

Work with other ministries. It works!

By Sean Garvin

WOODBURY, New Jersey - A few years ago we had a guest speaker at our church's adult education class. His name was Bill Antinore and he was an ex-offender who started a multi-layered Christian ministry in Camden N.J.

I'm sure everyone has heard of Camden and the difficulties they face there. Our bishop has told me many times, "Camden is where the Lord's work is."

The ministry called Seeds Of Hope helps ex-offenders re-enter life on the outside. They help women escape the clutches of drug addiction and prostitution. They feed and clothe the homeless. Along with introducing everyone to God's redemptive power.

Part of this amazing ministry is Hope Thrift, a thrift store that (along with donations) helps fund all that Bill and his wife Brenda do.

Bill also runs a relaxed-yet-lively Bible study on Thursday evenings for ex-offenders.

For two years Fred Daugherty, Father Gideon Uzomenchina and I have run a Brotherhood chapter at Yardville Correctional Facility in Yardville, New Jersey.

We have ministered to more than 140 men. We average 30 Brothers at weekly meetings and Bible studies. One of our original Brothers Nicholas Brocklehurst approached me one



From left are Bill Antinore and Brothers Sean Garvin, Nicolas Brocklehurst and Fred Daugherty, who all work with helping former prison inmates return to society.



night after a meeting.

He was being released and did not want to return home. He feared "the old neighborhood" would draw him away from the Lord. He had heard me talking about Seeds of Hope and thought they might help him.

Seeds of Hope has a ministry specific to ex-offenders called South Jersey Aftercare (SJA). They have purchased and renovated houses in Camden so people have a safe Christian environment to live.

Soon Nicholas was living in a safe house hitting the pavement looking for a job and attending the Thursday night Bible Study. Fred and I received an email from Nicholas inviting us to join him at meetings.

We attended his first couple of meetings. So far, it was great to see him free, happy and living a

Godly life. I truly expect great things from Nicholas.

It's amazing how the Lord brought all four of us together. If you would like more information about or would like to donate to Seed's Of Hope here is their website: seedsofhopeministries.org.

The phone number is 856-963-0312.

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