was that God has a plan for my life and if I allow myself to be taught and I apply what I learn, I will have a better quality of life than anything I could think of on my own.”

Today Ronald serves on staff at the rehab ministry and plans to become a recovery coach to help others struggling with substance abuse. He and his wife budget and set financial goals together. “We use our money wisely to be good stewards of the things God gives us,” he says. He has also learned the importance of boundaries and how to set them.

“Before I was pretty much a leaf in the wind,” he recalls. “I felt like if you’re from my neighborhood, everything’s a go. Now my yeses are yes, and my no’s are nos. Nobody can sell me a dream.” Even his thought process has changed.

“My decision-making process is so much better,” he says. “If a trouble arose in the past, my first thought would be, ‘Oh this didn’t go right, let me go get a beer... or let me smoke.’

Now my outlook is first and foremost, ‘Let’s pray! Let’s ask the Father for divine wisdom, for strength.’ If I do A, B, and C, what’s the outcome of that? Does it benefit or harm me or someone else? Does it impair my integrity, does it set me back?”

The effects of this type of transformation don’t stop with Ronald.

“I’m like a small form of hope,” he explains. “People that know me say, ‘Wow, what’s different - what are you doing?’ It opens the door for me to give my testimony, to be able to speak life to people.”



RONALD B. AND PASTOR ROB



## Multiplying HOPE

Dear Friends,

Ronald B.'s story is unique, but the changes in his life reflect the experience of many of the more than 100 people who participated in I Care Outreach (ICO) classes this year.

ICO classes are designed to break the cycle of poverty and hopelessness by providing biblically-based training in personal finances, life skills and job readiness. Our facilitators and volunteer allies come alongside participants every step of the way to cheer, challenge, and support. Above all, we encourage participants to rely on God and find their true identities in Christ. As Ronald knows, it's a formula that works.

### W O N D E R F U L   N E W S !

I'm thrilled to announce that an anonymous donor has awarded a grant to help ICO expand the size and functionality of our Bridgeport training facility! The additional space – along with updated equipment and technology - will allow us to meet the growing demand for ICO classes including:

- Simultaneous classes, as well as smaller classes that allow more classroom interaction.
- Space that accommodates parents with small children – so important as we strive to serve more women participants.
- Private spaces for classes like Trauma Informed Soul Care.

### W E   N E E D   Y O U R   H E L P !

While the grant will allow us to launch the initiative, we need your help to sustain it. Would you prayerfully consider making a special year-end gift and/or 2025 monthly gift through PayPal?

As we embrace this exciting challenge, I thank God for providing people like you to make I Care Outreach possible. I pray that you will have joy in knowing that your gifts to ICO help transform the lives of our participants – and that the healing and hope multiplies as it extends to their families and communities. Ronald expressed it well:

**“I WISH I CARE OUTREACH’S SUPPORTERS COULD SEE THE JOYOUS MOMENTS. LIKE THE GUY WHO’S BEEN TOLD HIS WHOLE LIFE THAT HE’D NEVER BE NOTHING. AND NOW THERE’S A TWINKLE IN HIS EYE BECAUSE HE’S HOLDING UP THAT I CARE OUTREACH CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT. IT’S JUST BEAUTIFUL!”**

Thank you for bringing beauty into the lives of so many!  
May the Lord bless you abundantly at Christmas and in the New Year,

*Pastor Robert M. Turner*

PRESIDENT AND EDUCATOR



#### TO GIVE, MAIL YOUR TAX-DEDUCTIBLE GIFT TO:

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