



March 2026

REACHING BACK HAS A RIPPLE EFFECT

How many lives are touched and changed by one person's impact?

Well, we can't ever truly know for sure. But what we can be certain of is what we see lived out. And what we are seeing is truly encouraging!

The Sobriety Resource exists to help families struggling with addiction get connected to trusted supportive recovery. Each year, we distribute **over \$300,000** in financial scholarships for individuals to enter or remain in a treatment or recovery program. And we're excited to say we're hearing from scholarship recipients who've been impacted by our support and who in turn are impacting others. Here's an individual who's reaching back and creating a ripple effect to help others move forward.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE
ONE LIFE
ONE FAMILY
ONE COMMUNITY
AT A TIME



MEET AMIR: 2024 Scholarship Recipient



My addiction began at a young age. I was replacing vodka with water in my house, thinking I wouldn't get caught. I did. I went to school high for years, eventually got kicked out, and entered adulthood already deep in addiction. What started as alcohol and weed escalated to meth, cocaine, Molly, Xanax -- pretty much anything I could get my hands on.

My first arrest I was so intoxicated I asked a bus driver to take me home. From there, it was years in and out of jail until I landed in Gwinnett County on a charge I couldn't bond out on. During six months inside, I earned my GED. I had plans but no direction.

My brother was tragically killed in a DUI accident. Losing him changed everything. That moment represents both the pain that fueled my addiction and the beginning of my awareness that the path I was on would either end in prison or death.

After losing my brother, my life spiraled. The final arrest happened with my daughter in the back seat during a felony stop with guns drawn. I remember thinking, "It's finally over." I was tired. I was done.

Jail led me to the GRIP unit that was half veterans and half people in recovery. For the first time, I experienced structure, mentorship, and hope. I chose treatment. I chose Drug Court. I chose accountability. I was mandated by the courts to Rise Up Recovery for six months. That became the turning point that totally changed my life.

I AM THE DIFFERENCE
YOU'RE MAKING - ONE LIFE AT A TIME

In 2024, I was released from jail to **Rise Up Recovery**. I loved sober living, but the financial pressure of court fees, program costs, and trying to survive with felonies on my record nearly broke me. The help from **The Sobriety Resource** gave me breathing room. Without it, I honestly don't know where I'd be. That support changed everything and allowed me to think clearly, stay sober, and build a future.

Someone once took a chance on me, and today I am doing well. I even started my own recovery program to help other men. One of the first things I committed to was creating that same breathing room I had. I am living proof that investment in people works. Thanks to everyone for believing and investing in me!

Thank You! **Amir**
Scholarship Recipient

Continued on Next Page



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AMIR'S LIFE TODAY:

After successfully completing his recovery program at **Rise Up Recovery**, Amir went on to earn his CARES (Certified Addiction Recovery Empowerment Specialist) certification and also received Forensic Peer Mentor training. Amir uses these credentials to speak with inmates at local jails, and with individuals in metro-Atlanta hospitals like Piedmont and Northside. Both certifications required dedication and hard work to obtain and were driven by his desire to help others coming behind him.

"Recovery starts with dignity, and sometimes that begins with human connection," Amir humbly says. That is certainly what he offers others in and around Atlanta. Every month, Amir serves as part of a team providing food and basic resources to homeless individuals to remind them they are loved and not forgotten.

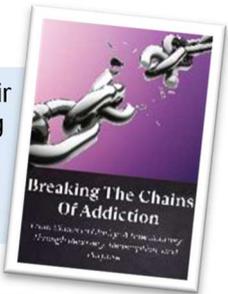
Amir proudly shares, "My youngest daughter was born while I was in Drug Court. The most powerful part of that is she has never seen her father drunk or high. She never will. Today I am present. I am sober. I am here. Writing this gives me chills, because that is the real miracle of recovery." Today, Amir is the co-owner and operator of **The Barracks Sober Living**, a recovery program serving up to 10 men. His passion is to give each of the men he serves the same chance he knows he was given.



Amir with Daniel Baruch, Founder of Rise Up Recovery at the Gwinnett County Jail where Amir was once incarcerated.



Book by Amir documenting his personal recovery journey



Amir and his mother honoring his brother's memory at a 5k event.



Amir at outreach events for homeless individuals



Amir getting baptized at 12Stone where he has a home group



In the kitchen of his newly opened recovery residence

Thank you, Amir, for sharing your amazing story and for all the ways you reach back to impact and help others move forward. We can't wait to see how God continues to use your life! Thank you also to our partner Rise Up Recovery for providing trusted, supportive recovery for Amir. Together we are making a difference and creating a ripple effect of impact for many generations to come!

Learn more at: thesobrietyresource.org