



600

FAMILIES HELPED

ACROSS 44 STATES AND 5 COUNTRIES

BECAUSE OF YOUR GENEROSITY, 600 FAMILIES FOUND HOPE!

As I sit down to write this summer update, I feel deeply grateful. At the end of May, Ashes to Glory Foundation reached a milestone we don't take lightly: our 600th family helped since we came alongside our very first family back in 2012.

That means 600 families, across 44 states and 5 countries, have been able to access help when the cost of care felt completely out of reach. As I think about that number, I'm overwhelmed by the stories behind it: **marriages restored, children who came home, sibling relationships reconciled, parents who finally exhaled, and most importantly, the Gospel proclaimed in the middle of the hardest seasons of people's lives.**

I think back to what this ministry looked like when Phil and Dawn Bahr started it. They saw the need, had a God-inspired vision, a whole lot of faith, and not much else. They weren't sure how it would happen. But God did. And He has been so faithful. I see that faithfulness every single week through the stories that come across our team's desk, and through you — the donors and prayer partners whose generosity makes all of it possible.

None of it happens without you. Family after family received help because donors and prayer partners like you stepped in when the gap was too much for them to carry alone.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you!



600+
FAMILIES
HELPED



44 STATES AND
5 COUNTRIES REACHED

\$15.7+
MILLION IN
SCHOLARSHIPS
AWARDED



2026 AT A GLANCE

+22%

APPLICATIONS VS.
SAME PERIOD 2025

+34%

FAMILIES HELPED VS.
SAME PERIOD 2025

\$26,547

AVG. SCHOLARSHIP
(UP FROM \$22,825)

These numbers are both encouraging and sobering. More families are reaching out than ever before, and the cost of clinically excellent, Christ-centered care continues to rise. Our average scholarship has increased by \$3,722 per family compared to this point last year. Your giving is what allows us to respond to that growth.

In April, I had the privilege of attending a two-day gathering at WinShape Retreat, hosted by Bubba and Cindy Cathy of Chick-fil-A. It was a room full of leaders wrestling with how the Church can better care for people walking through addiction, trauma, and mental health struggles. It reinforced something I believe deeply: the Church has a vital role to play in this work, and that conversation is growing.

We have several events and speaking engagements lined up for the second half of the year, and I'd love to add yours. If your church or organization would welcome a conversation about what we do, reach me personally at brandon@ashestogloryfoundation.org.

“SOMEONE CARES ABOUT THE MOM?”

I read a lot of family stories and testimonials, and I mean it when I say that's a privilege for which I'm grateful. But every once in a while, something lands in my inbox that stops me completely.

This is one of those.

Rachel's son Micah was able to enter treatment through an Ashes to Glory scholarship. But Rachel didn't write to tell us about Micah's journey. She wrote to tell us about hers. Rachel gave us permission to share her words, and I'm grateful she did. Her story shows something I wish every donor could see.

*This is a heartfelt note of gratitude to Ashes to Glory and to the ones who have freely given through them. In October 2025, I realized my son was in crisis. Enter the miracle of Ashes to Glory and a welcome for my son to treatment. **But this story is not about the son... this story of gratitude is about the mother.***

One year earlier, my marriage of 25 years ended after trying every avenue to reconcile. Addiction issues had hijacked our marriage. I felt like our whole world had imploded. The years of struggle, coupled with loss and grief, gripped my heart in an indescribable black exhaustion.

After my son was safely at treatment, someone suggested I pursue an intensive myself. To my surprise, when I called them to inquire, they recommended seeking a grant with Ashes to Glory. My initial thought was, 'Someone cares about the mom?'



I was the stay-at-home mom who homeschooled her children, hosted homeschool events weekly, served in a ministry, and loved my community. My Anabaptist upbringing was all about self-sacrifice and performing well. I weep now as I write this that an organization cared about 'the mom' and gave a tremendous gift so the mother could learn more about caring for herself with Jesus. Those three days were a priceless gift of feeling attended to in an intensity I didn't realize I craved.

Today, my gentle giant, my amazing son, is home. I am free to love him tenderly as a mother and yet still hold firmly the guardrails of the two-year game plan. I have newfound courage to face life as a single mother, held lovingly by the everlasting Arms.

***Because you lovingly and generously supported the face of an unknown mother,** today my heart is free to embrace the Proverbs 31:25 truth: 'She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come.' Thank you for giving a priceless gift to this mother.*



— Rachel, Ashes to Glory Scholarship Recipient

HEALING HAS TO REACH THE WHOLE FAMILY

Rachel's story isn't unusual. Trauma and addiction don't just happen to one person. They affect an entire household. The person in treatment is often the one everyone can see. But the spouse, the parent, the sibling, or the child is often carrying deep pain too, sometimes quietly, and often without anyone asking how they are doing.

That's why we require comprehensive family counseling as part of our vetting criteria. Not a once-a-month phone call, but real, intensive work that reaches the whole family unit. The programs we partner with employ licensed counselors with specialized training in addiction, trauma, and family systems, with low client-to-counselor ratios and care that happens in everyday moments, not just formal sessions.

We also require a minimum of 90 days of residential care, and I want to explain why, because I get this question often. Thirty days may clear substances from the body, but it barely scratches the surface of what drives addiction. Around days 30 to 40, individuals are often at their most vulnerable point. Detox is done, but the real work — addressing the trauma, the shame, the root causes — has just begun. I often share with families that I'm convinced it takes 30-45 days to get everything on the table, and then it takes another 30-45 days to put together the strategies for what to do with it. Ninety days gives the healing process room to actually take hold.

WHAT DOES THIS CARE ACTUALLY COST?

Clinically excellent, Christ-centered residential treatment runs approximately **\$1,250 per day** before insurance. For most families in crisis, that number is simply impossible to reach on their own. They are already giving everything they can. But even after savings, family help, loans, and personal sacrifice, the gap is often still too large.

THAT IS THE GAP YOUR GIVING BRIDGES.

YOU ARE THE BRIDGE

As I look ahead to the second half of 2026, I'm filled with both anticipation and a sense of urgency. The need in front of us is greater than ever. But so is the opportunity.

I keep coming back to the friends in Mark 2. The ones who carried their paralyzed friend to Jesus, found the house too crowded, and didn't give up. They tore through the roof and did whatever it took to get their friend to the feet of Jesus. That is the picture I often have in mind when I think about our donors and the Ashes to Glory community.

You are not simply giving to an organization. You are helping remove the financial barriers that stand between a desperate family and clinically excellent, Christ-centered care that can impact an entire family for generations.

So thank you for that. It is only because of your faithful generosity and prayers that 600 families have found hope, and that more are finding it every week.

Will you be the bridge for the next family?

Give. Pray. Invite us to share with your church or organization.

ashestogloryfoundation.org/getinvolved

On mission together,
Brandon Bahr



SMART WAYS TO GIVE THIS YEAR

CASH GIFTS

Simple, effective, and tax-deductible (within IRS limits).

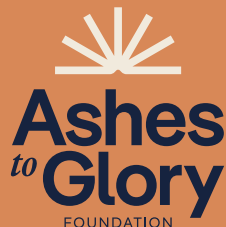
APPRECIATED ASSETS

Donating stock, ETFs, or mutual funds can help you avoid capital gains taxes while maximizing your impact.

IRA GIFTS (QCDs)

If you're 70½ or older, you can give directly from your pre-tax IRA. These gifts aren't taxable and can count toward your Required Minimum Distribution.

Consult your tax or financial advisor to see which option best fits your situation.



Be the bridge.
Fund freedom.
Restore lives.

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