



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BAPTIST HEALING TRUST AWARDS PROJECT RETURN A 2008 GRANT

NASHVILLE, TENN. – Project Return, Inc. (PRI), the first stop after prison for many former offenders for nearly 30 years, received a grant from The Baptist Healing Trust, which awarded funds totaling more than \$700,000 recently to 23 charities for a variety of health related projects, according to President & CEO, Erie Chapman. The mission of the Trust is to be a caring ministry devoted to healing with love in the Christian tradition.

PRI's grant was for \$27,807.00 and will be used for an enhanced Alcohol and Drug (A&D) Counseling Program, "Pathways to Recovery." Clients demonstrating a need for A&D support will work with an on-site Licensed Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselor in training, enabling the agency to provide more in-depth evaluations and counseling in the five domains that are commonly associated with drug use – medical, legal, employment, social/family, and psychological functioning.

Founded in 1979, PRI is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the rehabilitation of Middle Tennessee's prison population for the good of the community as a whole. Nearly three decades of experience have resulted in a holistic case management approach designed to provide services that ensure quality, cost-effective assistance and support for former offenders and their families. Through employment placement, direct aid and other support services, PRI offers ex-offenders new beginnings. The agency provides training and assistance designed to increase employability, improve life skills and coping skills, all in the hope of reducing the likelihood of recidivism.

"The Baptist Healing Trust is pleased to provide a key grant to Project Return because we believe in their mission of service. PRI has the courage, the heart and the skill to reach out to help those whom most of society ignores. In doing this, they serve the community at large as well as those who benefit directly," states Trust President, Erie Chapman. "As a caring ministry, the Trust applauds the work of PRI."

Recipients of the contributions include non-profit organizations from all over Middle Tennessee working to help create access to quality, compassionate health services for the community's vulnerable. This year's grants bring the collective grant making of [The Baptist Healing Trust](#) to more than \$45 million since 2002. [The Trust](#) was created when Baptist Hospital in Nashville sold to Ascension Health in St. Louis, Missouri.

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