



TRANSITION *to* COMMUNITY

PO Box 1545  
Lancaster, Pa 17608

transitiontocommunity.com  
717-394-6780

**“To proclaim liberty to the captives and the opening  
of the prison to them that are bound.”**

**Isalah 61:1**

## “PROCLAIMING LIBERTY”

Nov 2010 Issue 10

### Chris Riley: Moving Forward



Chris at his own apartment dreaming about becoming a welder some day. He has accomplished much, but puts plans in place to keep focused and moving forward.



After I was released from prison I had no where to go. This was really depressing for me knowing full well that is not how I wanted to live my life. The nine months I spent in prison gave me time to plan out some strategies for my road trip.

I went over to Transition to Community where I knew I could get some guidance. I spoke with a man named Steve Morris and he gave me the hook up. A safe place to live and lots of phone numbers for connecting with community resources. And the most important thing that he hooked me up with was some spiritual up-bringing.

I ended up, after only six months of struggling, to have a good job, a certification in construction and carpentry, welding classes and my own apartment.

So, what I've learned about my-

self was nothing is too hard to do if you just stay focused, save money, and stay out of jail. I have almost everything I need right now and I'm happy.

There was one thing that Steve shared with me that really caught my attention. He said, "Idol time is the devil's playground". So I compared that saying to my life and come to think of it, it's the truth.

I still have many other goals to reach but am confident that I will reach them as I remain focused and work hard.

With love and thanks, "To all of thee",

Christopher E. Riley

Donate to the  
**"HOME FOR CHRISTMAS"**  
project and help more men just like Chris Riley. ( see back page)

Executive Director - Steve Morris

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# THE GOD OF SECOND CHANCES

BY Steve Morris, Executive Director

*Chris needed someone to walk with him and give him a second chance.*

I know God knows all things, but does He ever stop to question, when will these guys “get it”? We at TTC believe God is about second chances. Even when we do not deserve it He continually extends His mercy and grace to us because He loves us. I am thankful for His grace.

Chris came to TTC a few times over the last few years and we helped him but he kept messing up over and over again. During his last stay at the county prison his letters seemed to reflect a new found determination to succeed. Chris finally “got it”.

Chris asked me to visit him from time to time

and each time I sat with him I could see a change in his attitude, for the good.

After being released in November of last year, Chris found work almost immediately at a local restaurant as a cook. Since he was homeless we moved him into the TTC transitional home in Lancaster. We helped him establish a budget and began to oversee his spending. With some coaching he began to save money toward his future.

Within a span of several months Chris was able to save first month rent and security deposit and he was able to move into his own apartment in

a good area of town.

Chris is featured on the front page of our newsletter because he truly is a success story and we are proud of him. He just needed someone to walk next to him. He just needed a little assistance. He just needed a second chance.

We at TTC believe that given a chance, these men can be a productive asset to the community.

Please consider sending a tax-deductible donation today to help us give these men a second chance. Thank you for your prayers and support.

Blessings!  
Steve Morris

PRAISE  
PRAYER  
NEEDS

## PRAISE

That one of the men accepted Jesus last week.

That Ryan Forbes a former client is able to now give back to God and TTC.

## PRAYER

That more men would be set free from the bondages that hold them captive.

That the men would be able to find jobs.

That families would be restored.

## NEEDS

Prayer Intercessors

Board Members

Non perishable food items.

Mentors

## EMPOWERED TO GIVE BACK

BY RYAN FORBES, MEN'S MINISTRY COORDINATOR

I always wonder...? What does it look like to "Transition to Community?" For me, it means more than just getting hooked up with the things I need. It means becoming a part of a large family. Community after all is defined as a large body of unified individuals. I learned that becoming a part of the community meant that I had something to give! After serving time in prison, I didn't believe that I really had anything to offer anyone? But, as I have walked with Jesus, he has shown me the way of giving; the way of community!! In July of 2010 I returned from a six month short term mis-

sions trip to Africa, where I served in Kenya, and Malawi. I never thought I would leave the state of Pennsylvania, let alone travel the world, and become a part of a larger family than I could have imagined!! Ephesians 3:20 says, "Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us." Empowered by Christ, I was able to "give back" in Africa, and upon returning to the states, I am empowered to "give back" at TTC!! In returning to TTC, I



Giving Back

find that I have so much to give to the men coming out of prison, and to the community!! Serving Jesus means giving, and community means living!

"Between giving and living I don't have any time for sinning!!"

~Ryan H Forbes,

*"Between giving and living I don't have any time for sinning!!"*

## A JUBILANT WEDDING

Junior Cardoza, the House manager at the Lancaster Transitional Home just celebrated a glorious day with his wife Stacy as they exchanged their wedding vows on September 11, 2010.

It was a most joyous wedding as they worshiped with flags and

broke out into dance as they exited the ceremony. Together they will continue to give oversight to the men living at the Lancaster Home. Thank you Junior for your love and care for these men. Congratulations on your marriage!



Junior and Stacy

*Congratulations*

*on your*

*Marriage!*

## PRISON TO COMMUNITY



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### HE'S JESUS

### Mark your calendar

If I got three wishes it wouldn't be enough, I  
need too much stuff personally.  
The things I need are not dumb,  
they're actually pretty cheap.  
No platinum, gold or diamond rings.

I need LOVE.....  
From passionate human beings that ain't  
tuff...  
and care about peoples feelings.  
I need hugs, the bear ones that make it hard

to breathe  
And make you feel needed.

I want trust .....  
from someone who never cheated  
who shows they really mean it.  
The one who's never leavin  
can you see I'm feignin for Jesus.

Chris Riley 2009

2nd Annual  
Transition to Community  
Awareness Banquet  
April 26, 2011

Shady Maple Banquet Facilities

## 2nd Annual "A home for Christmas" Package

- \$15.00** provides a home for one day
- \$100.00** provides a home for one week
- \$400.00** provides a home for one month
- \$2400.00** provides a home for six months
- other donation amount

To make a donation use enclosed  
envelope or donate online @  
[www.transitiontocommunity.com](http://www.transitiontocommunity.com)

