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**Michigan Sports Hall of Famer & State Rep. Hopeful Bob Becker
Comes to Guiding Light Mission**

Guiding Light Mission is excited to welcome former Grand Rapids Press sports editor and candidate for the Michigan House of Representatives, Bob Becker, to share his story and life experience with the men in the substance abuse and life recovery program.

Becker will speak to all Guiding Light Mission START Program men on Friday, April 23, at 10:00am.

“The message is that it’s never too late,” said Becker. “God will be there for you no matter what your age or past life was.”

Becker, who first accepted Christ in his life at age 57, has been sharing his message of hope and faith with groups around West Michigan for more than 2 years. He travels to churches and Christian high schools to give Chapel service and share his personal experience with his faith.

After 29 years at the Grand Rapids Press, Becker retired in 2007 and was inducted into the Michigan Sports Hall of Fame in 2008, in part for his groundbreaking emphasis on women’s sports.

Since leaving the Grand Rapids Press, Becker has joined the faculty at Cornerstone University, teaching journalism and helping to coach the softball team there. Most recently, Becker announced his run for the 73rd District seat in the Michigan House of Representatives, seeking to replace Rep. Tom Pearce (R), whose term ends this year.

“We are excited to welcome this sports legend and influential community member,” said Guiding Light Mission executive director Stuart Ray. “We can never have too much hope, faith or inspiration at Guiding Light Mission, and I’m grateful to Bob for sharing his eye-opening experience with the men in our recovery program.”

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Guiding Light Mission welcomes inspirational speakers like Becker, as well as community members, to share their personal testimony with START Program men.

“We’re all the same,” said Ray. “We’ve all had our ups and downs, and it’s important for our men to understand that they are not alone in their struggles.”

About Guiding Light Mission

Guiding Light Mission helps men to transition out of homelessness by providing a Christian-based, residential substance abuse recovery program known as START (Spiritual Truth And Recovery Training). In addition to the START Program, Guiding Light Mission provides an average of 8,000 meals per month to men, women and children in the community and donate almost 12,500 pounds of food monthly to local charities. Guiding Light Mission offers emergency shelter to over 100 homeless men on a nightly basis. The Mission is funded entirely by private donations and relies extensively on volunteers.

For more information about Guiding Light Mission, please visit www.lifeonthestreet.org.

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