

Teen Challenge Update

March 2006

Pella House for New Women's Center!

Teen Challenge is in the process of acquiring a new home in Pella! The beautiful house, circa 1880, was transferred to Teen Challenge through a gift annuity processed by our Director of Planned Giving, Alan Briscoe. The property was transferred to us from Len and Sharon Gosselink long-time owners of Gosselink Christian Bookstore south of the town square in Pella.



circa, 1880

The Pella community has expressed excitement about opening a women's Teen Challenge center, but we will need your help to see this vision come to pass. We need funding to cover expenses for the initial transfer of the home plus funding for improvements such as a new roof and some changes inside the house.

If you are able to give, please contact Beth Hunsberger at b.hunsberger@tcmid.org or (515) 674-3713.



Len Gosselink gives keys to Pella home

CONTACT INFORMATION

You can reach our Intake Coordinator by email at: info@tcmid.org

Visit our website at: www.tcmid.org

1709 10th St.
Des Moines, IA
50314
515.282.5249

900 N. League Rd.
PO Box 185
Colfax, IA 50054
ph. 515.674.3713
fax. 515.674.4463

2916 N. 58th St.
Omaha, NE 68104
402.551.2322

Leaving a Legacy...

One creative way to bless ministry is through the gift of real estate. This area of gifting can take many forms, which all depend on your tax needs, family situation, and charitable intent. It could be farmland or rental property that is placed into a charitable remainder trust in order to reduce some capital gains taxes while at the same time blessing family. If you set it up right, you can actually capture the value of that property, and give the value of that property away twice, once to family, and once to ministry. This is what we call our "Give it away Twice Trust".

With retained life estates, you give away your residence, but retain the right to stay there until the Lord calls you home. There are some tremendous tax advantages to this gift idea, and you might even be able to generate an income stream to yourself in the meantime, depending on your age and the value of the property.

You can fund gift annuities through the sale of real estate, do bargain real estate sales, and a lot of other creative ideas which we will give some examples of in the future. As always, just know that if you have any questions about some of these ideas, our Director of Planned Giving is available to assist you.

Set Free: A Testimony of God's Saving Grace

At a very young age I was introduced to Jesus and to the stories from the Bible. I attended Sunday school in my hometown of Wheatland, Wyoming. I realize now that I had a problem accepting the truth and believing in what I was taught. It was even harder as a young child to believe in what I could not see or touch. The years passed, and I remember slowly drifting away from Christ. Even though half of my immediate family were believers and were always there to listen and help me, I still insisted that I didn't need the truth. The sins started small, and I thought they were meaningless.

I consumed my first alcoholic beverage in fourth grade. At this point not only did I love the taste of alcohol, but I was curious and wanted to take it further. I wanted to experiment and see what becoming inebriated felt like. I continued drinking off and on into junior high school. Junior high brought not only more freedom, but more stress and more opportunity for the consumption of alcohol. There were also more and more individuals that were coming to see inebriation as fun. We thought it was the fun, cool thing to do on the weekends. As I progressed in my drinking, I suffered in my studies and my sport activities. With this added stress I thought I would be able to deal with things better if I was intoxicated, without a care in the world.

I entered high school and it turned into one big party. In looking back, it is a blur of the most memorable years of my life. Toward the end of junior high into high school, I was introduced to marijuana. This was an every day problem. I had to be high. As this pattern continued, I was killing myself, my family, and everything I touched. All of the partying soon led me to hang out with older groups who introduced me to cocaine. Cocaine became the controlling substance in my life. It also increased my alcohol abuse tremendously. I received multiple charges of minor in possession

or minor under the influence of alcohol. All of my relationships in my immediate family were destroyed.

I had already been in and out of jail, and now I was looking at going back very soon. The night before my trial I thought I would deal with my stress by drinking and using cocaine. I showed up

to court that morning and after smelling my breath, the judge knew I had consumed alcohol. I fled from the police, scared of returning to jail and scared because of the drugs I had on me. This led to a pursuit and when they caught me my body started to completely shut down from the use of cocaine and alcohol. When I woke up in the hospital, I was in complete shock. I was disappointed in myself and humiliated because of

what I had done. This was the bottom of the barrel for me. Two days later I left the hospital and was taken to jail. While in jail, my grandparents and parents came to me and the court with the suggestion of this place called Teen Challenge.

After only seven days of being incarcerated, I entered Teen Challenge of the Midlands on November 15th, 2005. The first night I was here I was a complete wreck, but I accepted Christ as my Lord, my Savior, and the new leader of my life. This was when I realized that I was never really in control of my life. Now the truth and my full acceptance of the truth has really set me free from my past bondage. My life has turned a true 180 degrees. Since my acceptance of Christ, I have been given peace and hope. I know now that my future holds good and not evil. The greatest thing is knowing that I actually have a future and true, eternal life. It's wonderful to see how God is restoring all my relationships with family and with other loved ones. I was baptized on February 12th, 2006. I have died completely to my old life, and have been resurrected into a brand new life with Jesus Christ.

