



# 2025 Recap

124 SALVATIONS

143 GRADUATES

9 MILITARY SERVICE

124 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

138 BAPTISMS

403 SERVED

3 SEX TRAFFICKING

63 SEXUAL ASSAULT





# A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

Christmas has always been a big deal in my family—since before I can remember. My mom has a special gift for building anticipation for the season. It was almost like the starting gun at the beginning of a race: the day after Thanksgiving, all our focus shifted to Christmas.

One of the most memorable phrases we'd hear throughout the season was, "Isn't it so cool that it's Jesus' birthday, but He decided to let us have the presents?" I love that comment so much that I carry it with me today, sharing it with my own children as we approach what can often feel like the most materialistic time of year.

I understand that this may not be the exact season Jesus was born, but I find it to be the perfect reminder to slow down and refocus my sights on the greatest gift ever given to humanity—our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Being evangelical at heart, I have a special interest in using this season to segue many conversations into that wonderful gift given over 2,000 years ago when God sent His Son.

With the work I'm part of today, I carry an underlying hope that everyone who steps foot into CRCI will come to recognize that gift—no matter what time of year they walk through our doors.

I'm sure many of you have heard the phrase, "Jesus is the answer." I recently found myself saying this to someone after hearing a brief summary of the wreckage from his past. This person had tried recovery many times, facing heartache and discouragement along the way. As he explained the multiple current dilemmas he was facing, I touched his shoulder and said, "Jesus is the answer."

The next question he asked was the one I had hoped for: "How so?"

If you study the life of Christ, you'll see He was on a special mission that constantly brought Him into interactions with people who were in tight spots—whether it was a man lying by the pool of Bethesda hoping for healing, or a man considered insane due to countless demonic possessions. Christ was always engaging with people in some form of wreckage.

As He approached these situations, the greatest gift He carried was freedom. His entire ministry on earth was about creating freedom for people enslaved by their current affliction. Some were born into it; for others, it was the result of choices they had made. Regardless, Christ brought freedom.

Jesus explains this Himself in John 10:10: "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it more abundantly."

After sharing this with my troubled friend, a hymn came to mind. I'm not much of a singer, but in that moment, I felt it was appropriate to make him suffer through me carrying the tune of the chorus: "Because He lives, I can face tomorrow. Because He lives, all fear is gone. Because I know He holds the future, And life is worth the living just because He lives."

Such great hope is found in that song—and it all became a promise fulfilled in the season we celebrate the greatest gift: Jesus.

Merry Christmas, everyone.

**Josh Torbich, CEO Christian Recovery Centers**

## RECOVERY is real!



# WHY I CHOOSE TO GIVE



"I feel the pain of those who are under the spell of addiction and believe there's no way out. They don't want that terrible existence, yet there they are losing hope. I am so proud of the efforts of CRCI and the many victories that happen daily. This is a tremendous ministry that lifts wonderful people from the junk piles of life and restores them to the great life God has for them. Miracles happen regularly at CRCI, and I'm honored to play even a small part in those successes. I've become a very good cheerleader and I'll keep cheering until every life is restored."

**Bill Craft**



"We were drawn to CRCI because of their compassion for the people who are full of shame and guilt. From the moment we learned about their work, we felt the sincerity in how they care for people others might not pay attention to. It's not just charity; they are the hands and feet of Jesus. Whether it's a warm meal, a listening ear, or a safe place to rest, they meet people where they are. We give because we believe in their heart and the way they honor every story. It's rare to find a ministry who walks with people through their darkest valleys. Supporting CRCI feels like being part of something sacred."

**Mike & Deb Claxton**



"I give to this ministry because I've seen firsthand how their Workforce Redevelopment Program changes lives. It's not just about job training—it's about restoring dignity, confidence, and purpose. People who've been overlooked or written off are given tools to thrive, not just survive. I love that they teach life skills, offer mentorship, and walk alongside individuals as they re-enter society with hope. Supporting this program feels like investing in someone's future, not just their present. It's a ripple effect. One life changed impacts a whole community. That's why I continue to give."

**Dan Koenitz**

## JOIN OUR VOLUNTEER TEAM

### Volunteer Opportunities

- Thrift Stores – Three locations to choose from
- Residential Programs – Men's and Women's
- Community Service, Fundraising Events, Administrative Support

**Sign Up Now**



[crcirecovery.org/volunteer](https://crcirecovery.org/volunteer)





# CHRISTIAN RECOVERY CENTERS INC

## Bryant's ORCHARD

Even with our first group of residents getting settled into Bryant's Orchard, the overall excitement remains in the air. When we consider the total impact of this campus, we gain a deeper appreciation for both its current and potential effects on the individuals we serve.

Since opening the new 50-bed residential motivational track site serving our Brunswick County operation for males, we've continued to implement complementary project elements that enhance CRCI's overall impact, including **expanding our female occupancy by 30%**. With generous support this past year from Sacred Heart Church, Landfall Foundation, Knights of Columbus, and many private donors, our oldest campus in Ash received a much-needed facelift in the bathroom facilities to accommodate motivational track services exclusively for females. After navigating permitting hurdles, we're finally preparing to make this space available to women in need in the months ahead.

Another exciting development is CRCI's horticulture program, now partnering with Brunswick Community College to launch acres of homegrown fruit and vegetable farming. Coupled with a core curriculum, this new element of our Workforce Redevelopment Program will not only provide education for our residents but also help sustain CRCI's ability to serve over 1,000 meals a day.

**As we approach the final months of Bryant's Orchard capital campaign, we are actively seeking meaningful donors like you to help us create much-needed resources for those in long-term recovery.**

***Please mark your calendar for the formal ribbon-cutting ceremony for Bryant's Orchard on March 7th, 2026. We hope you'll accept our invitation to celebrate all of God's goodness and mercy as we continue to serve His children.***

### MAKE A GIFT TODAY

**Consider turning your one-time gift into a recurring gift.**

Please return the enclosed envelope.

**or donate online @ [crcirecovery.org/bryantSORCHARD](https://crcirecovery.org/bryantSORCHARD)**

Please make your tax-deductible check payable to Christian Recovery Centers.



Grow Together





## CONVERSATIONS ON A BENCH WAS A SUCCESS!

Over 40 people in our community stopped by the Christian Recovery Centers bench to have meaningful, authentic conversations about homelessness. Dozens more dropped off drinks and snacks, said "hi," and offered moral support. We're proud to report that our livestream was viewed approximately 6,000+ times.

**Needless to say, it was a powerful 24 hours.**

We're looking forward to sharing more stories that came out of Conversations on a Bench and where we go from here.

But, for right now, we want to say thank you for listening, and thank you to all the courageous guests who stopped by our bench to share such important stories! We're confident God will use these stories for good in our county.

P.S. Conversations on a Bench might have ended, but we work in this space all year long! If these conversations sparked a desire to learn or do more, you're in the right place. Learn how you can volunteer, make a financial donation, or learn about the transformation services we provide.

CHRISTIAN RECOVERY CENTERS INC. (CRCI)

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CALL:  
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# winter 2025

 CHRISTIAN  
RECOVERY  
CENTERS INC  
THRIFT STORE



If you've been on Shallotte Main Street, you might have noticed CRCI's third thrift location. The former Shallotte Bed Land has been transformed into a mission-driven space focused on *Saving Lives and Saving Souls*. This location is unique in that it will continue to sell mattresses and will also support our Holden Beach location as part of our first discount store initiative. Be sure to check out this new spot—as well as our other locations.