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the mission

House the Homeless. Feed the Hungry. Care for the Sick. | The Official Newsletter of Mission Outreach of Northeast Arkansas, Inc.

STABLE : New Program Aimed at Root Causes of Poverty



Mission Outreach of Northeast Arkansas, Inc. has launched a new program that will improve lives and hopefully put an end to generational poverty one family at a time.

The new program is **STABLE (Skills To Attain a Better Life and Economy)** and it began in October. The STABLE program is facilitated thru volunteers who come together to achieve a common goal, changing lives for the better. This new program is made possible by a grant from the Walmart Foundation.

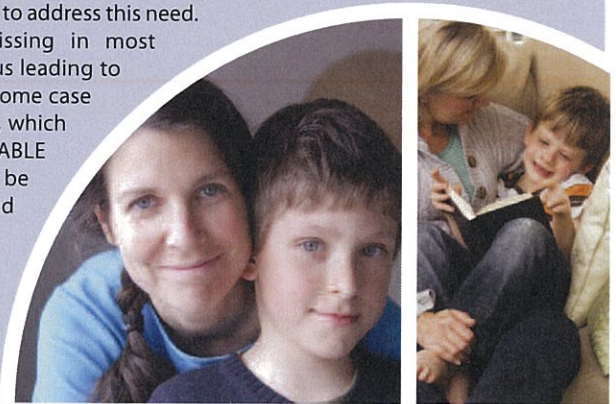
Volunteers come together in groups of 5 to 8 people and are assigned a family to work with by the staff at Mission Outreach. This group of volunteers is known as a **BEE Team**, which stands for **Break The Cycle, Embrace The Past and Encourage The Future**. These Bee Teams focus on issues such as parenting skills, tutoring, skill development, preparing for the workplace, transportation, and childcare needs.

The STABLE program will use a comprehensive approach to help people out of poverty by providing a foundation of skills before entering or in conjunction with employment. We believe there is sound evidence to support the approach of skill development as opposed to the quick entry into jobs method. The program will also address barriers to employment such as lack of childcare or transportation. In many cases the parent simply cannot accept a job due to the fact they have no safe place for their child to stay while they work and some funds in the STABLE program are dedicated to address this need.

Reliable transportation is missing in most poverty stricken households, thus leading to a parent being late to work or in some case missing a complete day on the job, which could lead to termination. The STABLE program transportation needs will be addressed by both Mission Outreach and volunteers from BEE Teams.

Each household's situation is unique and will be treated as such. There will be no time limit on how long the staff at Mission Outreach or a BEE Team works with a family. Whether it takes 1 month, 3 months or 12 months, the support system will remain in place until every member of a family has the skills and self-confidence they need to succeed in life.

Inside this issue, you will be introduced to families who are taking part in the STABLE program as well as a first-hand look into why volunteers of one BEE Team felt called to help others. For more information on the STABLE program or if you would like to become part of a BEE Team, contact Jamie Collins at 870-236-8080.



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STABLE Families : Featuring Families in the STABLE Program

NANCE: Meggan Nance said bad decisions were what brought their family to Mission Outreach in August of this year. She said they were being buried by fines and bills and just couldn't seem to pull themselves out of the spiral that was sending them to the bottom. Chris, her husband, had just started a new job, and they decided that concentrating on paying their fines rather than going to jail was most important, so in order to get their life on track, they came to Mission Outreach.

She said what she loves about Mission Outreach is that "they are always willing to help with no questions, if you are willing to work and help yourself." Meggan, Chris, and their three children stayed at Mission Outreach from August to October of 2012. She said that Mission Outreach gave them the counseling that was needed in order to learn how to make better decisions, how to save money, and how to put their lives back together. Meggan said, "We would never had been able to do it on our own. Mission Outreach gave us a sense of confidence that we didn't have before."

While they were living in the Mission, Chris and Meggan were provided transportation to and from work until they were able to save for a car. They began to attend worship services together as a family, the women's groups on Tuesday nights helped her work through a lot of issues she was having, they were able to save for a place of their own, and in October the family moved into a nice apartment.

Meggan says that both she and Chris have grown up with the help of Mission Outreach and their programs. She purchased bill organizers in order to make sure they know what they are spending. She said Mission Outreach was instrumental in the adoption of their family by a company in Paragould. She and her family received a wonderful Thanksgiving dinner, they received enough groceries that she now has a fully stocked pantry, and that same company gave them a wonderful Christmas last year as well.

"Mission Outreach is a wonderful place," Meggan said. "When we first went to the Mission, I was afraid because of all the bad stories I heard on television about homeless shelters, but when I got there, it wasn't like that at all. This is a chapter in my life that I will cherish because it helped me to grow, and gave my family and I a second chance."

CHAMPION: Lloyd and Martha Champion, along with their three children, Molly, Dustin, and Matthew, are residents at Mission Outreach, and it was a house fire in 2005 that started the domino effect that landed them in the shelter. After their five bedroom home in Harrisburg was destroyed, they picked up the pieces and were again rebuilding their lives when in 2011 Lloyd was in an auto accident that left him with a severe head injury. As a result of the accident, he could no longer wear a welder's helmet which ultimately cost him his job as a certified welder.

On March 8, 2012, Lloyd dropped off Martha and three of their four children, Molly, Dustin, Matthew, at Mission Outreach of NEA, so he could see doctors in Harrisburg regarding his head injury. A friend of theirs took him back and forth to the doctor, while Martha and the three youngest stayed at the shelter; their oldest remained with Lloyd. After the doctors had done everything they could, Lloyd decided it was time to get his life back and pick up the pieces, so he walked from Jonesboro to Paragould, in order to join his family at Mission Outreach.

Martha speaks highly of Mission Outreach and what it has done for her and her family. She says, "I really appreciate the BEE Teams, and I thank the Lord for Mission Outreach. The kids like it and they like to help out with chores." She says Molly, her only daughter and oldest, really likes helping at the front desk, "it gives her something to do."

Through the assistance of Mission Outreach in the form of transportation, Lloyd is now back on the job as a welder. When asked what his plans are for the future, he says that by January, he hopes to have his own transportation, and to be able to move into their own home.



Organization Lends Time and Support To Family In Need

Junior Auxiliary is a national non-profit organization that encourages members to render charitable services which are beneficial to the general public with particular emphasis on children. Since JA gives primary consideration to kids, each chapter is required to have at least one National Service Project with the objective of breaking the cycle of dependency, whether it be physical or emotional. When Mission Outreach of Northeast Arkansas' STABLE Program was brought to the attention of the women of the Junior Auxiliary of Paragould, we, as an organization, realized a need was present and it was one that we could and wanted to help fulfill.

STABLE's focus is to provide families with children the support and skills needed to become self-sufficient. With the help of the Mission staff, a need was immediately identified and we were given the opportunity to purchase tennis shoes for a young man with a God-given talent so he could play basketball at one of the local schools. Since then, this boy and his siblings along with his parents have become "our family." Our ladies have been divided into small BEE Teams and go twice a month to meet with our family, especially our kids. We have helped with homework, made "Monster Munch" at Halloween, gone bowling and to the movies and the events and projects we have planned are endless. We look forward to continuing the relationship with our family knowing that our time will ultimately, positively impact them as well as us.



Homeless to Wholeness



Seeing Through A College Students Eyes

Paul Schandavel, professor at Arkansas State University – Paragould Campus, gave his students a chance for hands on experience as a class project. “It is easy to stereotype the homeless,’ Paul said, “most think all poor people are lazy and that all homeless can do for themselves, they just don’t.”

Paul gave his Intro to Social Work students a choice of projects and many chose to give six hours of their time to Mission Outreach. Each student received a tour of the facility, and overview of the programs offered and a chance to work one-on-one with homeless families.

Classmates Destiny Wray and Shannon Rogers teamed up to interview residents about what brought them to Mission Outreach and what needs to happen to get them back on their feet. Destiny shared that this was an “eye opening experience... It’s different from what I thought Social Work would be. I guess people don’t realize that they’re just like you and me; they’ve just hit a few rocks and stones. I had heard rumors, but here I saw that their not just using the system, they really need it.”

Shannon’s thoughts about her experience were this: “It made me see how much we don’t support our community. Someone was right when they said, It takes a village to raise a child. This has opened my heart and see that I have a lot to give. I think people perceive that these people can do for themselves, but most can’t because their disabled and crippled.

STABLE

Skills To Attain Better Life and Economy

Provide families with children the training and support needed to transition from a state of poverty to stable, productive members of the community through a two-fold approach:

1. Specific training to develop skills for both work and life,
2. Mobilization of volunteers and collaborative partners to provide supportive services and finances.

Goals and Objectives:

1. **Equip** families with the tools and support needed to succeed at work and in life will be the primary goal of this program.
 - a. Each family will meet with the case manager to discuss history and set realistic personal goals that can and will be achieved during the program.
 - b. Engage client in 30 day training program (life skills, parenting, nutrition, budgeting, smart shopping, housing acquisition, career planning).
2. **Sustain** Employment.
 - a. Assure clients understanding of workforce behavior, e.g. the importance of arriving to work on-time, wearing appropriate clothing, proper verbal and non-verbal communication and how to work with or resolve differences with fellow employees.
 - b. Guide client in securing quality employment with competitive wages through established partnerships in workforce.
3. **Secure** Permanent Housing.
 - a. Guide client in housing search and affiliated mainstream resources.
 - b. Assist client in setting realistic goals to attain housing stability.
4. **Maintain** and increase collaborative partners.
 - a. Retain open lines of communication with current partners.
 - b. Identify potential new partners, create a marketing plan and a contact plan.
5. **Establish** partnerships with area Industry to expedite job placement.
 - a. Inform industry leaders about STABLE and our plan to provide employable workers.
 - b. Encourage industry leaders to participate by placing STABLE clients in open positions and provide staff with feedback for future training needs.

STABLE PROGRESS REPORT FORM

Name: _____

Date: _____

"Ask not where poverty ends, but where economic independence begins."

The primary aim of Mission Outreach is to provide residents the opportunity to become self-sufficient.

Self-Sufficiency is achieved when one maintains a decent standard of living without having to choose between basic necessities – i.e. whether to meet one's need to pay rent but not pay the utility bill, or purchase food but not childcare. Self-Sufficiency Wages, or Family Sustaining Wages is determined by how much income is needed for a family of a given composition in a given place to adequately meet its basic needs—without public or private assistance. This assumes that all adults, whether married or single, work full time or 40 hours a week.

Please complete this form to report your activity each week in achieving self-sufficiency.

Write a brief summary of your employment activity this week: (job contacts made, spot jobs performed, temporary or full-time employment gained). Attach forms provided for job search or proof of employment.

What mainstream benefits did you apply for and/or obtain? (i.e. housing, food stamps, TEA, Insurance, GED or other education, counseling, case management, community action agencies, other)?

What problems/barriers/issues are keeping you from making the progress that you desire?

Describe any specific need or problem you need assistance resolving?

What accomplishments this week are you most proud of?

Please feel free to use additional paper if needed to communicate activity, needs or accomplishments.

STABLE PROGRESS REPORT FORM

Every resident is responsible to provide staff with written, verifiable proof of activities each week. The STABLE Progress Report Form (SPRF) is provided to record specific activities vital to obtaining self-sufficiency and should be submitted to the Case Manager during weekly group meetings. This form is used to assist the Case Manager/Staff in determining length of stay and should be used by the resident to communicate any specific areas of need. On the first Wednesday of each month, all residents residing at Mission Outreach longer than 30 days will meet with a Residential Staff Team to evaluate progress. At this time, staff will determine if continued stay is granted.

Work Progress: A minimum of 7 non-duplicated work search contacts is required the first week. Work searches increase by 5 each week until employment is secured. If employment is not secured by the fourth week, extended stay may be denied. All work search should be documented on appropriate forms and submitted with SPRF on a weekly basis. Telephone access will be provided to all residents to make phone checks with employment agencies Monday-Friday from 9:00-9:30 a.m. and again, 2:00-2:30 p.m. The phone is not for personal use.

Job Service Agencies in our area have graciously agreed to work closely with residents of Mission Outreach to obtain gainful employment. Agencies hire based on appearance, attitude, ability to pass drug screen, ability to perform job and, for some, ability to pass background check. Some require pre-testing at Arkansas Workforce.

Spot Jobs: With some frequency, individuals and small companies seek temporary employees for manual labor through the front desk. These are typically cash paying jobs and can sometime lead to fulltime employment. Residents are required to complete a spot job form for each work activity.

Permanent Work: Once permanent work is obtained, verification of employer, the hours you will be working and the pay scale should be recorded on the front of this form and sign the Work Form daily at the manager's desk.

Transportation to and from work will be provided for \$4 per day for up to two weeks, \$8 per day for ARI Marmaduke. Extensions must be approved by case manager. It is your responsibility to secure transportation by carpooling with co-workers, friends or family. Additionally, transportation is provided free of charge to the following:

Monday: 9:30a – People Source, Elite Staffing, Hometown Employment

Tuesday: 9:30a – Arkansas Department of Workforce

Tuesday: 1:30p – Greene County Public Library

Wednesday: 9:30a – Department of Human Services and the Health Department

Thursday: 9:00a – Express Employment, Staff Mark

Thursday: 10:30a – Compassion Outreach – clothing only for those who do not have a change of clothes

Savings: Every resident is required to save 75% of all forms of income. Failure to do so will result in immediate eviction. This leaves you with 25% for personal expense during the week, or a minimum of \$20. Exceptions, upon proof of expense, is fines, probation fees, child support, car/truck payments, insurance, and medications. The Case Manager must approve any other expenditures. Savings will be deposited in a bank account managed by Mission Outreach. Receipt is provided at time of each deposit or withdrawal. A 24-hour notice is required to withdraw funds from savings.

Mainstream Services: Every resident is required to complete and submit a timely application for eligible, needed services including, but not limited to, food stamps, health insurance, temporary employment assistance, GED or other education, counseling, and case management. Others may include the Health Department or Community Resource agencies services. Please don't hesitate to ask the Case Manager to assist you in identifying mainstream services. Note: The State of Arkansas allows Mission Outreach to accept food stamp donations. Anyone wishing to make a contribution to assist us in providing food can make a donation in the office....just see the case manager. Your food stamp contribution is Greatly Appreciated.

Please feel free to use additional paper if needed to communicate activity, needs or accomplishments.

800 Southwest Drive

Jonesboro, AR



For Sale

Prepared by:

Carroll Caldwell

870.931.8233

carrollcaldwell1@gmail.com



Village Communities

870.935.7800

www.coldwellbankercommercial.com

2704 S Culberhouse, Suite A, Jonesboro, AR 72401

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800 Southwest Drive

Investment Highlights:

- Seller will vacate premise approximately August 2012
- Buyer cannot use this property as a nursing home
- The only road frontage available on Southwest Drive
- High traffic count
- Building can be either remodeled or torn down to redevelop land

Location:

- One block south of intersection of Southwest Drive and Culberhouse

Commercial Building



Property Specifications

Property Type: Commercial/Industrial

Square Feet: 44,820

Number of Acres: 5.60

Price

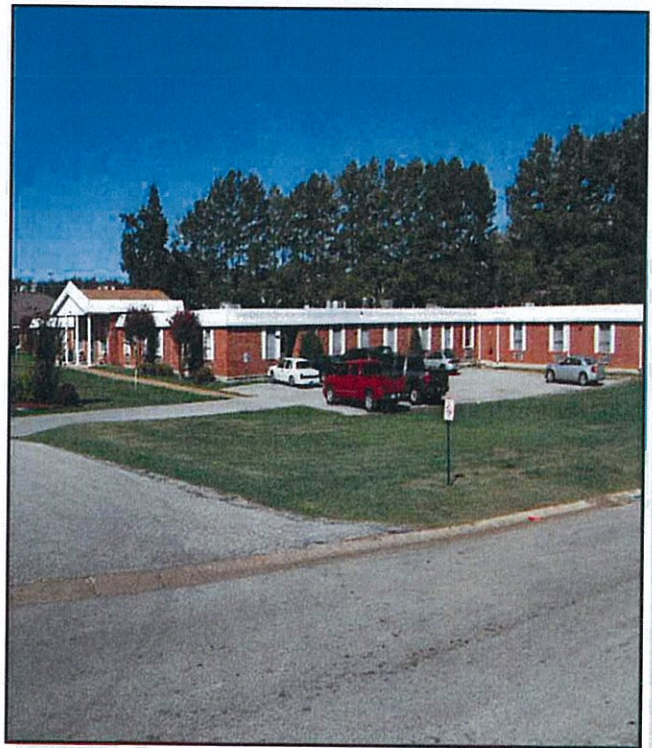
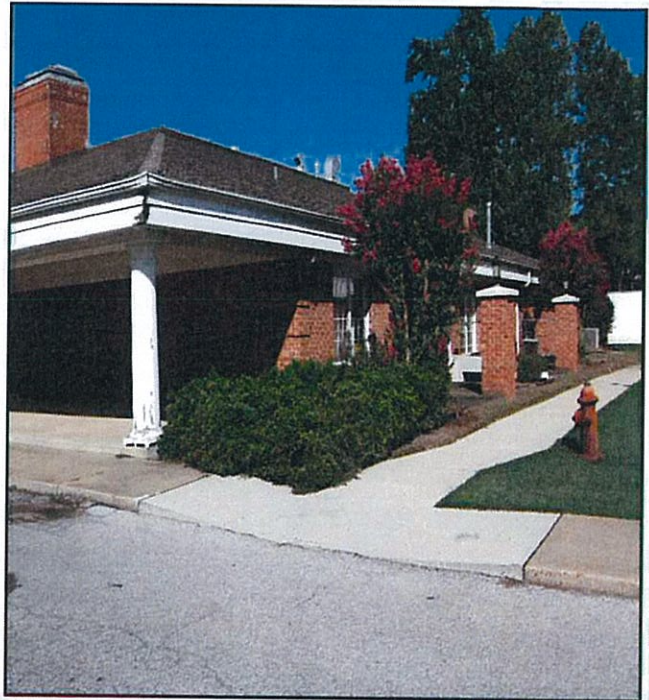
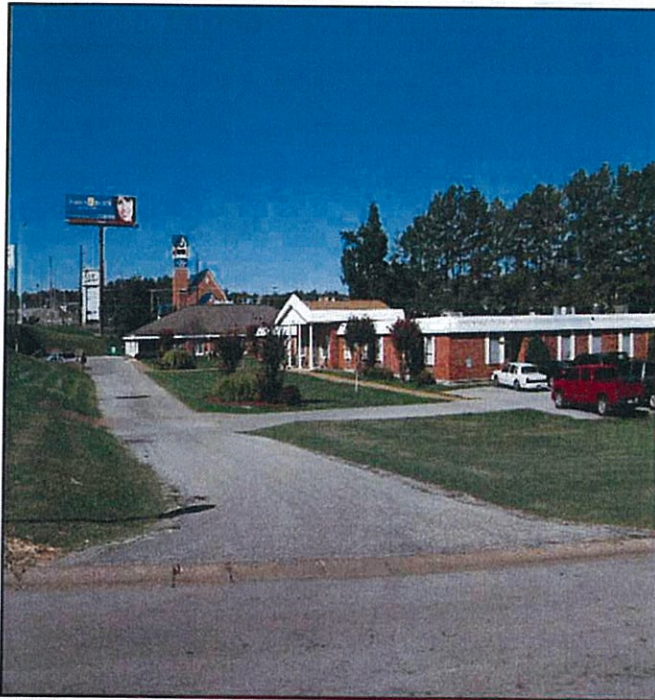
Sale Price: ~~\$2,500,000~~ **\$1,975,000**

Per SF Price: ~~\$55.78~~ **\$44.07**



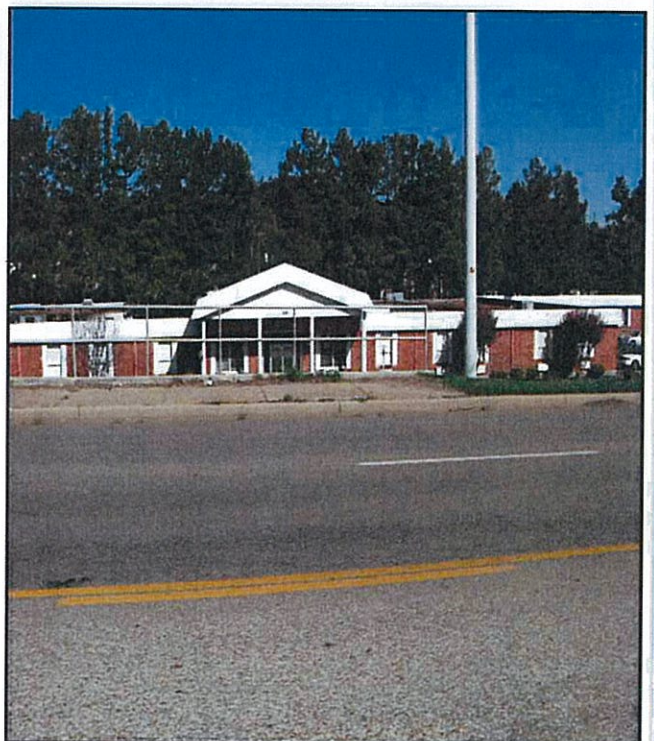
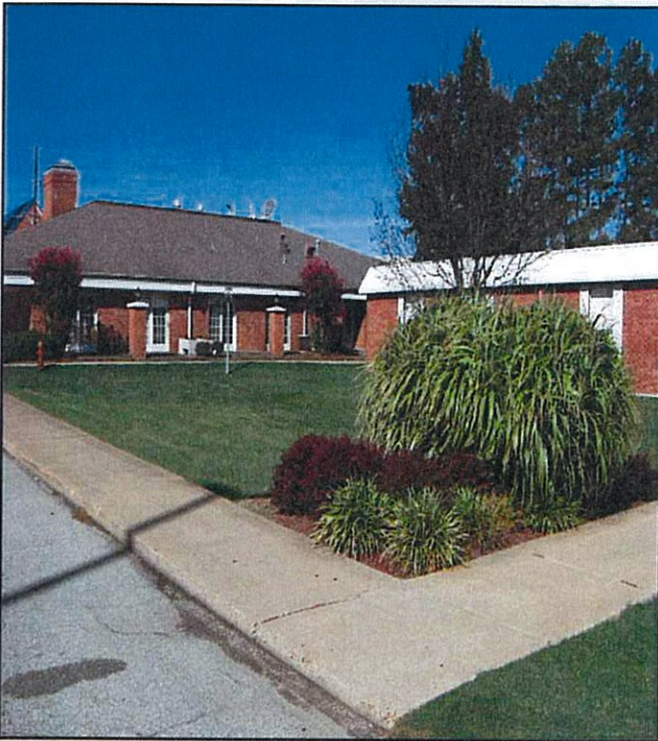
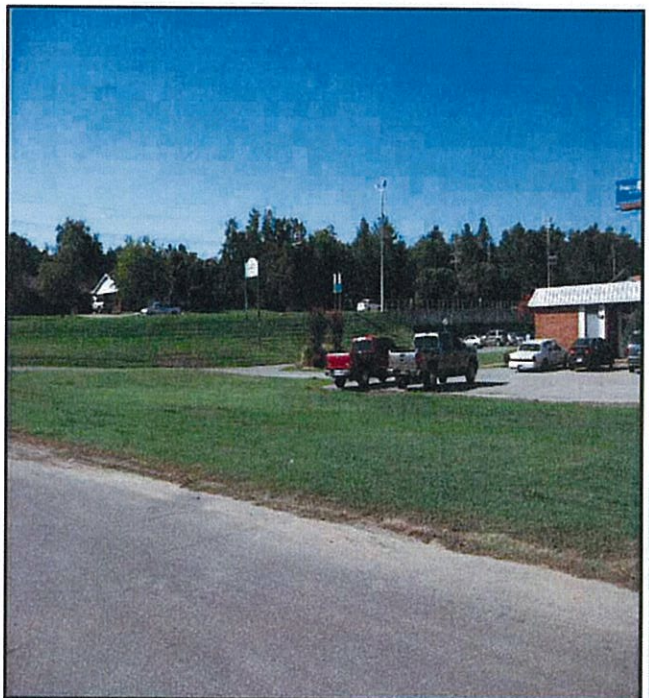
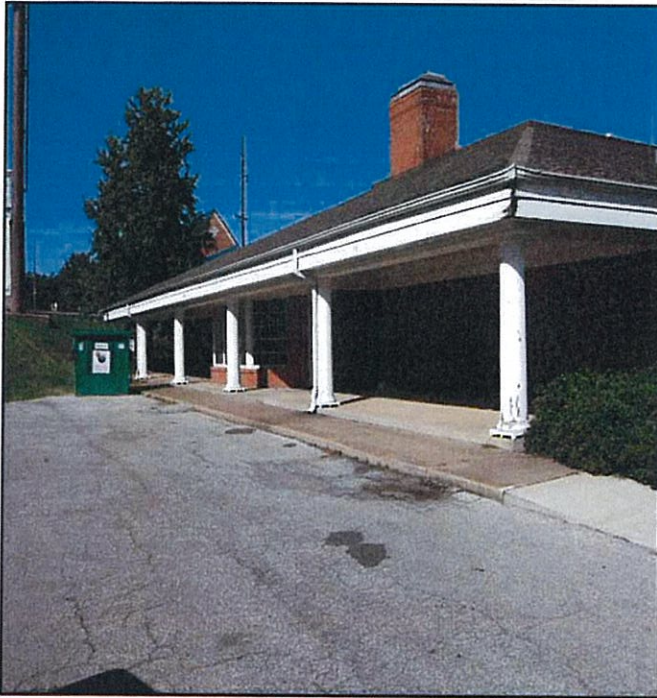
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800 Southwest Drive



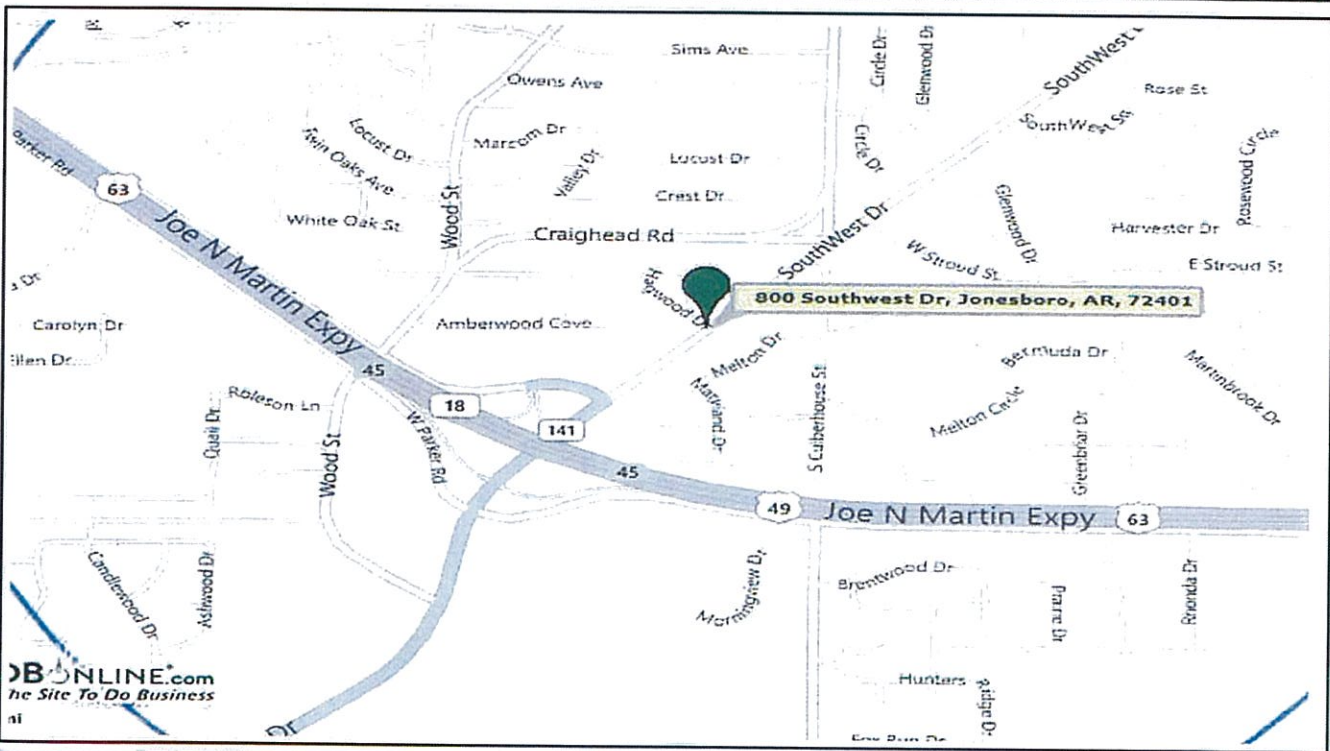
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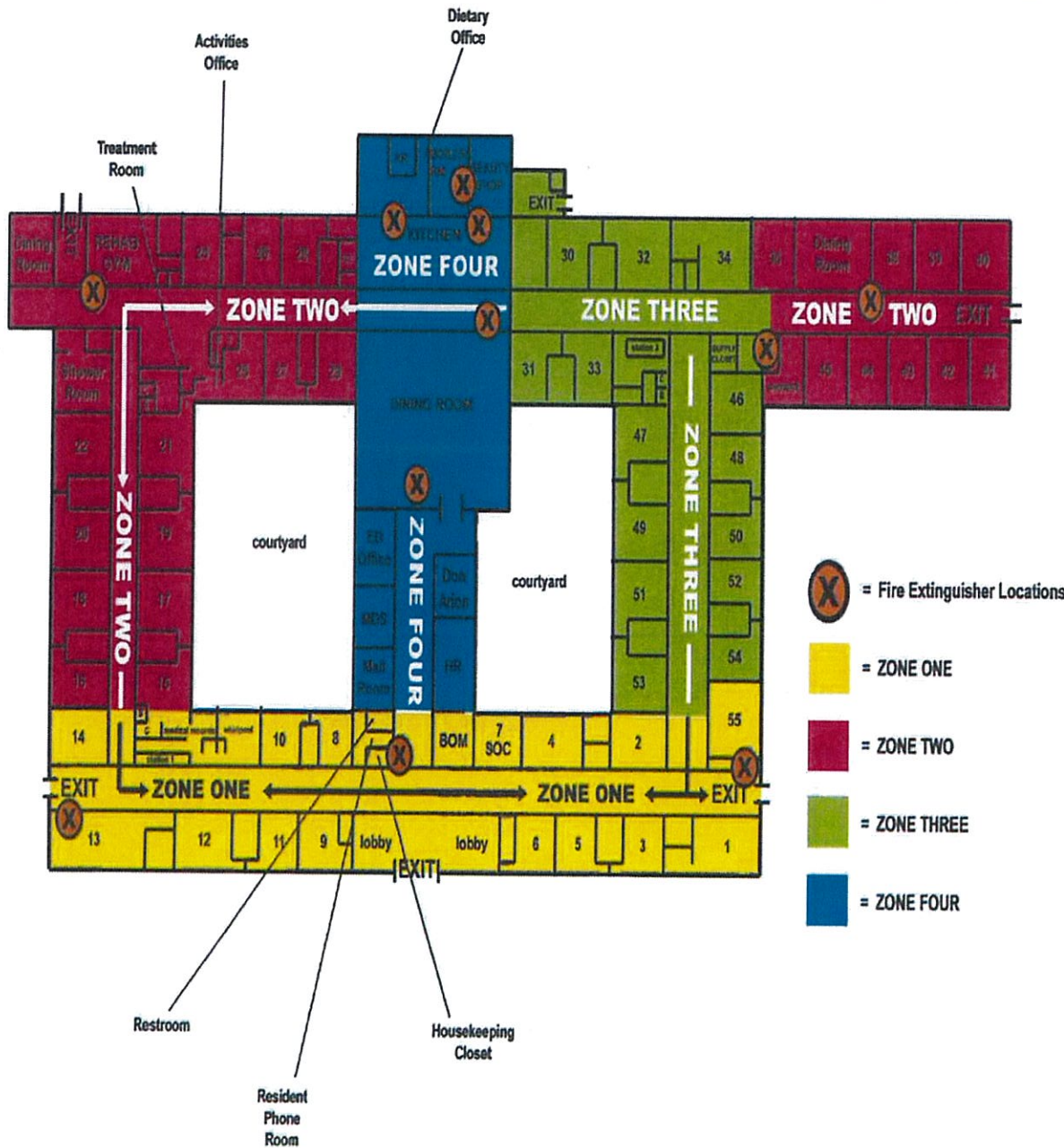
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800 Southwest Drive



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JONESBORO HEALTHCARE



Ray Lindsey, Architect

**318 Greene Road #792
Paragould, AR 72450**

December 9, 2013

Jackie Ross
Mission Outreach
Paragould, AR

The following is a cost estimate of the renovation and repairs for the existing assisted living facility in Jonesboro on Southwest Drive. Estimate is based on a preliminary walk thru with owners representative and his comments on items needed to be repaired in the 9,392 s.f. facility.

Clean up and repaint walls	25,000
Repair or replace bathroom fixtures	16,000
Replace 16 HVAC units	16,000
Repair or replace 2-5 ton units	7,000
Replace carpet & base where needed	10,000
Check electrical system, bring up to code	5,000
Replace door hardware	4,000
Check & repair roof, fascia, etc.	8,000
Test & repair fire alarm	5,000
Check & repair sprinkler system, convert to dry type	10,000
Repair & refurbish 16 kitchenettes	16,000
<hr/> Total	\$122,000
Contingency	12,000
<hr/> Total	\$134,000
Architect & Engineering Fees	8,000
<hr/> Total Project Cost	\$142,000

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Ray Lindsey, Architect

**318 Greene Road #792
Paragould, AR 72450**

December 9, 2013

Jackie Ross
Mission Outreach
Paragould, AR

The following is a cost estimate of the renovation and repairs for the existing nursing home facility in Jonesboro on Southwest Drive. Estimate is based on a preliminary walk thru with owners representative and his comments on items needed to be repaired in the 26,114 s.f. facility.

Clean up and repaint walls	28,000
Repair or replace bathroom fixtures	18,000
Refurbish HVAC units	25,000
Add exterior insulation stucco	75,000
Replace carpet & base where needed	15,000
Check electrical system, bring up to code	12,000
Replace door hardware	12,000
Check & repair roof, flashings, etc.	13,000
Test & repair fire alarm	5,000
Check & repair sprinkler system	10,000
Repair & refurbish kitchen	5,000
<hr/> Total	\$218,000
Contingency	22,000
<hr/> Total	\$240,000
Architect & Engineering Fees	14,000
<hr/> Total Project Cost	\$254,000

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