

## OUR MISSION

“Anchor House is a Christian residence for boys, that seeks to provide reconciliation, social assimilation, and independence to promote a brighter future.”

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By Robert, an Anchor House Resident

## ATTENTION

### Music and Art Experts:

Several of our boys here at Anchor House are gifted in the areas of art and music. We are looking for individuals with talent in these areas, who are willing to share of their time to teach our boys.

Several of the current interests include drawing, painting, guitar and drums. New boys arrive at Anchor House every week, so if you are talented in other areas, your skills could be needed in the future.

If you are interested in donating art and music lessons to our boys, please contact Don Cox at 863-665-1916 or [don.cox@anchor-house.org](mailto:don.cox@anchor-house.org).

## Join Our Spring Cleaning Crew!

Anchor House has a list of maintenance projects, that need to be completed in the coming months. Several of the projects, which include painting, grounds work and general cleaning, are scheduled to be done sometime this spring.

If you know of a group of willing volunteers, such as a youth group or civic organization, that would like to come out and work along side the Anchor House boys and staff, please give us a call!

For more information on how you can help with Spring Cleaning, please contact Executive Director Michael Staples at 863-665-1916 or [staplesmjs@aol.com](mailto:staplesmjs@aol.com).



## Executive Director's Desk

**Dear Friends, prayer partners and supporters,**



*"We believe strongly in instilling both a moral and spiritual component to strengthen these young men whose lives have often been tossed around. We wish to put healthy and stable values in their lives."*

February has come with a "vengeance" for those who came to Florida to escape the cold weather. It felt like the cold Canadian winds came down. Of course with the colder weather, higher heating bills have also arrived. I know that many feel really stretched on account of some of the economic downturns and may even feel insecure about the future.

We at Anchor House feel your pain and even get some sad letters about those who have had to cut back. Yet one true hope remains for all, and that is that the Lord always promised to meet our needs. He will always look out for us.

For our boys who come to us from the streets or from homes that unstable, they carry the insecurities

about the future. Yet at Anchor House they receive good meals, a safe and warm environment and the opportunity to have a "normal" life.

Last week, several of our boys attended a youth group lock in and played paintball, saw movies and participated in a devotional talk on abstinence and maintaining purity.

One of the most distinctive parts to our program is that we believe strongly in instilling both a moral and spiritual component to strengthen these young men whose lives have often been tossed around. We wish to put healthy and stable values in their lives.

Our relationship to churches and youth groups that provided such strength and support in the programming and encouragement of these young men. If your church or group would like to

consider sponsoring an activity for our boys, please let us partner together to bless those less fortunate.

Let me say a special thanks to all of our partners, new and old, who support and help make it possible to help these young men. One young man recently came to us from a Juvenile Facility while a family placement is being worked out.

While it is difficult sometimes for these boys to not be in the home of their choice, our Christian home provides a stable transition for their successful re-entry into family and society.

Thank you for pouring love on these young men and remembering them in prayer, remembering their birthdays and offering encouragement.

With loving thanks,

*Michael Staples*

# Happy Birthday!

Michael - February 25

Randy - March 23

Jacob - April 17

## Anchor House Activities

At Anchor House we try to plan wholesome activities for our young men. Some activities are designed for the whole house to attend regardless of the behavioral level of the child. Other activities may be granted as a privilege to those who have earned them.

Earned activities include the privilege of participating in school sports, small group outings and optional church youth functions and off campus visits. Two residents recently attended an all night Lock-In with the youth at First Presbyterian of Lakeland. Those that went participated in a guys only event that included pizza, paintball, music and a Bible study on purity.

All residents attend our weekly Thursday evening chapel. They also attend a Sunday morning worship service at one of the many churches that have invited us to attend. Optional participation at church youth functions and weekly meetings is encouraged.

On Super Bowl Sunday, some dear friends sponsored a tailgate party for the residents and staff of Anchor House. We devised a scorecard for the game and gave away prizes (donated by our sponsors) to boys who most accurately guessed the score at different quarters and other game statistics. We were able to watch the game on a large screen television that came from another donor. It was an exciting evening for Anchor House.

We appreciate your gifts to Anchor House that make our activities a reality. Because of your generosity, we have recently had bowling, skating and movie nights. Thank you to our many host churches who give us the opportunity to further present to young men the claims of Christ on their life and the power to be His disciples.

**Pastor Don Cox**  
Program Director/Chaplain

## Special Needs

Anchor House is always in need of items to keep the residence running. To learn more about how you can help, contact Esther Wadley at 863.665.1916 or [esther.wadley@anchor-house.org](mailto:esther.wadley@anchor-house.org).

### Needed items include:

- ◆ Over the Counter Medicines (New)
- ◆ Garden Tools
- ◆ Large Yard Trash Bags
- ◆ Cleaning Products
- ◆ Lysol Floor Cleaner
- ◆ Fresh Produce
- ◆ Cheese
- ◆ Meat - Fresh or Frozen
- ◆ Rice or Pasta Mixes
- ◆ Milk
- ◆ Pillows (new)
- ◆ Shower Curtains
- ◆ Writable CD/DVDs



# Anchor House Snapshots

