

WHO WE ARE

The Refuge Ministries is focused on transforming the lives of men and women - and ultimately families, churches, and communities - from the stronghold of addiction by the power of Christ. Our primary focus is to offer faith-based, free residential rehabilitation ministries for men (18+) and women (18+). These ministries take men and women from homelessness and hopelessness to home ownership, empowering responsible people of God for the rest of their lives. In addition, we seek to connect those struggling with addiction to the life-changing power of Christ through both the Champions Network and the Refuge Network - empowering churches, organizations, businesses, and individuals to make a difference in addiction recovery through discipleship.

Where We Began

The Refuge began in 1999 as a radical commitment to small group discipleship in a farmhouse in Vinton County, in the middle of nowhere. As we learned from both best practices and directly from the men we came to serve over the years, our residential model has grown and changed many times, but our values have remained the same. You'll see them posted at every location, but also - and most importantly - lived out in the lives of the men, staff, and (hopefully!) families and volunteers as well.

Our 7 Practices define who we are, setting the culture for the residential core of our ministry - a completely free, 13-month, faith-based rehabilitation ministry for men and women, ages 18+. We disciple them from homelessness and hopelessness to hope and home ownership.

THE 7 PRINCIPLES OF DISCIPLESHIP TRANSFORMATION

◆ Commit to God

Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." - *Matthew 22:37*

◆ Be Relational with Others

And the second is like it: "Love your neighbor as yourself." - *Matthew 22:39*

◆ Be Willing to be Taught

And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others.
- *2 Timothy 2:2*

◆ Choose Honesty & Authenticity

Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.
- *James 5:16*

◆ Practice Gratitude & Thankfulness

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. - *Philippians 4:6*

◆ Display Courage & Faith

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.
- *Hebrews 11:6*

◆ Develop Work Ethic & Stewardship

And to make it your ambition to lead a quiet life; You should mind your own business and work with your hands, just as we told you, so that your daily life may win the respect of outsiders and so that you will not be dependent on anybody.
- *1 Thessalonians 4:11-12*

AFTER THE REFUGE

COORDINATOR

After completion of The Refuge men are able to work for The Refuge for up to one year to give back and help the new men coming in.

CHAMPIONS

Want to stay connected somewhat to The Refuge but live far away? Have you thought about serving in your local church? Join a growing group of Champions across the state who simply and powerfully host small group recovery through their local church and help me throughout their community find true freedom.

PROJECT 614

Men who choose to remain on the west side of Columbus can become part of the Project 614. This is an opportunity for men to build a gospel community on the west side of Columbus. They begin by renting from another alumni and ultimately move to home renovation and home ownership within just a few years.

ENCOUNTER

Held the third Saturday of every month, this is a great time to reconnect with the men in The Refuge and join them for a time of worship, encouragement and hear updates on the men and events of The Refuge.

VOLUNTEER

Did any of our volunteers impact you during your time at The Refuge? Being a man from The Refuge, you know the importance of deep relationship and connections, investing in the lives of the men behind you. Visit our Serve Page on the website for more specifics.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Refuge Golf Outing

May 21, 2018 @ 10:00am—6:00 pm
Pinnacle Golf Club in Grove City, Ohio
\$125 per golfer— includes 18 holes with cart at one of the area's most exclusive clubs, plus lunch and dinner.
"Dinner Only" tickets available for \$50

5K Run/Walk/Hike Fundraiser

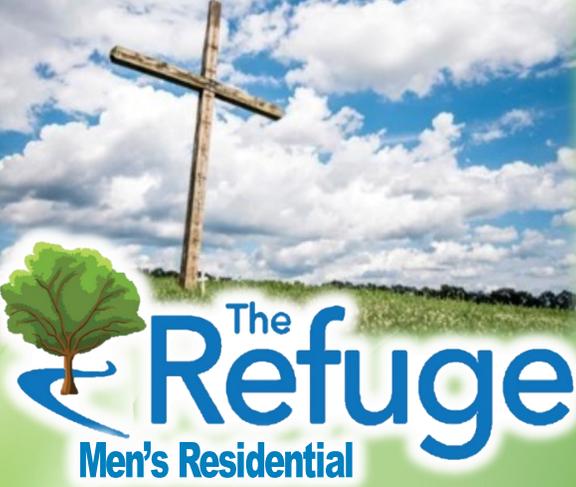
August 25, 2018
Lancaster Phase 2 House
This was an incredible day last year and is always one of our favorite annual events. Don't miss out!

Annual Fundraising Banquet

October 14, 2018
Save the date for this great chance to meet the men and women of our Ministry. You will hear their stories of success and personal growth, and share in an evening of celebration, fellowship and delicious food. Seats are limited for this event so keep watching for more information on when to register. www.therefugeohio.org/events

For more information on these events or if you would like to volunteer to help at an event, please contact Renee Sleeper at rsleeper@therefugeohio.org

THE REFUGE
www.therefugeohio.org
614-991-0131



The Refuge

Men's Residential

Our Mission

Changing lives affected by addiction through Christ

Our Vision

Changing lives of the addicted and those surrounding them through discipleship.

Our Purpose

"The Spirit of the LORD is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free."
- Luke 4:18

ORIENTATION

INFORMATION AND INTAKE

Orientation occurs every Monday at 3:30 pm at Veritas West Community Church
12 S. Terrace Avenue
Columbus, Ohio 43204
(The corner of West Broad Street & S. Terrace Ave.)



At Orientation, the men and their families, will learn about the 13-month Residential Program, hear some testimonies from current men and alumni of The Refuge and there will be a time for questions to be answered. The information session will last approximately one hour. Afterwards each of the men will fill out an information form and will have a one-on-one interview with the Pastor from Phase One.

Men who are ready to enter the ministry should come prepared to enter the same day. The following is a list of what may be brought with them:

- ◆ 1 Bible and notebook
- ◆ 8 pairs of pants, shirts, socks and underwear
- ◆ 3 pairs of shoes
- ◆ 3 sweaters or sweatshirts
- ◆ Personal hygiene products (no alcohol)
 - 2 shampoo, 1 conditioner, 1 body wash/soap, 1 deodorant, 1 non-electric Toothbrush, tube of toothpaste, 1 bag of non-electric razors, 1 can shaving cream, 1 hair style product.

Anyone bringing anything beyond the items listed above will be required to donate extra items to the ministry. We do not have enough storage for everyone's personal items, so please do not plan to bring them unless specified.

Reasons men can not enter The Refuge.

If a man is turned down for any of the following reasons—except number 8—then they can come back to orientation and interview again once the issues has been resolved..

1. We cannot accept men who have **open or active warrants**; all probation/parole appointments must be **non-reporting or phone-reporting** (not in person); no scheduled **upcoming criminal court dates or future criminal indictments**.
2. We cannot accept men who have been sentenced to The Refuge **"in lieu of" incarceration**. Often, we find that men forced to come because of legal issues are not here for the right reasons
3. We will consider allowing a man with **open traffic issues or outstanding fines** to enter The Refuge, provided he is not required to attend a court appearance. If any fines may result in a warrant for arrest, we will need written agreement from a friend or family member that they will take care of the fine.
4. Any man currently paying (or in arrears on) **child support** will need either 1) a written response from the case manager stating that payments may be placed on hold or deferred until the completion of the 13 months of the ministry, OR 2) written communication from a friend or family member who will be paying the child support payment for the duration of the 13 months of the ministry.
5. We do not allow any **prescription medications that are considered "mood altering."** Please consult your physician prior to making any decisions concerning prescribed medication. A letter from your physician MAY be required for entry into The Refuge.
6. We are a working ministry, so any man currently earning **disability** must be willing to relinquish it, because legally he cannot simultaneously work for the Refuge and stay on disability. (The maximum hours someone can work a week while on disability is 20 hrs/week, and while in the 3rd and 4th phases of our program, men are expected to work from 20-50 hrs/week.)
7. Men who have already completed The Refuge ministry will not be considered for re-entry. We can, however, offer support through Champions groups, local churches and alumni connections, as well as recommendations for other residential programs if necessary. For more information, attend Orientation or contact us at info@therefugeohio.org.
8. We cannot accept men required to register as **sex offenders**.

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- Luke 4:18

PHASE ONE

The "Discovery Phase" is set on a secluded 100+ acre farm in the beautiful hills of Vinton County, Ohio. They are there 30-45 days. Phase One offers a safe and secluded environment, free from drugs/alcohol and other distractions. Men follow a comprehensive plan for positive personal growth, utilizing curriculum as well as one-on-one counseling and biblical study to offer men who are seeking change every opportunity to do so. The men are encouraged to participate in physical exercise and to take responsibility and leadership. The men will have no contact with friends or family. They are not allowed money or cell phones in this phase.

DISCOVERY



PHASE TWO

Second Phase is on a farm in Lancaster, Ohio. This phase is for four months. The Relational Phase's focus is on relations with God, himself, others and God's creation. The daily schedule includes a regular emphasis on the study of God's Word, daily praise and worship, serving, giving, curriculum and connecting to the body of Christ beyond The Refuge. Relational growth is focused on sacrifice, discipleship, brotherhood, conflict resolution, and submitting to authority/peer evaluation in regards to our 7 Principles. One on one counseling is focused on discovering how God created him uniquely and redeeming his story to use as a vehicle to serve the Lord. During Phase Two the men gradually transition back into a work environment to learn responsibility, commitment, and dignity. They begin working in Columbus every other week through a training program that partners with prospective employers. They begin slowly integrating back into a daily life routine with the ability to identify areas in which they need attention and then they come back to the farm in Lancaster for a week of refreshing and support from their leadership and brothers. During second phase the men will have a chance to invite their families to family day which is the third Sunday of each month. They will also be allowed weekly phone calls.

RELATIONAL



PHASE THREE

Phase Three, known as the "place of application", is located in Columbus, Ohio on Sullivant Avenue in an apartment building men from The Refuge renovated. Here, the process closely resembles what most would consider "regular life." Men work 35-40 hours per week focusing on creating a good work ethic. The money they earn helps to pay for the majority of their way through the ministry and investing in the men behind them. They receive a small monthly stipend to start saving or spending as they choose. During this time their focus shifts to prayer and preparation for the future as men are trained in one of "3 Pathways." The training they receive serves them in life after The Refuge. Volunteer coaches meet with the men weekly to walk alongside them as they begin to prepare for life after The Refuge. During Phase Three the men may begin making monthly home visits.

APPLICATION



Outreach is a very important aspect of Phase Three. The men continue their personal development and growth by "getting out of themselves" and serving others in the Franklinton area. They assist in local awareness meetings, children's ministries and meal distribution to under-advantaged citizens and the opportunities only continue to grow.

Choosing Their Direction

During Phase Three the men will be deciding which direction they feel they are being called to as they prepare to leave The Refuge. There are three directions they can choose, and then they will begin the training and development towards that goal. These choices are places they feel they can have a positive impact and presence in the community to be ambassadors for Christ.

◆ Serving The Refuge as a Coordinator

◆ Champions

◆ Project 614

PHASE FOUR

LAUNCHING

Phase Four rounds out the final four months of a man's 13-month commitment, and is focused on launching him back into society as a responsible man of God, with a developed life plan and ongoing support. Men continue to hold a full-time job through our partnering employers, while at the same time are given support and accountability to begin building a life plan and a career portfolio that will help them find gainful employment before leaving the ministry. They receive one-on-one and small group coaching to get ideas and feedback on long-term goals for themselves and their families, and they establish connections with alumni and mentors who can walk with them as they finish the ministry. The Phase Four Director/Pastor and coordinators are also very intentional about preparing men to succeed as they finish the ministry. In Phase Four, men are given more personal freedom than anywhere else in the ministry. At the same time, they also have more responsibility - to serve the community and the church, to pour back into the men behind them, to set a good example for all the men in Phases 1-3. We raise up these men as leaders in the ministry, so that they can also learn to lead in their homes, churches, and communities once they complete and are responsible men of God. Phone calls and bi-weekly home visits are still permitted, along with additional freedom the last month of the ministry to figure out housing and transportation needs.

