

## Leadership and Church Partnership Information

Thank you for your interest in partnering with *Hope for Addiction, Inc.* to walk alongside, equip and care for those who struggle with addiction. People are lost in the hopelessness of their sin but through Christ's work on the cross there is freedom. We have the unique privilege to serve people who have been conditioned by our culture to think that they are "sick" with a disease and have been told that no one understands their problem. The scriptures clearly present Christ and Him crucified as the solution for anyone ensnared by sin, including addicts (James 1 describes this).

*Hope for Addiction* believes God's Word is sufficient for all things (2 Timothy 3:15-17). *Hope for Addiction* is not a "step program" with rituals or checklists; instead, our mission is to help people engage with the Savior who can rescue all. This mission is accomplished through the power of Christ, genuine fellowship with believers in the local church and the belief that Christ has given us everything for life and godliness through knowledge of Him who called us (2 Peter 1:3).

As we navigate through the practical "how-to's" of this mission, we understand that each person's story and situation is different, but the hope and help, the solution, is the same for everyone - the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. One of the practical tools being used within *Hope for Addiction* to bring this message of the gospel is our weekly support group meeting.

The mission of this meeting is:

*In a loving and grace-filled environment, we will share the transforming power of the gospel of Jesus Christ and explore its daily application in the lives of those struggling with addiction.*

In short, we help addicts meet Jesus who has the power to transform them and give them hope. The *Hope for Addiction* meeting presents practical tools for how to apply God's Word to everyday

*Connecting the desire to change with the Power to change*

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struggles. Our culture conditions us to believe we are unique and no one understands us. We help people see they are just like everyone else and their real issue is not addiction, but sin. And the solution for sin is to understand that Jesus died to rescue us from sin. Connecting people to the truth of God's Word and building a bridge to the local church are secondary goals.

Each meeting topic includes three themes: 1) Gospel (Jesus died for my sins), 2) honest reflection (my need for a Savior/repentance) and, 3) connection with community/local church/living life with brothers and sisters in Christ. The topics/lessons have been created using God's Word as well as various authors (Paul David Tripp, Ed Welch, Mark E Shaw, John Piper, David Powlison and others). The lessons have been pastorally reviewed and are approved for presentation. While each group will develop its own personality and leadership will vary, the lessons will be followed as closely as possible to maintain the integrity of the mission of *Hope for Addiction, Inc.* As each group grows, there may be topics the leader would like to submit for consideration. We welcome each group's input!

*Hope for Addiction* is committed to helping people overcome addictions through the transforming power of grace. We believe men and women can be transformed and experience freedom from addictions as they interact with the Savior and become invested in the local church for ongoing discipleship, biblical teaching and community. We are excited to see what God does in you and your church as you serve hurting people who struggle with addiction.

Amazed by His grace,



Liz Beck

President/Director

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We believe/Our values:

- The power of Christ has given us everything we need for life and godliness (2 Peter 1:3).
- In Christ we have a new identity, we are no longer identified by our addiction or our sin (2 Corinthians 5:17).
- Our life is about growing in our knowledge of God, not about pursuing sobriety. Sobriety will be an outcome of obedience to Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit at work within us (Colossians 1:9-10, Galatians 5:16).
- We live in Christian community so we may be built up, encouraged in our faith and grow in our knowledge of God (Colossians 2:7, Hebrews 10:24-25, Galatians 6:1).
- All Christians, even recovering addicts, need to be meaningfully involved in a local church (Ephesians 4).
- The good news of the gospel is not only that we can be saved by Christ, but that we are being renewed into the image of Christ, making the gospel central for all of life.
- We believe in one God, eternally existing in three equally divine Persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- We believe God created human beings, male and female, in his own image. Men and women are made equally in God's image and both have equal access to God by faith in Christ Jesus. God ordains distinctive roles that reflect the loving relationship between Christ and the church.

### **What does partnership and leadership look like with *Hope for Addiction, Inc.*?**

Some things to consider before you move forward with the attached application:

- 1) Long-term commitment is necessary in order to effectively help people as they rebuild their lives. You should expect to be in this for the long haul. Real help is not a quick fix. This is about God's work and sometimes we aren't able to quickly see fruit. *Hope for Addiction* will assist you in appropriate boundaries, but it is essential that you be ready to participate for an extended time. We understand seasons of life change, but we take our care of people seriously. Commitment includes but is not limited to:

- a. Orientation/training conducted by *Hope for Addiction* (prior to launch of meeting).
  - b. Three-month evaluation meeting with *Hope for Addiction* staff.
  - c. Annual training conducted by *Hope for Addiction*.
  - d. Preparing and leading *Hope for Addiction* meeting each week.
  - e. Maintaining at least a “touch point” with all regular attendees to be able to care for them and effectively connect them with someone to disciple them. Provide encouragement and opportunities to connect within the local church (small group, serving, fellowship, etc).
  - f. Regular communication/reporting to *Hope for Addiction* with the purpose of bringing glory to God for His work, providing information for *Hope for Addiction* donors, open dialog on how *Hope for Addiction* can better support the local group.
  - g. Regular reporting to hosting church pastor or pastor representative.
  - h. Alert your pastor and/or *Hope for Addiction* Director of difficult or dangerous situations..
  - i. Annual dues of \$1,000 (which provides initial training, on-going support, lessons, printed invitation cards and branding artwork). If this is a hardship for your church, scholarships are available to offset a portion of this cost. Our desire is equip every church with a desire to care for people, while also covering the costs necessary to operate. On-going training is offered and recommended for a small fee to cover training expenses.
- 2) *Hope for Addiction* desires to partner with leaders who exhibit gospel-focused living and are supported and recommended by their pastor to lead and host a *Hope for Addiction* group.
  - 3) All leadership team members must complete the Biblical Counseling and Discipleship Training course. This is a vital resource taught by Trey Richardson (pastoral care at Sovereign Grace Church, Gilbert). This course will give you practical tools for helping

people, application of God's Word, caring for your own soul as you minister, and will equip you as you walk alongside people who's lives are "messy."

- 4) All leadership team members must complete *Hope for Addiction* training. This is done in conjunction with the Biblical Counseling and Discipleship Training and will be completed prior to launching a *Hope for Addiction* meeting. Annual training/ equipping opportunities will also be made available and are strongly encouraged.
- 5) Believe in and follow the mission of *Hope for Addiction* as presented in this document. We are open to suggestions for growth but the mission, vision and purpose must remain consistent.
- 6) Each church situation will vary and there will be appropriate guidelines within each church as to who is eligible for leadership. These items will be discussed and agreed upon during the application and training process.
- 7) *Hope for Addiction* will provide all lessons and meeting outlines.
- 8) *Hope for Addiction* will provide printed invitation cards. Additional materials will be the responsibility of the hosting church. Please consult with *Hope for Addiction* staff before creating printed or social media materials. It is important to maintain proper branding.

After prayerfully considering this, if you would like to pursue partnership with *Hope for Addiction*, please complete the attached application and submit to:

*Hope for Addiction, Inc.*  
Church Partnership  
PO Box 525  
Gilbert, AZ 85299

Or submit application via email at: [connect@myhopeforaddiction.com](mailto:connect@myhopeforaddiction.com)

Thank you for your heart to serve people and bring them the hope of Christ. We are excited to see how God might use *Hope for Addiction* to support your local church in reaching the hurting in your community!

## Hope for Addiction, Inc. Church Partnership Ministry Application

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Marital status:  Single  Married  Widowed  Separated  Divorced

Church: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you attended your church? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a member of your church?  No  Yes If yes, how long? \_\_\_\_\_

Is your church a member of the Gospel Coalition?  No  Yes  Unsure

How does discipleship function in your church? \_\_\_\_\_

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How is the gospel evidenced or at work in your life? \_\_\_\_\_

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List spiritual gifts, training, education, or other factors that have prepared you for this ministry:

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Why do you feel called to minister to people who struggle with addictions?

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Please list previous church work/ministry experience: \_\_\_\_\_

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Please state your reason for desiring to partner with *Hope for Addiction*: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Describe the conversation with your pastor regarding the readiness of your church membership to launch *Hope for Addiction* into your church culture:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**References:**

Pastor: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ How long have you known them? \_\_\_\_\_

Small group leader: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ How long have you known them? \_\_\_\_\_

Friend: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ How long have you known them? \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor or Elder who will oversee this ministry: \_\_\_\_\_

I have read the *Hope for Addiction* Church Leadership Partnership packet and agree with the core values and beliefs. I have prayerfully considered my role and have discussed with my pastor the readiness of our church to begin a ministry of this kind. If approved, we agree to contribute annually for our subscription.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please email: [connect@myhopeforaddiction.com](mailto:connect@myhopeforaddiction.com)

Or mail: Hope for Addiction | PO Box 525, Gilbert AZ 85299

## The Heart of the *Hope for Addiction* Leader

### Identify the leaders in your church:

Walking with someone who struggles with addiction can be a daunting journey. Specific qualities are helpful to build a strong ministry within your church. Identifying the right people within your church to lead your *Hope for Addiction* ministry will assist in creating an effective outreach to those you are caring for. This person should:

- Believe in the mission and purpose of *Hope for Addiction* as a gospel-centered ministry for addictions. Someone who holds value in the Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous or the “Christian” Twelve Steps is probably not a good fit. Holding to a secular method (even a Christianized version) or embracing the culture’s view of addiction would put someone at odds with the purpose and approach of *Hope for Addiction*. (See beliefs/values, page 3 of the leadership packet),
- Be mature in their faith, passionate about the gospel, able to apply gospel truths to everyday life, investing in others.
- Have a willingness to learn, teachable and willing to understand more fully biblical application as it applies to addiction (idolatry, sin).
- Exhibit these qualities:  
Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.  
Colossians 2:6-7

Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must



forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Colossians 3:12-15

And we urge you, brothers, admonish the idle, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with them all. 1 Thessalonians 5:14

As you consider these qualities, who in your church comes to mind? This is the heart of the person who will excel in leading within *Hope for Addiction*.