

# The Sharing Org

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## Ministry to the Adult Foster Care Community

September 1, 2010

Dear Prayer Partner,

### **Ministry Moment(s)...**

The other day I was at a home when a woman shared a testimony before the service. She shared with us that she praised God because she had finally come to a place in her life where she was thankful for the Adult Foster Care home in which she lived. She was thankful because for the first time in her life she felt secure in her salvation and relationship with God.

I was overwhelmed to say the least. It is one thing to hear that people have learned to rest in the grace that they have been given through the work of Jesus upon the cross, but it is another thing entirely to hear a person say that they are grateful for the AFC home that they have been appointed by the powers-that-be in their lives.

In that moment I realized that all the people who support this ministry are making a difference in the lives of people who rarely have any other real choices concerning their faith. I was greatly encouraged because I knew that it was only God working through us that allows a person to become grateful for their personal situations—situations they have not chosen and that at times they resent. In that testimony I was again reminded of what God has chosen to do through our efforts.

That testimony caused me to be grateful for the work that I have been chosen for, a family that supports God's leading in our lives, and you—I could not afford to do this work without your faithful support of this mission. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for allowing God to work through you to share the grace of Jesus in the AFC homes.

### **Prayer...**

Dear **\*\*MISSING\*INFORMATION\*\***,

First off, please be in prayer for a person who seems to be in constant contrition during our time of worship. Weeping begins with the very first worship song and continues straight through the Bible teaching. I do not know exactly what is going on in this person's heart, soul, or mind but I pray that God would work everything out in the person's life that He might be glorified.

Just recently I viewed a 15-minute report about a man who was raised in a Michigan children's institution for the mentally handicapped. His name is Richard Prangley, and his story is very

moving. I posted his video on the Sharing Org blog (<http://thesharingorg.wordpress.com>), and I encourage you to take a few minutes to watch it. In PART 2 at 2 min & 30 sec he talks about waiting to go home during the holidays and how he only ever watched the others around him go home. His biography is called "Waiting For Home" and I am getting a copy – I will let you know if you should too.

I have a praise report that is very (very) insignificant, but since I am writing this letter, I will add it here because it concerns a topic that is near and dear to my heart. A couple of months ago I had the privilege of sharing my hobby of coffee bean roasting with a group of residents during a special demonstration. I had to get permission from the dietician because caffeine is neither typically served nor allowed, but permission was granted, and the residents looked forward to the demonstration - but most of all they looked forward to being allowed to have caffeine. I just recently learned that since the time of that demonstration the residents of this particular home now have the choice of caffeinated or decaf for their morning coffee. Yes, it is one small step for man but one giant leap for those who have been denied the "nectar of God" for so long. ;-)

Also, please be in prayer about the grant that I requested from the Hagen Family Foundation. As of right now the donations we have received from our prayer supporters will cover 30% of the project budget, but we will need to be awarded the grant if we are to meet the full budget. If we are denied (we'll find out this month), then I will have to do some fancy foot-work in order to provide shoeboxes for all of the residents to fill. So please be in prayer, because my tap dancing shoes are not fitting me too well anymore.

Finally, I have figured out how to print financial statements for you from our new accounting software. Unfortunately I can't print it as part of the newsletter itself, so it will be on a separate sheet. Please look over the report and check it against your records in case I have a glitch that needs to be addressed.

As always, I pray for your best, that God would use you in a mighty way to make a difference in the lives of all the people that you come into contact with in your daily life.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John R. Rock". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

John

PS. My health has improved but it does not appear that the feeling in my left hand will be improving with it. I am very thankful that this episode did not affect my ability to walk but I'm still bumbled about my hand. Thank you for your prayers concerning my health.