



Finding Freedom - NC

RECOVERY CONNECTION

NEW RECOVERY PROGRAMS ONBOARDED

BETHEL COLONY OF MERCY

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT



As the Bridge to 100 Network research design model continues to be implemented across the state to Network members and affiliates, we want to highlight the recovery programs being on-boarded. In upcoming issues, we will highlight the recovery programs that have been added to scale out the research design model of faith-based and science-informed recovery from three Pilot Programs to twelve active programs. Bethel Colony of Mercy is located in Caldwell County in Lenoir, NC. They offer recovery programs for both men and women, and provide a Christian residential program for those in bondage to addictions.

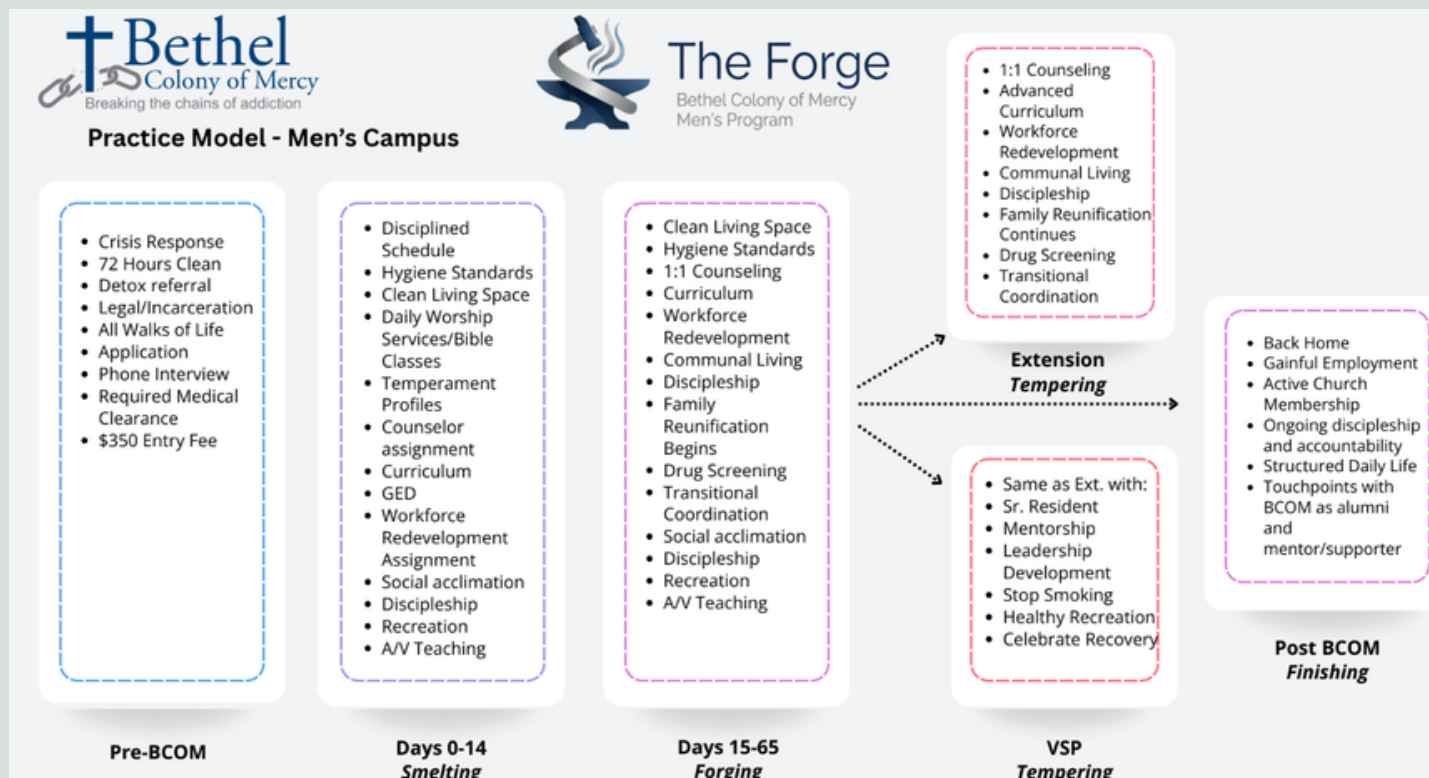
Bethel Colony of Mercy was founded in 1948 by Mr. and Mrs. James N. Claffee as a non-profit, non-denominational, Christian ministry. The purpose of Bethel Colony is best summarized in their slogan, "Victory Through Christ." God has

provided the cross of Jesus Christ as the only true escape from bondage. At Bethel Colony, they seek to point men and women to the reality of the indwelling Christ as the present Savior from sin and His provision of the Holy Spirit who transforms individuals in every area of life.

Bethel Colony's program approach is designed to provide a vital context in which men and women are encouraged to know Christ personally and to understand the practical outworking of the Word of God in meeting every need. A disciplined schedule, healthful climate, nutritious food, and relaxing recreation, soon restores a measure of physical health and a more positive mental outlook. The students participate in building projects, routine maintenance of facilities, general upkeep of the grounds, and community projects. Bethel Colony can house up to 88 men at The Forge, and 28 women at The Fountain.



The Men's Recovery Program at Bethel Colony is known as "The Forge", and the Women's Program is "The Fountain". The residential recovery time frame is 65 days with ongoing extension tempering to transition residents back home, gainfully employed, ongoing discipleship and accountability, and follow up touch points with Bethel Colony. The below diagram depicts a resident's pathway to recovery.



From November 1, 2024 to October 31, 2025

Bethel Colony Men's Campus:

Served	466 men
Baptized	82 men
Served	97,239 meals
Held	158 worship services
Held	364 teaching sessions

Bethel Colony Women's Campus:

Served	101 women
Baptized	26 women
Served	15,828 meals
Attended	158 worship services
Held	364 teaching sessions

Bethel Colony's History

The Lord Established It



Grace/dormitory 1989



Worship Center 2003



The Rock/dormitory 2014



New Auto Shop 2026



Women's Campus opened 2019



Women's Campus cabins #2&3



Women's Campus cabin #4



Grace/Counseling, audio, canteen TV lounge 2022



Ruth's Refuge (staff duplex) in progress

Launched ASPIRE - Jan. 2026

Stoplights

418 Stoplights

230 Baseline surveys

188 Follow-up surveys

% Change by Indicator

Top 5

Addiction	▲60.0pt
Daily routine	▲37.9pt
Freedom of spiritual pra..	▲35.5pt
Emotional Well-being	▲35.5pt
Agency	▲33.9pt
Healing from the past	▲33.1pt

PG 2 | BETHELCOLONY.ORG

For more information about Bethel Colony of Mercy click on this link:

<https://bethelcolony.org/>

The Bridge to 100 Network Research Design team met in Chapel Hill on May 21, 2026, to determine next steps in the project's design and roll out. Dr. Gary Nelson provided a brief overview of where we are at this point and the opportunity of funding hopefully opening up from the N.C. Collaboratory soon. The purpose of the meeting was to get centered on 1) what this is about, 2) developing the Strategic Business Plan, and 3) pursuing funding for the future. The goal was to leave the meeting with a reasonable plan of what the Network looks like going forward and know what the core is.



Gary discussed the conceptual design completed in 2024 that includes Faith as the purpose and direction, and Science as the tool. This last year in 2025 into 2026, we have been working on proof of concept. We worked with the 3 Pilots for this effort and created recovery practice models. Aspire is the tool we use to measure well-being. The first assessment is important, but the ongoing 2nd, 3rd, 4th and so on assessments are even more important to track progress and provide a sensible, repeatable measure of change.

For 2026, we are identifying the next 9 programs and scaling the design to them using immersive learning science and complexity science. As we go forward, we are learning. Hope Center Ministries is strong in economic development and jobs. They also are in multiple states so scaling to those is a prospect for a national program.

The team also reviewed the early draft of the Network's Business Plan, AI captures of the Community Dialogue Collective Impact meeting, and discussed the next phase of the Network. Phase One will be to begin to identify staff needed to stand up a team to get the Network going and serve N.C.

CHRISTIAN RECOVERY CENTERS, INC. PRESENTED AT SAMHSA FAITH INTEGRATED CALL TO CARE SUMMIT IN D.C.

This past month Josh Torbich, CEO of Christian Recovery Centers, Inc. was invited to present at the Washington D.C. based Summit "Called to Care". This gathering brought together 31 different states from across the country to share with federal employees and elected officials the best that Faith Based Programs have to offer. CRCI's position was unique and a topic of high interest at the summit as it not only offered a best practice model of care, but also had the opportunity to represent our work with the Bridge to 100 Network. The information shared at this event will support details outlining the Great American Recovery Initiative.



Communities of Hope: Faith-Led Recovery in Practice

SAMHSA





ASPIRE DATA DASHBOARD

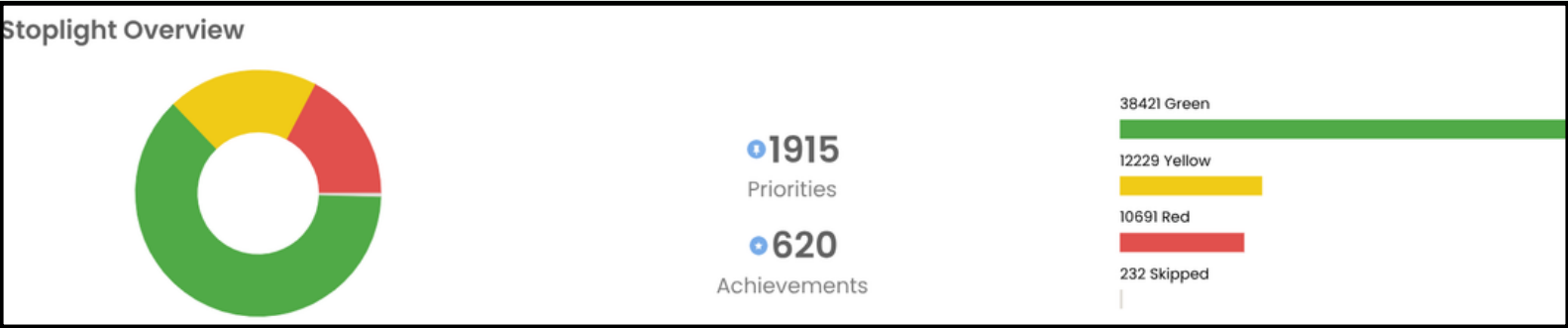
JUNE/JULY 2026

Stoplights

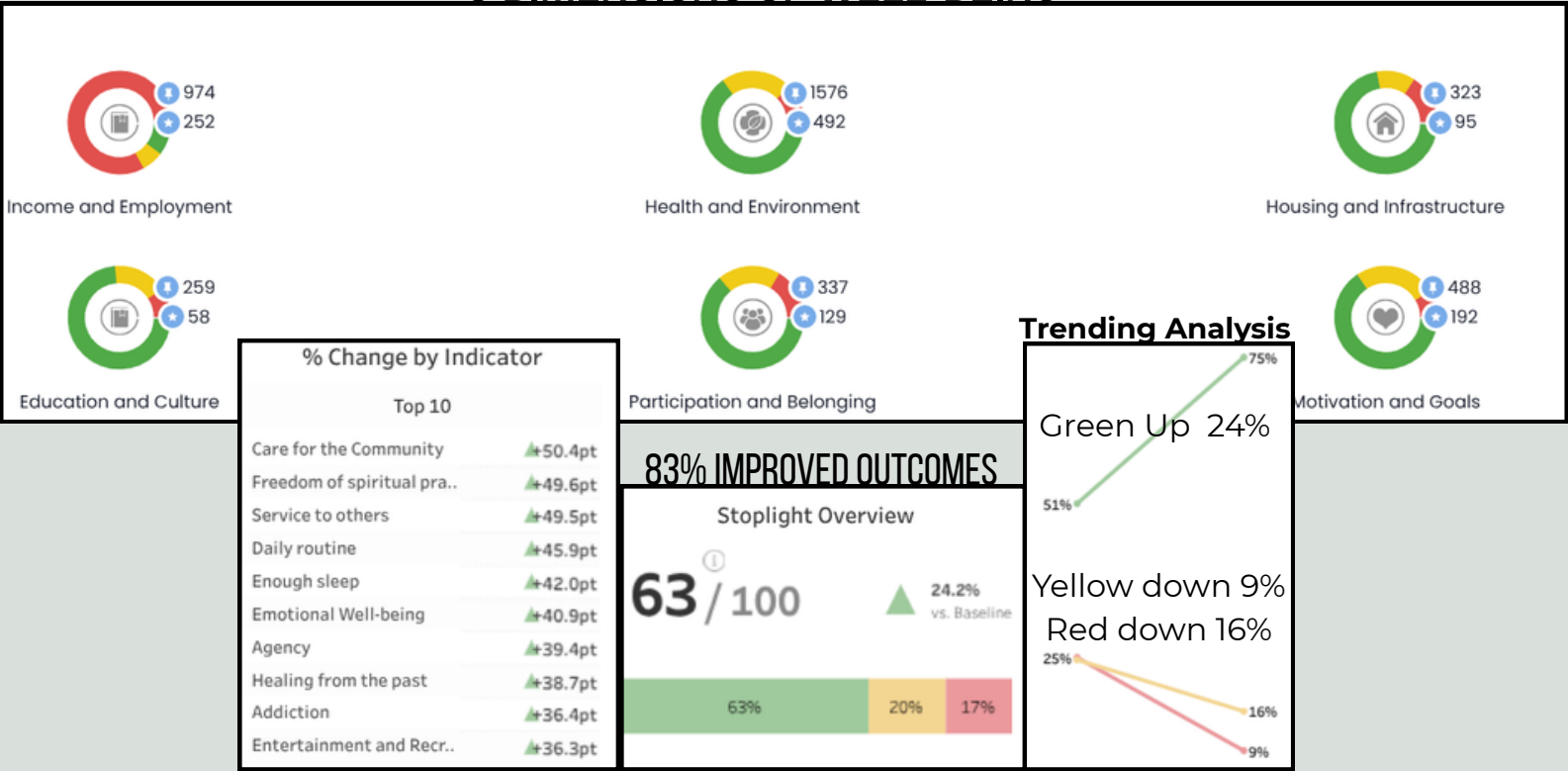
2,499 Stoplights

1,205 Baseline surveys

1,294 Follow-up surveys



6 DIMENSIONS OF WELL-BEING



MOST ACHIEVED INDICATORS



Important Dates and Next Steps...

JUNE/JULY 2026



- The Bridge to 100 Network Research Design team is actively working to scale the project to nine (9) more recovery programs bringing the group to 12, with the intent to expand fully to all Bridge to 100 Network members in the future. We have completed site visits with Freedom Farm, Bethel Colony of Mercy, Living Free Ministries, Adult & Teen Challenge, Charlotte Rescue Mission, Raleigh Dream Center, and Winston Salem Rescue Mission.
- Aspire Onboarding: Bethel Colony of Mercy (Caldwell County), Western Carolina Rescue Mission (Buncombe County), Freedom Farm (Watauga County), Veteran's Life Center (Granville County), Raleigh Dream Center (Wake County), Living Free Ministries (Alamance County), Richmond County Rescue Mission – Place of Grace (Richmond County), and Adult & Teen Challenge – Sandhills (Moore, Cumberland Mecklenburg, and Cabarrus County).
- Aspire Facilitator/Coaches are available to train staff - contact Karen Calhoun to schedule training - calhounkc@gmail.com
- Launch of the next Leadership Fellows Academy cohort - t/b/d.
- Save the date: October 2, 2026 - Bridge to 100 Network Annual Meeting.

