**Rich Schaus (CIP) Community Influence Plan as of June 2024**

Glory in the Cross

Seek First the Kingdom of God and His Righteousness

Live According to the Spirit

**Audacious Goal: Reveal the Glory of God by ending homelessness in Oklahoma**

**Lead the Gospel Rescue Mission to take the model that we have developed and continue to improve in Muskogee, Oklahoma to help men and women to rediscover purpose and rise to become God dependent, contributing members of society into rural communities across the country.**

* **Stewardship:** Honor God with all resources to include finances, guests, volunteers and other gifts. Keyword: Transparency Customer Care God Leading the Way
* **True Center for Life Change:** Social reforms to make the community reflect Christ. Key words: Compassionate Action Operations Community Flourish
* **Leader in Restoration**: (Helping the whole person physically, mentally, spiritually and socially as well as body, mind and soul) Additionally, we will work with them to make restitution to family and other community members that they may have hurt in the past.) Key Words: Speak the Truth in Love. Program Individuals Flourish

**Remain in the Vine**

**Make Muskogee a True Charity Community**

**Make every community that we serve safer and cleaner**

**Challenges:**

* **NIMBY (Not in my backyard) issues**
* **Need allies in each community to make this happen**
* **Lack of desire of organizations and churches to want to work together**
* **Change is scary (Which will make reforms difficult)**
* **Many Christians are focused on outputs (makes them feel good) to give handouts to folks where God is more interested in Outcomes (Long term, eternal impact)**
* **Lack of strong, Christian male companions**
* **Push back from the Poverty Industrial Complex**
* **Local culture issues (Some White pride issues, many men hold to superiority issues)**

**Initial Answers to the Challenges INCREASE INFLUENCE**

* **Create Support network**
  + **Addiction Recovery**
  + **Mental Health**
  + **Medical Systems**
  + **Facebook Community Resource Page for each community on our webpage.**
* **Create Super Give Day (1 Time a year)**

**The Church must lead the way**

* + **Blood Donations**
  + **Neighborhood Clean up**
  + **School building repairs**
  + **Food Box give away**
  + **Community meal**

**Live ALL IN!**

* + **Celebration service**
* **Add great value to communities**
  + **Addiction recovery services**
  + **Charity Tracker**
  + **Social Enterprises**
  + **Functional Zero**
  + **Sprints**
  + **Lunch and Learns**
  + **Book Club**
* **Create a movement: Don’t worry about who gets the credit.**
* **Must build world changing team**
* **Develop influence to experiment with restorative justice**
* **Recruit others for the GRM Board**
  + **Need to find detail oriented folks to push me to be better.**
  + **Need accountant**
  + **Updated Board format**
  + **Use matrix to ensure diversity of thought**
* **Recruit List of Allies and meet regularly (Mostly informally)**

**Funding the vision**

* **My giftings allow for me to be a good speaker, trainer and teacher. Build a webinar business and podcasts on** 
  + **Rise of the Spiritual Leader**
  + **Personal Growth**
  + **Marriage Insurance**
  + **Nonprofit board leadership**
  + **Warrior Life**
  + **Parenting**
  + **Marriage**
  + **Living Grace**
  + **Goalsetting**
  + **Servant Leadership**
  + **Immersion**
  + **More being developed**
  + **Coaching**
* **GRM Start (Social Enterprises)** 
  + **Clean Start (Janitorial)**
  + **ReStart (Thrift Stores)**
  + **Fresh Start (Plant nursery business)**
  + **Souper Start (Food truck)**
  + **stART (Screen Printing)**
  + **Gas Station**
  + **Putt Putt Golf**
  + **Car Wash**
* **Living Grace newspaper column**
* **Social Reforms**
  + **Education Reform**
  + **Justice Reform**
  + **Immigration Reform**
  + **Church Reform**
  + **Addiction Recovery Reform**
  + **Lead Neighborhood Building Programs**
  + **Reestablish the family as the base of society**
  + **Build Community through Time Banks**
  + **Expose Big Pharma and Insurance influence on government**

Upgraded Organization

Administration: Will ensure that all tasks that are connected with legalities like HR, accounting and all licensing are in place. They will also ensure that the fundraising and marketing of the entire organization is coordinated and ensure brand integrity.

Social Reform: Goal: To lead a Network of Networks: Will create white papers, magazine articles, newspaper editorials, news stories. blog posts, social media posts. Will do research from every viewpoint and run all ideas by those in the GRM shelter programs. They will also create opportunities for meetings with influencers and speaking engagements.

* Welfare Cliff
* Mental Health Reforms
* Addiction Recovery

GRM START: Public Benefit Corporation

Purposes

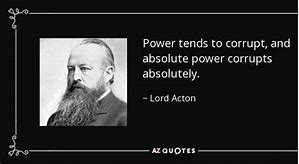
* Educate the Public on Poverty Issues
* Jobs for GRM Workstart 2.0
* Fund GRM Projects Profits
  + 25% to GRM General Fund
  + 15% into GRM Start General Fund toward future investment
  + 10% Research and Development
  + 50% Profit Sharing Employees each site Scoring
    - Start CEO:4
    - Section Managers:3
    - Site Managers:2
    - Employees: 1

Program (Non profit)

Food Service: Healthy Meals to include Day Center lunches at new locations. Share bounty with other Food Banks (Encourage them toward Food Coops)

Shelter Programs: Give opportunity for folks to get off of the street and if needed go through long term life recovery program(To be developed) Includes our Workstart program (Job Training)

Maintenance: Ensure all buildings are in good working order

Community Building: Teach and train True Charity Principles to any organization open to the training.

Personal Steps:

* Learn to be a master question asker
* Continue to develop personal character
  + Expanded power exposes lack of virtue
  + Meditate on these Bible verses on character: Romans 5:3-5 (endurance); 1 Corinthians 15:33 (proximity is power); Galatians 5:22-23 (compass for self-auditing); Romans 8:14 (seek His direction and plans over our own - Proverbs 16:1-9).
* Purposely look for the sort of people that I will need to fill the lead positions
* Develop training center
* Develop relationships with a wider group of thinkers and dreamers
* Think diversity (include race, culture, education, gender, age, denomination, experience, etc)

When I was born the doctors told my parents not to expect too much out of me due to some complications at my birth. My mom and dad being young (mom had just turned 17 and dad was not yet 18) they simply believed what the doctor said, and they sat me in front of a tv and commenced with not expecting much from me.

In first grade I was taken to St. Elizabeth’s Catholic School where I was introduced to Sister Mary Gabrielle. My mom told her about what the doctor said. This old school nun listened attentively and then told my mom that was the stupidest thing she had ever heard and that I was just lazy. Sister Mary Gabrielle went to work on straightening me up. I was paddled that first day, drug into school on occasion but I came along.

By third grade I was in advanced classes and thriving in school. I did have a bad temper that often put me at odds with others, particularly my mom.

Despite all of that I was a good student and when my temper was not aroused, I was a good kid. In third grade I was also starting to consider the priesthood. I went to mass at least 6 times a week. I was regular altar boy and put on portion of the mass in my room for my little brother the way some kids’ playhouse.

In eighth grade and beyond I discovered girls and never really considered the priesthood again. Lust and pornography slowly started working its way into my thinking. Girls were my focus, but I was good enough in school to stay on the honor roll.

My freshman year of high school the history teacher (who was a board member of the church that I attended) told the class that the Bible was not really history. My world started to really be rocked. This is my first memory of really questioning the existence of God.

My sophomore year of high school I discovered that alcohol could make me more courageous when it came to try to meet girls. My desire was always to be the life of the party and kiss as many girls as possible and alcohol seemed to help that. My strong Catholic upbringing kept my actual behavior with girls from getting too out of hand. I still went to mass every week and was active in our youth group and confirmation classes. But all of that was checking the box and was more about being with friends and trying to meet girls.

After graduation I went to college (again check the box event). This is where I went off the rails. Alcohol started to rule my life. I would skip classes if there was a good drink special at nearby bars. I was a pretty good shoplifter and was able to translate my stolen goods into cash well so that is how I got my drink money.

I was lazy and living for myself. I had started experimenting with marijuana and basically worshiped Jim Morrison and wanted to be like him.

After three years of that I decided that I was wasting time and energy. I had paid for full loads of classes but was still a freshman as far as number of credits goes. Over the summer I had tried to run away but chickened out when I got to Houston. I got back on a bus and went home. I had a whole string of lies that I used. Lying was a key component of my addiction and my life in those years.

I got a job on a riverboat and felt that I could be the next Mark Twain. I loved the adventure of life on the river. The crew and I would routinely pull out a cooler after the last cruise of the night and drink on the levy. I was tired of hiding my drinking from my family, so I found a small efficiency apartment and moved out. My moving out was done with a particularly hateful interaction with my mom. I tried to hurt her as bad as possible with my words. Somehow I thought it would make the separation easier. (This was a pattern that also came back up when I was older. Every time that I was preparing to deploy my wife and I would fight. I eventually realized that I was replaying my early childhood exit strategy.)

After about 6 months of living this life my temper was barely under control and I really thought about nothing much more than drinking so I quit my job. Somehow, I figured that I could find another job before the rent would be due. One evening after another wasted day I looked at my wallet and realized that I had enough for one more month of rent or some food and booze. I chose the booze.

Going out with friends that night I must have drank more than normal because when I woke up, I was on my bathroom floor covered in vomit. I shook off the confusion and cleaned up my mess. I suddenly came to my senses. I was in real trouble. No job, no prospects of a job and no cash left. I only had one week to find a solution. I felt like a total loser and lost. I had given up any faith that God even existed. But that day I cried out a simple prayer, “God if you are real prove yourself to me.” I was hungry and tired and scared.

I looked at the phone and decided to call home. I prayed a second prayer that my dad would answer the phone. I figured that I had never really hurt him the same way I had my mom so he could smooth talk her into letting me come home. I can still remember the phone ringing and the disappointment when my mom answered the phone. I was uncertain what to do now. I took a deep breath and asked her if I could come home. She had no delay and said yes. Within a week I was back in my childhood bedroom trying to figure out the rest of my life.

The next week was Easter Sunday and my little sister and I went to play tennis. There was a girl in the next court, and I thought she was cute, and my sister happened to know her. She introduced us and I thought this might work out well for me so I asked her if we could go out that night. She said, “No I have to go to church tonight.” I figured that was a polite rejection and shrugged it off. Later that week when I saw her again, I discovered that she really went to church on Sunday nights. She would also go on Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights. I had never heard of such a thing, but she was cute, and we could go out in between her professional church going. After a couple of weeks though she let me know that her parents said we could not date unless I went to church. I really was liking this girl so I figured that I could handle a 30-45 minute church service once a week to satisfy the parents.

Little did I know that the church routinely met for 2 hours or so typically 3X a week. But at that first service I sensed something different and I had a good time. Each week I would look forward to going to church. Every week I would ponder a question and the pastor would cover something related to that topic. I asked God about my smoking and drinking and that next Sunday he covered it. Amazed I went out and bought my first Bible. I read that thing daily looking for several of the stories that I had heard were in the Bible as I grew up. Some were there but many were not.

I noticed that at the end of services there was an altar call and I felt like I should go forward, but I was not going to satisfy this girl’s parents by going forward. I really had no idea what that would mean but I did not want them to be happy. One Friday afternoon I was going to go to the park and on my way there I was in a head on collision in my little Ford Festiva (VERY SMALL CAR) and a full-sized pickup truck. My car was crushed I was taken to the hospital by ambulance. Ultimately though I only had a few scrapes and a broken collar bone. My family doctor was not available, so they scheduled me to see him on Monday.

That Sunday morning, I waited for the altar call and it never came. I was disappointed. The girl and I spent the afternoon together and that night at church I waited again for the altar call. Her parents had decided not to go that night. There came a moment where the preacher started to give something that sounded like an altar call and I was up there before he finished his first sentence. My girlfriend was shocked. I cried and prayed for salvation.

Interesting thing happened while I was up there receiving Christ. The Pastor laid hands on my shoulder when he prayed for me. When he touched my shoulder, he realized that I had a brace on from my broken collar bone. He pulled back initially concerned that he was hurting me, but soon gently laid hands on it and prayed for my healing. That next Monday my doctor could not find the X rays from Friday so had them taken again. The bone was no longer broken.

About 2 months later I woke from a dream and said out loud, “You want me to do what?” It happened for two straight nights and I could not remember what had sparked such an outburst. I spent that morning reading my Bible and I suddenly remembered the dream that had awakened me. It is still a vision in my head that I have not been able to shake. In the dream I realized that God wanted me to be a missionary.

I made an appointment to meet with the pastor and learn how to become a missionary. He shared with me that I would need to go to Bible college and gave me contact information for three schools. I checked them out and ultimately chose Central Bible College in Springfield, Missouri.

As I grew in the Lord, I realized that I was not honoring him with my relationship with my girlfriend and ultimately we broke up.

I also felt that God called me to join the Army Reserve to help pay for the schooling and also get some medical training for the mission field. I did basic training at Fort Leonard Wood and Advanced training at Fort Sam Houston and showed up just in time to start the fall semester at college in 1994.

God really shook me up as I discovered that I loved the Army so I researched how I might do ROTC and get a commission. It took going to three different schools at the same time but three years later I was commissioned.

My discipline had really grown. For example my senior year I had to take 27 semester hours each semester to graduate on time, I worked part time, I completed ROTC and maintained my reserve status, I wooed my wife and married her, led a missions trip to Puerto Rico, led a children’s outreach program and attempted a 100 mile run (fell short on the run dropping out at mile 62).

BOTTOM LINE of my past

I was raised Catholic but walked away from any kind of church or belief that there even was a God. From basically 16-21 I was trapped in addiction to alcohol and pornography. I worshiped dead rock stars and lived primarily for myself. I had no real purpose to my life. At 21 I was introduced to Jesus and my life has never been the same.

Character Flaws from this season of my life

* Pornography
* Selfish
* Never finished anything that I started
* Bad Temper
* Lazy
* Foul tongue
* Alcohol Addiction

I am now 52 years old and God has shown himself faithful. I have often been faithless and struggled in my own sins and my own selfishness. But God has proven himself again and again. I have spent the last 21+ years working with those in poverty with a focus on those that are experiencing homelessness.

A close up of a logo

Description automatically generatedGospel Rescue Mission in Muskogee, Oklahoma has been helping those experiencing hunger, homelessness and hopelessness since 1931. From the beginning, our non-denominational organization has been built on faith. Founded in the worst years of the Great Depression and forged in the heart of the Oklahoma dust bowl, we have demonstrated steadfast grit and have helped tens of thousands in crisis situations.

Since our founding, Gospel Rescue Mission has held to our original purpose providing food, shelter, and emergency assistance to those in crisis. We unapologetically share the true hope of the Gospel to all who come through our doors. Supported completely by churches and individual donations, we accept no government funds so that we remain free to proclaim the truth of God's Word. While our message has not changed, we have recently expanded our goals to include total restoration of the individual experiencing hunger, homelessness and hopelessness; not just a hand-out, but a hand-up out of addiction and the cycle of poverty.

About the same time that I was struggling with my addiction and my life seemed to be spiraling out of control, a seven-hour drive away in Muskogee Oklahoma the Executive Director of the Gospel Rescue Mission was being exposed as having embezzled a great deal on money and goods. While many thought that the mission was done for as a nonprofit, some good men came along and maintained the mission until God had prepared me to take over in 2015.

Bottom line: GRM was a flop house that did not expect too much out of people and so warehoused them.

A close up of a sign

Description automatically generated

My top 5 Spiritual Gifts

* Motivational Gift: Teaching
* Equipping Gift: Teacher
* Situational Gift: Word of Knowledge
* Equipping Gift: Pastor
* Motivational Gift: Leading

**My super Powers**

* **Discipline**
* **Public Speaking**

**Step into the Fight**

* **Leadership**

**Family**

* **Cara Schaus: Wife**
* **Rachel Lynam: Daughter married to Daniel Lynam Granddaughter Callie Lynam, Ellie Lynam, Beatrix Lynam, Avonlea Lynam**
* **James Schaus: Son: Is going to school in Tennessee to be sound engineer. Expect Graduation December 2024**
* **Benjamin Schaus: Son (Started NSU 2022) Most like me. Plans on being a teacher. Expect Graduation December 2025**
* **Saber: My dog**

My Top Fears

* Disrupting people
* Wasting time
* Being ignored
* Seasonal fear of childbirth
* **Assorted chickens**
* **In-laws live on our land**

**For the past 9 years I have been the Executive Director of the Gospel Rescue Mission.**

**Recent Revelation: I tend to try to lead from the shadows and make waves without being noticed. Many experiences from my past have shown this to work for me. However, if I want to be more I must come out of the shadows.**

**Personal Challenges**

* **Difficult relationship with my mother. She seems to bring out the worst in me**
* **Chad Stone: Brother in Law that is ruled by anger**

**More than a Shelter**

Gospel Rescue Mission in now focused on being a Poverty Reduction Center (PRC). Our efforts to reduce poverty cause us to use our E5 process with guests, staff, volunteers and others.

* Educate: Ourselves on the causes and difficulties in poverty
* Explore: We explore solutions to those causes
* Experiment: We experiment with the best solutions and modify as needed.
* Empower: We offer opportunity for those in poverty to create their own success
* Engage: We engage in conversations where we speak the truth in love and listen in truth and love

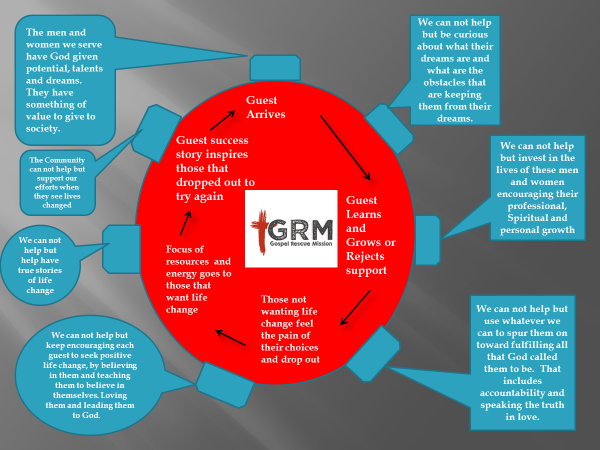
The restoration programs that we have developed and continue to improve focus on restoring individuals, families and the community to health physically, mentally, spiritually and socially. We will give families a safety net not dependent on government funding, but that relies on dignity derived from work well done, volunteerism, and vibrant church connection. GRM firmly believes it is possible to build a better and more sustainable safety net than government programs can provide.

It is part of our purpose to partner with the community. We welcome and gladly work with other agencies that are designed to alleviate suffering. The projects we have initiated involve churches of various denominations, businesses, government, and social services to make a sustainable impact on reducing poverty.

The restoration portion of this program is centered on getting to know these men and women through our assessment process. From there we develop short term contracts that will move them holistically to be all that God designed them to be.

3 Targets:

* Stewardship
* True Center for Life Change
* Leader in Restoration



**Bottom Line: We have established a solid pilot program. At GRM we believe that the great value and potential of our guests will be an asset to any community.**

**We see that most people have lost sight of the purpose that God designed for them. A major portion of our program is that they might rediscover that purpose and live it out in our community.**

**We routinely express that reality to those that we serve, and we expect them to live up to that standard. NO EXCUSES**

***We do acknowledge that there might be obstacles for people but that no obstacle can stop anyone who is determined to overcome it.***

To succeed I must

* Learn Statecraft
* Risk offending people
* Call out power abuses
* Maintain Disciplines
* CANI

Ultimately, I want to retire before I become obsolete and simply be available for consultation to those that request it.

* I desire to establish my home (Tranquility) as a refuge for those in ministry looking for a guided Spiritual retreat.
* I desire that Tranquility to provide a haven for folks to come and just brainstorm ideas on how to make the world better.
* I desire that Tranquility will be a haven for my family to come and spend time and simply relax.
* I desire to see a grandchild that will take on my mantle and will inherit Tranquility and continue in the work that I have begun and make it better than I can possibly imagine today.