



# NEWS OF HOPE

Hope Homes, Inc.

Volume 2, Issue 1

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## Message from Beth - To practice these principals in all our affairs....

It is not unusual for colleagues, alumni or family members to approach me with a statement of "we recommend Hope Homes because it is the best". I am always humbled when I hear this. Hope Homes at 14 has matured to become a leader in the industry for our level of care. Why might this be? I suspect it has to do with the fact that the program is infused at the foundational level with the *principals* of our twelve step program. **Community** from day one has been paramount. Our residents come to Hope Homes because they seek recovery – that desire is core and the common thread. Our current staff are second to none – and exemplify another principal – **integrity**. Staff are absolutely professional, that is in fact another core value of the organization. On an even deeper level they each 'practice what they preach' – we believe we must be a 'light' and example for those we serve. Lately we have been doing a lot of 'carrying the message' of hope and recovery. It has been gratifying to collaborate and build bridges with individuals and organizations to begin to create a fluid continuum of care for those seeking to build a life in recovery.

Your continued encouragement and support sustain us as we strive to provide the best supportive living recovery residence services available. Please note the many activities and events offered to our residents (and now families!) in the coming months. We welcome and appreciate your contributions of resources... "we can do together what I cannot alone".

Keep in touch. *Beth* Beth Fisher, LCSW, MAC, CCS

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## Outreach is the KEY! By Julie Millsaps



Beth and the Staff have been very busy over the past several months spreading the word about recovery and Hope Homes at speaking engagements, industry conferences and various other outreach opportunities. Of special note is Beth's cover feature in the noted industry magazine **Addiction Professional**. You can read the article on the Addiction Professional website; [www.addictionpro.com/fisher0510](http://www.addictionpro.com/fisher0510).

Beth also began serving as the President of Georgia Association of Recovery Residences (GARR) in January of this year. GARR is the accrediting body for recovery residences in the State of Georgia. Presently there are 53 organizational members, collectively providing 1500-2000 beds for recovering men and women. GARR accreditation is known as 'the gold standard' for recovery residences, and we are proud that our Executive Director is leading this important organization. In February, Beth and COO

Dick Cottrill attended the Southeastern Conference on Addictive Disorders (SECAD) in Nashville, where Hope Homes was an exhibitor and Beth was a presenter. Beth presented to colleagues on the topic **The Continuum of Care: Recovery Residences as a Vital Component to Improving Outcomes**.

As you can see, Beth and Staff are working hard to educate others of the importance and impact of recovery residences, and in so doing raise visibility for Hope Homes. Beth will be presenting at the following conferences: *June 1: GARR Roundtable at Peachford Hospital, July 16: Southeastern School on Addiction Studies in Norcross; September 3 at the Georgia School of Addiction Studies in Savannah and September 11 at the National Conference on Addiction Disorders in Washington D.C.*

We can be proud that Hope Homes is not only a leader in the field of recovery residences, but is in fact becoming a leading voice for recovery. Please feel free to contact the staff at Hope Homes if you would like them to present to your group or organization.



## It's Retreat Time!!!

Camp Donnie Brown  
Lake Alatoona

**WOMEN'S  
June 18-20**

**MEN'S  
July 9-11**

Hope Homes welcomes any donations to help defray the cost of the retreat.

Gifts can be monetary or in kind gifts of craft paint, wooded "God" boxes, markers, plates, cups, etc.

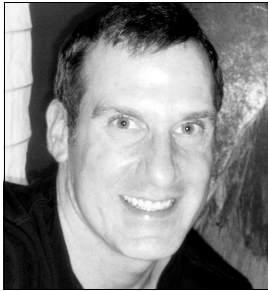
Call Jack at the offices to let us know what you would like to donate or ask any questions.

**Alumni  
If you would like to attend please call Jack at the office for more information.**





## Jason B. - Hope Homes Alumni and Former Staff by Julie Millsaps



I am here to attest that communication via “Skype” rocks! Our Alumni focus for this newsletter is Jason B. , Hope Homes resident in 2001 and staff from 2006-2008. The great thing about this interview is that I conducted it via Skype to Shanghai, China. Jason lives in Shanghai with his wife Kelly and newborn son Marcus. He went to Shanghai to teach Business English, and has since founded the company World Wide 2U, a direct manufacturing solutions company. During our conversation, we talked about his experience at Hope Homes, working as a Hope Homes staff member, and his new life in China.

**How has your experience at Hope Homes helped you maintain 9 years of sobriety?** *When I got to Hope Homes, I was still in the haze of early recovery. Hope Homes allowed me the time and support I needed during the most challenging time of my life. The support of Beth, Wick, the staff and my community*

*was the most critical part of my early recovery. Treatment for my addiction gave me clarity, Hope Homes gave me faith and a seed of Hope that all would be OK.*

**What do you attribute to your continued Sobriety?** *My spirituality and gratitude.*

**What is different between being sober in the US and China?** *I really have to maintain my spirituality on a daily basis because there is not the recovery network community that I had in the US.*

Jason also spent some time as a counselor at Hope Homes. He shared what a gift it was to be able to “give back to the organization that gave me the opportunity to restart my life, and to whom I’ll be forever grateful”. Continuing to give back to others is an important part of recovery. Jason works with several organizations, such as Project Million To One , Team Enterprise, and remains a Hope Homes supporter and donor.

Jason told me that he really misses talking with others in recovery, and would love to hear from the Hope Homes community either by Skype (jeb1969), Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/jason.basso.usa>) or e-mail ([jason.basso.usa@gmail.com](mailto:jason.basso.usa@gmail.com)).



Marcus and Dad



## Staff Spotlight - Andy Martin, CAC: “Thank ya, Thank ya very much!”

### Andy Martin

has been working in the field of addictions recovery for many years, and joined the Hope Homes team 3 years ago. Andy is passionate about recovery with 14 Years of recovery himself, and is a dedicated, compassionate caregiver. He is a Certified Addiction Counselor (CAC) who works in our Atlanta Men's Community, leading groups, providing 1:1 and on-call services, and facilitating community development. Andy is also a very talented professional musician, and regularly shares this love with our clients. Staff and residents alike hold him in high regard, and deeply value his presence in our community.

Andy brings both professionalism through his CAC certification and experience, as well as unmatched dedication to those he serves. Many Hope Homes clients and alum cite Andy as instrumental in their recovery journeys, noting his humor, sincerity, and constant support and presence.

Andy also has another career as a professional musician, focused mainly on bass guitar. He says he is very blessed that he can do the 2 things that are so important to him. Aside from his weekly gig at Roswell United Methodist Church, Andy stays very busy playing gigs in the Atlanta metro area, as well as gigs around the US and world. Throughout his musical career, he has played with The Platters, The Drifters, Mitch Ryder and Mel Torme, just to name a few. Visit Andy at his website, [andyonbase.com](http://andyonbase.com), to get more info about Andy the musician.

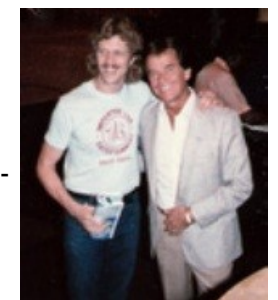
**What do you attribute 14½ years?** *“Faith that I didn’t have 14 years ago.”*

**What is your favorite part of working in the Hope Homes Mens Community?** *“Working with the newcomers and experiencing that moment when the Light comes on!”*

Andy stated “I’m lucky to have two jobs that I absolutely love, but if I had a choice I’d rather be fishing!”



Andy playing at the '09 men's retreat.



Andy and Dick Clark  
“Check out that hairdo”



Andy and Friends play at Sober Sunday.





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*Hope Homes is a  
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*Your donations are Tax  
Deductible  
and gratefully received.*



**“Hope is faith holding out its hand in the dark.”**

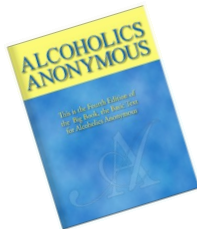
*- George Iles*



Visit us on the Web at:

[www.hopehomesrecovery.org](http://www.hopehomesrecovery.org)

## Birthdays and Calendar



***Calling all Alumni***

***Come Celebrate Recovery  
with Hope Homes Big Book Study.***



### **MENS GROUPS**

**Atlanta: Mondays 7:30  
Contact: Andy (770)335-5380**

**Smyrna: Mondays at 6:30  
At the Hope Homes Office  
Contact: Warren (404)457-7103**

### **WOMEN'S GROUPS**

**Atlanta: Thursdays at 7pm  
Call Megan (770)336-2917 for Location**

**Smyrna: Sister of Hope Group  
Thursdays at 7:00 pm  
Aventine at Vinings Clubhouse  
Contact: Shey (404)906-3588**

***Come share your Experience, Strength and Hope.***