

# Teen Challenge Update

Colfax Training Center

May, 2011

## New Life in Christ

Before I came to Teen Challenge, I didn't know who I was. Growing up, I learned that no matter what I did, always do my best. When I was eleven, I started smoking weed, and from that day on, for the next eight and a half years, I was the best druggie I could be. There was no drug that I wouldn't do. I smoked it, snorted it and shot it. My goals and my future consisted of drugs and girls. I lied, stole and cheated people to get what I wanted. I was trying to live out different lives for different people, and I was headed straight to hell. On July 13th, 2010, I overdosed on heroin. That is when I realized that I couldn't live that way anymore. I needed help.

I entered Teen Challenge on August 3, 2010, and on August 4th, I accepted Jesus Christ as my Savior. Since then, I have grown to have a great relationship with God. I'm learning who the real me is, and the real purpose I'm meant to serve in life. These are some of the many miracles the Lord has done for me: He has reunited my father and me, restored the relationship with my sister, and He has used me to bring many family members to Christ. He has changed my heart, given me hope, taught me how to humble myself, forgive, and love...not just myself, but everybody.

Dan Mohler was our speaker at our Spiritual Emphasis week (3 days of worship and preaching). God did something in me that week that I can't even explain with words! I learned more about myself, and grew even closer to God. I thank the Lord everyday for the new life He has given me. Praise God!



Zach, Colfax Student. Zach wrote the following poem during our Spiritual Emphasis Week.

### "The One"

*The way, the truth, and the light  
The guide that leads us through the night  
The one who keeps us safe and sound  
The one who made us heaven bound  
The one who's name is Jesus Christ  
Who gave His life to pay our price  
He thought of us while being beat  
He took the nails through hands and feet  
He died so we could come to Him  
To give our lives and die to sin  
He let His skin and flesh be torn  
So we could die and be reborn  
Reborn into a life of love  
To have in us, what's up above  
He lives in me, inside my heart  
He is my maker, and I'm His art  
All earthly pains have met their end  
They died when I met my Best Friend  
Jesus! Savior! Lord! Love!  
Which one is it?  
ALL THE ABOVE!!!*

### CONTACT INFORMATION

You can reach our Admissions Director by email at: [i.hunsberger@tcmid.org](mailto:i.hunsberger@tcmid.org)

Visit our website at: [www.tcmid.org](http://www.tcmid.org)

You can reach our other Midlands centers at:

Teen Challenge Admission and Crisis Center  
1709 10th St.  
Des Moines, IA 50314  
515.282.5249

Pella Women's Home  
714 Independence St.  
Pella, IA 50219-1828  
641.628.2808

Teen Challenge of Nebraska  
2916 N. 58th St.  
Omaha, NE 68104  
402.551.2322

## Teen Challenge Honored

Our Colfax Teen Challenge center was honored to receive the Colfax Volunteer of the Year Award from the 2011 Main Street Iowa Awards, held last month in Des Moines, Iowa. "Main Street Volunteer Awards are designed to recognize outstanding volunteer efforts that make a significant and positive impact on local programs. Selections are made by the community in which the recipient contributes their time and talent, which makes this award extremely special to the individuals and groups being honored."



Teen Challenge staff members, Joel Byford and Jeff Arp (center) receive the Volunteer of the Year Award from Governor Terry Branstad (far left).

Following a reception and dinner, Teen Challenge staff members, Joel Byford and Jeff Arp were on hand to receive the award from Governor Terry E. Branstad. It was a blessing to be recognized for our volunteering in the community, and we are thankful to the town of Colfax for nominating us for this award. As God blesses our ministry, we want to bless others by being the Lord's hands and feet wherever we are.

We were humbled by the kind words that the Colfax Main Street Development committee had to say about our volunteer efforts. "Colfax is fortunate to have a partner like Teen Challenge of the Midlands in the community. In 2010, we began to work together on a variety of projects. They provided twelve willing and able men to tackle any duty needed during Downtown Clean Up, sold Bavarian Nuts at Country Christmas and helped complete household income surveys to qualify for a grant. Most importantly, during the Floods of 2010, they provided more manpower for

downtown businesses than we ever imagined by helping to sandbag, evacuate and store belongings. After the floods, they helped get businesses back up and running by helping clean, set up, and remove sandbags. They all willingly volunteered countless hours even when it meant working into the wee hours of the morning. During the flooding crisis, businesses were very happy to see the Teen Challenge bus show up to provide assistance and help save the day. Thank you Teen Challenge!"

## Spring Benefit Dinner

Our Spring Benefit Dinner is Friday, May 20th at 6:30 pm at our Colfax center. Tickets are on sale now for \$50.00 a plate, and we would love for you to join us! This event sold out last year, so reserve your tickets now! This is a great opportunity to support Teen Challenge while enjoying a delicious meal. Our menu this year will be Strawberry Spinach Salad with Almond Vinaigrette, Prime Rib with Horseradish Sauce, Rosemary Baked New Potatoes, Sautéed Green Beans with Bacon and Onions, and Panna Cotta with a Strawberry Balsamic. If you are unable to attend this event, but would still like to support the Benefit Dinner, you may purchase tickets for others. Please call Libby Hunsberger at (515) 674-3713 ext. 254 for more information, or e-mail Libby at [l.hunsberger@tcmid.org](mailto:l.hunsberger@tcmid.org).



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