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Transforming Lives through Jesus Christ

July 2016

Greetings from TLC,

The summer season reminds us of God's faithfulness and creative power. The spring harvest was bountiful in Northwest Oklahoma and we live in a state and nation that is truly blessed.

"With good men in authority, the people rejoice; but with the wicked in power, they groan."
(Proverbs 29:2 TLB)

Several of our TLC staff and leadership took time to attend the Franklin Graham Prayer Meeting at the State Capitol on April 27th. We were asked to pledge to pray for our country, participate in our country by voting, and engage in our communities by taking on leadership positions and offices that become available to us. At TLC, we strive to be "Good men in authority" in leading this organization and students. **Pray for our nation!**

April/May Highlights:

- ✓ Visibility in the area continues to improve. On April 17th, Enid News & Eagle published an article about TLC and we have enclosed a copy for you.
- ✓ Great response to work projects with an ongoing slate of work. Still time for more though!
- ✓ Changes that have been made in staff and staff housing are yielding the results of staff enjoying relief from the constant pressures that ministry can bring.
- ✓ As supporters you continue to share encouraging words, prayers, and physical support to us. **Thank You!**

The usual list of involvement opportunities is listed below. If you are aware of anyone who you believe would have a heart for the work at TLC, let us know so we can contact them personally and share the ministry with them.

1. Consider using our residents or recommending TLC for a work project of tree trimming, yard work or general labor requirements you might have. Contact Mark Byfield at 580 227-6059.
2. Become a monthly supporter of \$500, \$100, \$50 or \$25 to provide even cash flow to the TLC program. One time gifts of any size are also welcome! Contributions are tax-deductible. You may give by:
 - a. Using the enclosed envelope with check or fill out the envelope for ACH or Credit Card.
 - b. Try out the recently introduced "app" for TLC on your smart phone. Simply open your app store and search for "Transformation Living Center".
3. Become a "TLC Volunteer" to transport or oversee residents for one-time tasks, for example: doctor visits, counseling, church visits on Sunday, etc. Contact us for an application or download it from the website at www.fairviewtlc.net.
4. Pray regularly for the continuing renewal of the minds (Rom. 12:2) of the residents. Our goal is to instill new biblical thinking patterns for the residents. Please continue to pray for staff and board members.

Thankful and Blessed,

Pastor Ricky W. Chance – Administrator

Mark Byfield – Work Coordinator

Paul Bromlow – Board Member
Erica Shaloy – Board Secretary/Treasurer
Jay Bartel – Board Chairman

JaNae Barnard – Board Member
Terry Ratzlaff – Board Vice Chairman

Saved by TLC and the grace of God

By Emily Summors
Staff Writer

Pastor Ricky Chance shed many tears and prayed many times with Chris Mize but not out of sorrow but growth.

Chance works for non-profit Transformation Living Center in Fairview. Mize is one of several students at the center, an 8-bed facility designed to help men struggling with addiction through an in-house discipleship program.

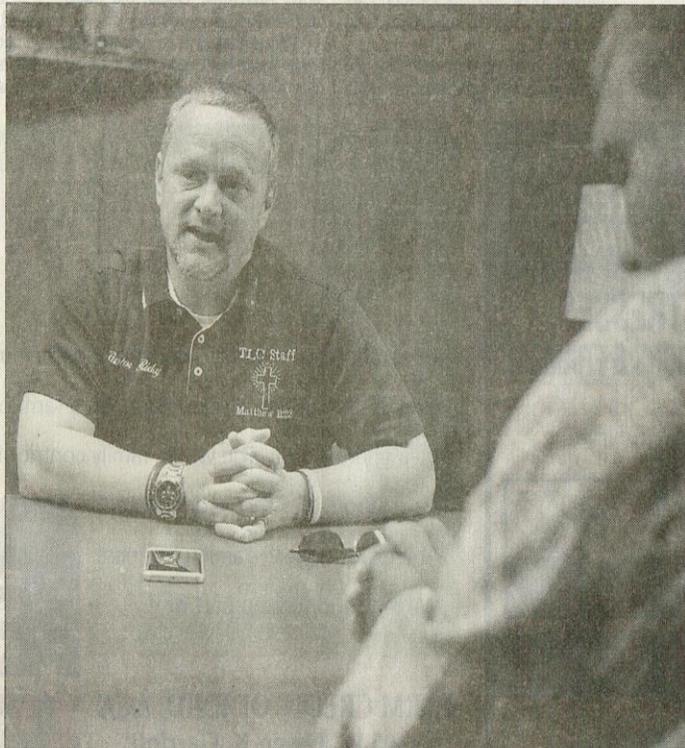
Chance met Mize when his sister brought him to the facility.

"We cried together, prayed together and Chris came to TLC seven months ago," Chance said, adding that Mize graduated from the program in mid-April.

Mize said the day he surrendered his life to Jesus Christ, everything changed.

Chance said he knows what Mize went through because he's been there before. TLC is not about judgment but forgiveness and healing, he said.

"I was a 25-year alcohol-drug addict myself but by the grace of God I was also healed by the blood of



Pastor Ricky Chance, director of Transformation Living Center, and program graduate Chris Mize (right) discuss the purpose of the center and how lives of the clients have changed. (Bonnie Vculek | Enid News & Eagle)

Jesus," he said. "On the day I felt God restore my life, I was in the church at the Isabella Nazarene Church

and God told me to go help those like me."

Chance worked at a recovery program and met the

founder of Transformation Living Center, Trent Watkins. Chance began working at TLC in May 2013.

"The guys, they can take it from me better than they can from others because they know I know — I've been where they've been," Chance said. "I've been down that road and done what they've done. They can take it from myself and our other employee, Mark Byfield, who also was a 30-year addict. They know we know where they've been and we understand the difficulties they're speaking of. We're not any better than them."

Chance said because of TLC's environment and worker's backgrounds, students trust them a little easier. Mize is only one of the many examples.

"Chris came to use a broken man and he's leaving us a healed man," Chance said.

Programs last for up to 13-months, but Mize is graduating after about 6-months. Mize's class is the center's fourth class.

Seven people have graduated from the 13-month program and two have graduated from a six-month program.

Center staff evaluate each individual at 6 months.

At his six-month evaluation, Mize approached Chance about getting out.

"He approached me and said, 'I think I'm ready to go home,'" Chance said. "I asked him what he thought about staying one more month. We understand there are guys that need to get back to their families and loved ones. Generally what we want to see is a reaction that is a little disappointment and a little understanding."

Chance said the center teaches submission to God and only one man of the seven graduates turned his back on what TLC taught him.

"Some leave disgruntled, some leave disappointed but we want those who graduate to stick it out and have a great relationship with God," Chance said.

Mize said he grew up in Enid but in Fairview he learned how to live, not just survive.

"It is possible with Jesus to live and not just survive," he said. "I want everybody to know that I'm not a statistic anymore like I was before. You don't have to be. I just want people to know there is a life out there. You don't have to be stuck in that addiction rut."