

## From Transformation to Transformers, WCM Enters a Relationship with a Local Manufacturer...

For over 90 years, Wayside has remained steadfast to its mission of transforming lives. Transformation requires supernatural intervention which leads to growth, and we are no stranger to that.

In the spring of 2019, Chapelstreet Church members came to volunteer at the ministry. One of the volunteers, Kess Scharff, was so impressed with what WCM does, that she couldn't wait to tell her husband. Her husband, Steve Scharff, just happens to be the CEO of Micron Industries. Micron is a faith-based manufacturing company headquartered in Oak Brook that focuses on "giving back to the community." After the Micron directors toured the facility, forging an association with Wayside was an "easy decision," according to their Director of Operations, Pat Meadows.

The collaboration with Micron started small. Three men from Wayside, Michael O'Kier (Wayside's Outsourcing Manager), Raulon Robinson and Darin Severson began working on this project, tasked with completing the wiring of the transformers. All three men work in one work station but expansion will occur in the future, to



include three work stations and six men in all.

Of course, there was training involved in order for the men to learn how to do the job. They were trained by Dan O'Brian, Senior Manufacturing Engineer, and Jerry Atosch, Quality Control Manager.

The men were taught

the critical steps to complete the transformers in a "light" assembly line atmosphere, from start to finish, including how to package the product to send to Micron's quality control department located in Sterling, Illinois before they are shipped to the customer.

This is the first step in this venture, but it is a big one for these men, who expressed their excitement about this new experience as it not only increases their employability but, in their words, "it gives us self-worth."

Robinson woke up that first morning of training and happened to throw on a t-shirt that he picked up at WCM's thrift store that said, "Power to Transform," "Heal, Inspire, Innovate, Connect, Lift, Enable, Share." The perfect shirt, he felt, for what is *transforming* here.

## You Don't Realize the Impact You Have on Wayside

Our Hope Chest resale store at 34 N. Lincoln Ave. in Aurora held a grand re-opening at the beginning of November. The store has recently been completely rearranged with the look of a department store in order to make things easier for shoppers, and that proved to be a big success! A steady stream of shoppers enjoyed the opportunity to browse (and purchase) all kinds of items for sale, including seasonal decorations, jewelry, housewares, apparel for men, women and children, furniture, books, and so much more!

This endeavor happened because of you and your donations. Without your kindness, the stores wouldn't have anything available for purchase. Both of our resale shops, the Hope Chest and Sweet Charity, depend on the generosity of Wayside donors. We know there are many donation options available to you for your gently used items. By dropping your items off at Wayside, you are also helping the community. There are many people in the neighborhood who visited the store and were able to buy something they might not have been able to afford elsewhere. What a blessing!

Please continue to keep Wayside at the top of your list of places for donations. All the proceeds from the stores are invested in the ministry. Your support helps those who come here, and gives them a chance to make a new start in a relationship with Jesus Christ and, in turn, transform their lives. You are part of the transformation! We are

grateful for your caring and compassionate hearts!

To donate: Drop off Monday – Saturday 9 am to 3 pm, at the Wayside warehouse at 211 E. New York Street, behind the main building. You can arrange for a pickup of large items by calling the scheduling office at (888) 723-5730.

Wayside also has donation bins placed in local church parking lots and across the city, just look for the blue boxes or visit Wayside's website for donation bin locations.



**Mission: To honor God by loving and serving the afflicted and powerless through sharing the Gospel of forgiveness and hope in Jesus Christ by empowering them to be disciples of Christ.**

## THIS IS HOW GOD DOES IT, ONE TRANSFORMED LIFE AT A TIME

### ISAAC

In the year 2000, I came from Chicago to a half-way house in Aurora. I started working at a car wash and worked there for 17 years until I got ill. I came to Wayside in 2017, but had to leave to have open heart surgery and two more surgeries on my legs. When I was released from the hospital, I was able to come back to Wayside Cross Ministries. I know that on both occasions, it was God who brought me here. He save my life and my soul.



I graduated and spent almost a year working in the Hope-On-Wheels car detail shop. I was also Resident of Month.

I have moved out of Wayside, have a full time job, and am living in the Wayside Manor apartments. My health is better and my soul and heart are doing very well. There is never a day that goes by where I don't thank God for saving me and for the people He brought into my life.

### MAURICE

On and off over the years, I struggled with brokenness, caused by drugs and alcohol. I just could not forget the memories of things that happened to me as a kid growing up in the projects on the South side of Chicago. All of this brought me to Wayside.

I was lost, did not know the real meaning of life, I read the Bible from time to time, but did not understand it or know what it really meant.

Coming to Wayside has changed my life so much. By God's grace and through the teaching and lessons I learned here, I came to Christ. A scripture which has great meaning for me, is II Corinthians 5:17, which says that I am now a new creature, the old has passed away, behold the new is here! I look at life through different eyes. I am more humble



than I have ever been in my entire life.

Without programs like this a lot of people will continue to be lost in this world. They will never have the opportunity to come to know Jesus Christ, and will never see the true light at all. I'm in my 11th month at Wayside. I have a church family, 3 mentors I regularly meet with, weekly Bible study and classes, and a Celebrate Recovery group. All help me to stay focused on living life as a godly man and family person. I have 3 children, two sons and a daughter, 44, 42, and 40.

I am currently a Resident Assistant, working with other residents as they enter the program, helping them with whatever they need as they go through the program, and become a better person, in life and society.

Amen



## ADRIAN AND JENNIFER

James Lukose, our Executive Director was walking by the warehouse on a Friday afternoon and saw a young man walking up. He was holding 4 packs of cigarettes in one hand. James asked him, "Are you going to smoke those?" The young man said, "No, they are for my brother, who is in P-Phase of your program".

Apparently, this young man, Adrian, had gone through our program years ago because of a drug addiction. With the help of God and Wayside, he straightened himself out and graduated the program.



There are many blessings to his story. After graduating, he reconciled with a former girlfriend and that led to marriage and two lovely children. He started what is now a successful trucking company which fulfills contracts with major retailers and also operates a mobile truck repair service.

He has compassion for those who are trying to straighten out their lives, realizing they, too, deserve a second chance. He sees the value in surrounding

himself with like-minded people who are supportive of the life he now lives. In this spirit, he has hired a former Wayside staff member as an administrator with his company.

### SERVICES WE OFFER:

#### ■ EXTERIOR QUICK WASH - \$10

Includes hand wash, tire shine, interior vacuum, and exterior windows.

#### ■ EXTERIOR WASH & WAX - \$25

Includes hand wash, tire shine, spray wax, interior vacuum, interior/exterior windows & tire pressure check.

#### ■ INTERIOR ONLY - \$45

Includes complete interior detailing, interior windows, vacuum, shampoo carpet and upholstery, vinyl & leather conditioner.

#### ■ FULL SERVICE DETAIL - \$85

Includes hand wash, hand wax, wipe down engine compartment, check fluids, tire pressure check, complete interior detailing, vacuum, shampoo carpet, vinyl & leather conditioning.

-- Heavy duty cleaning add \$15

### YEAR-ROUND INDOOR FACILITY



**HOPE ON WHEELS**  
AUTO DETAILING

211 E. NEW YORK ST.  
(BEHIND THE MAIN 215 BUILDING)  
WWW.WAYSIDECROSS.ORG

APPOINTMENT NECESSARY - PLEASE CALL AHEAD

**630.723.3438**

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