

ATLAS OF THE LAKES AREA

NEWSLETTER UPDATE

JAN 2025

A Year in Reflection:

Celebrating the Journey Together

Dear ATLAS Family,

As we close the chapter on another incredible year, we take a moment to reflect on how God has sustained and grown the ATLAS ministry in remarkable ways.

This year has been filled with awareness, divine provision, and community support. We have witnessed God's hand in the generous funding that has allowed us to expand our reach and impact. I want to acknowledge the amazing harvest of funds this past December alone, nearly \$17,000! We had our first Annual Fundraiser Auction, which many people gave towards and chose to support ATLAS with their year-end giving.

Your steadfast support and commitment have enabled us to serve our community both tangibly and spiritually. As the needs rise, we have been able to increase our efforts by having one full-time employee and two part-time employees. This is all because you answered God's prompting to support ATLAS!

We want to express our **heartfelt gratitude** to each member of our ATLAS family. Your donations, volunteering, prayers, and encouragement have been a blessing, strengthening the bonds that unite us. Together, we have created an environment that fosters love, support, and spiritual growth.

As we step into the new year, we are excited to prepare our 2024 Impact Report, set to be released in Feb. This report will highlight what God is doing through ATLAS and the significant impact we have made together.

As always, we have provided a testimony to share with you. This one warms our hearts, as we rarely know what happens after a client leaves the area. We pray that you are not only touched by this, but also realize how one simple conversation can impact someone's life.

ATLAS BOARD:

Roland Schmidt: President
Clay Norris: Vice President
Secretary: **Open Position**
Greg Jorgensen
Stacey Ahrenstorff
John Adams, Sr.

ATLAS STAFF:

Tonya Kuranda: Director
Kathy Norris: Lead Office Manager
Leah Jones: Female Mentor and Assistant

Please join us in welcoming our newest board member, John Adams, Sr!. We are very excited to have him on board!

“The Lord is gracious and righteous, our God is full of compassion.”
Psalm 116:5



www.lakesatlas.com

Client Testimony: A Journey of Hope

We would like to share an inspiring testimony from one of the individuals we've had the privilege to support through our ministry. For privacy reasons, we will refer to him as John.

John reached out today after seeing our Facebook post about the support needed to provide help to those without shelter. He expressed deep gratitude for the assistance we provided him during **his** time of need, which included putting him up in a motel room. However, our support extended far beyond just providing shelter.

During our meeting, **we spent time listening** to John and discussing his life and future. He opened up about his struggles with addiction, and we encouraged him to seek help. He shared that our kindness and encouragement "planted the seed" for change in his life.

With faith in God's plan, John embraced the potential we saw in him. Today, he is over 8 months clean and is inspired to give back to the ministry that was instrumental in his recovery journey.

Let us celebrate this testimony and praise God for the work He is doing in each client's heart! It was so wonderful to hear from him today and we were very encouraged by his gratitude.

Each of us is a child of God, uniquely loved and known by name, and it's a blessing to share this truth with many who walk through the doors here.

Our ATLAS family serves as a reminder of our journey and the love of Christ that binds us together in unity as one. Thank you for being an essential part of this ministry. We love you and appreciate you!

Blessings,
Tonya Kuranda
Executive Director, ATLAS of the Lakes