

## FROM SEEKER TO PARTNER

*Through God's Grace, Michelle Found "Stability For Life."*

**M**y downhill run began when I lost my mother, who I looked to for love and guidance. My marriage was falling apart also, and I chose drinking to ease the pain and sorrow. I ran with the wrong crowd and got into retail theft. Finally, my two daughters were taken away and I was sentenced to two-and-a-half years in prison.

I was released in 2009. From that day forward I choose a different path, one without drinking and breaking the law. I couldn't quite get my feet under me, though, and wound up homeless in March of 2012.

I'll never forget the day I walked into Inner City Mission. I was scared to death when I stepped through the door, but I was taken in and given what I needed.

I had the freedom to choose a path. I enrolled at the Midwest Technical Institute because I've always been good at fixing things, and I love to help people that way. I graduated in 9 months with a 4.0 GPA.

I now work in maintenance at ICM. I'm working hard to earn back my driver's license, and will have that soon. The next step is HVAC training. In the future I would love to have a maintenance business.

Better than that, though, I've been able to renew contact with my daughters, and they are learning to trust me again.

The last stage of Inner City Mission's "Stability for Life" program is "Partner." I now partner with Inner City Mission to help others avoid traps like the one I fell into. And when I leave here I will still be a partner, because I am in the body of Christ.

