

THE COPPER BASIN STORY BACKGROUND:

The Copper Basin comprises Ducktown, Copperhill and McCaysville (GA), three small towns located in extreme Southeastern Tennessee about 60 miles due east of Chattanooga. Gold prospectors discovered copper in this area in the mid-1800's. With the advent of better transportation and improvements in mining technology, this area boomed for more than 125 years before beginning a gradual decline in the late 1970's.

With industry shrinking and many core families fleeing the area, the residual people of the "Basin" are now often alone and forgotten. These mountain people are further isolated in a county comprised of more than 70% national forest, and by a dangerous two-lane road through the famous Ocoee River gorge. Polk County consistently ranks as the one the two poorest counties in Tennessee.



Now, like many other coal-mining and gold-mining sister scattered throughout Appalachia, the Basin reels with abject poverty, functional illiteracy, lack of jobs, and minimal human services.

Established churches and access to the Gospel are present, but the poor and illiterate are often uncomfortable in the stayed churches. The Copper Basin Crisis center is the functional church of many of these people.

Your help is needed to address the needs of the Copper Basin.

COPPER BASIN STORY FEATURES:

Mary and Bridgett: representing the many needy and overlooked of these mountain communities. This is their story.

Margaret Patterson: Margaret and her husband Al have worked in the Copper Basin all their lives. For the last 15 years they have, through relationships and giving, ministered to multiple families through the Copper Basin Crisis Center. Catalyst desires to help them in this work of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Ken Rush: Ken has been curator of the Ducktown Basin Museum for almost 20 years. Ken is active in the community and knows well the stories of the people.

Andrew Brown: Andrew grew up in the Copper Basin roaming the hills as a young man and graduating from Copper Basin High School in 1991. While he didn't know it at the time, God would never let him really "leave" the Basin. In the last 15 years Andrew has led multiple volunteer teams back to his hometown seeking to make a long-term difference in the lives of his people both spiritually and physically.

Davis Watson: Filmmaker and producer Davis Watson visited the Copper Basin multiple times in his youth and returned with Andrew to tell the Copper Basin story. Davis was given full creative license on the cut and storyline of this film.



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