

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HeartBound Ministries Plans Benefit for Georgia Prison Chaplains

(Atlanta, GA, June 2, 2010) If you knew that there was a way to change the men and women in Georgia's prisons from criminals to productive citizens without spending tax dollars or adding staff, would you support that effort? By attending SONGS IN THE NIGHT, a gala event slated for Sunday, October 24, 2010 at the Foundry Puritan Mill in Atlanta you can help to fund the work of chaplains who serve in Georgia's prisons, transitional centers and pre-release centers.

Omar Howard is just one success story from HeartBound. He was incarcerated at the age of 17 and spent 14 years in prison. After benefiting from HeartBound's programs he is now serving as a Chaplain, helping to meet the spiritual needs of the men at Atlanta Transitional Center. Omar is living proof that reaching men in prison with a life-changing message of hope will stop the revolving door by reducing recidivism rates. Given that 95% of the inmates in Georgia's prisons will eventually be released to our communities, we all have a stake in helping them succeed. Recent statistics by the Georgia Department of Corrections show that faith-based programs make a tremendous impact in recidivism rates, with a potential savings of almost \$200 million for Georgia taxpayers.

SONGS IN THE NIGHT is sponsored by HeartBound Ministries, Inc. which funds and equips Georgia prison chaplains and provides programs that transform lives. Proceeds from the event will benefit HeartBound's Georgia Prison Chaplaincy Project, which partners with chaplains to provide counseling, literacy and life skills training, transitional housing and other rehabilitative programs for inmates [while directly supporting the salary of 8 chaplains]. HeartBound is meeting the mandate from the great majority of citizens who desire our prisons to be places of rehabilitation and not just warehouses or worse. Without efforts like this, according to one national study over 70% will re-offend and return to prison within three years.

SONGS IN THE NIGHT will showcase HeartBound's impact in the lives of thousands. The event will feature music, food, and inspiring stories, along with entertainment from the Atlanta Transitional Center's "Voices of Redemption" and Metro State Prison's "Voices of Hope" choirs. Gourmet cuisine will be provided by the 180 Degree Kitchen.

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HeartBound Ministries is a Georgia-based prison ministry to help inmates prepare for life after prison. We fund prison chaplains and provide resources to help inmates grow spiritually and learn life skills in order to create safer communities and bring about lasting change in the lives of inmates in an era of dwindling resources. HeartBound is effectively changing Georgia's prison culture from one of crime and incarceration to hope and restoration through Jesus Christ.