



February 2015 Newsletter

www.100hour.org

www.familyintegrity.org

10,000 Course Graduations!

FIT has been diligently recording course graduations since March 13, 2008. This month the total has topped the 10,000 mark! The program was originally set up as a course for prisoners exiting the penal system but gradually expanded to anyone and everyone needing our "developing life skills through faith" emphasis. As such, we have serviced half-way houses, indigents, homeless, people with family court and child custody issues, and churches.

Many congratulations to the hundreds of dedicated volunteers that made this happen. Often the size of our operation as well as the good that is done is not readily apparent. Our volunteers are selfless and unassuming, often working without recognition with small groups. FIT exists to provide effective ministries for these wonderful people.

In the last newsletter, it was mentioned that FIT did \$250,000 of ministry when it only took in \$28,000 for the whole year. How did it do that? By volunteers. Our volunteers do their own clerical work, pay their own expenses, pay dues and then contribute on top of that! It is an unlikely business plan but it has worked! The authors of our course materials receive nothing for their work and then turn over all intellectual rights to the organization!

New Facilitators Trained in Bradenton, FL on February 7



Class in Session



The Graduates

The latest Leader Training, held at FIT headquarters, produced seven new facilitators. Completing were James and Laurie Allen of Valrico, FL, Robert Amidon of Kalamazoo, MI and Bradenton, FL, Lori Magdalen of Tarpon Springs, Roy Melchert of Sebring, FL and Frances Owens of Bradenton, FL. Shown are facilities of Journey Assembly of God. The church also leases an office suite to FIT for \$1 per year.

James Allen was referred to us by Ed White. His wife Laurie already is doing prison ministry. Roy Melchert is interested in starting up ministry in his area of Central Florida. Robert Amidon is a professional family and mental health therapist.

The session was conducted by President Don Pratt, Founder Ed White, and Treasurer Fred DeMouey. Office Manager Ellie Larson assisted.



Beverly Shatterly reports from the FL Panhandle:

This is the graduation class at Okaloosa CI who just finished the Anger Dynamics class. Two of the men finished the complete 100 hour Family Integrity Training curriculum. Richard McDivitt at the back row next to me and Eric Melendez is second from the left in front

row. Both of these men opted to stay with the class and get the upcoming Dating and Marriage class as well. They had completed the Overcoming Loss and Grief class to meet the requirements for the 100 curriculum certificate, but said this was an area of their life that they needed help in.

Editor's note: Beverly Shatterly is a long-time FIT Board Member from the Florida Panhandle region who has been instrumental in bringing many programs there through her tireless leadership and compassionate missionary spirit. Through an oversight, she and Eleanor Larson, the two women shown in last month's photo of the board meeting (right) were not recognized. Beverly (front and center) travels hundreds of miles each way at her own expense to attend board meetings. Eleanor ("Ellie") Larson is our new office manager.



Office Staff Change



Thank you, Rhonda!

Ellie Larson is the new friendly voice you will hear when you call the office. She replaces the very dedicated and talented Rhonda Nichol who left Florida to minister to her family in Cincinnati. Rhonda will be missed. She was instrumental in bringing the office up to professional standards and is an avid supporter of FIT.

Ellie works twelve hours per week and is the only paid member in the entire organization. Twelve hours is all that FIT can afford right now. Ellie donates at least that much on her time as a volunteer. Like her predecessor, Rhonda, Ellie is a team player who is relentless in serving the wonderful volunteers and ministries that make up the FIT family.



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