



6th Annual Golf Marathon

Thanks to God’s rich blessings, Teen Challenge of the Midland’s 6th Annual Golf Marathon on September 15th, was one of the most successful ever held! Golfers, donors and Van Harden of WHO Radio all contributed extraordinary efforts that have just under \$50,000 to date.



Van Harden of WHO Radio, broadcasts from his golf cart



Van Harden & Executive Director, Warren Hunsberger

In addition to golfing 100 holes, Van Harden of WHO Radio’s, “Van & Bonnie Show,” broadcast from the course and recognized “hole” (\$500) and “business” (\$100) sponsors, as well as many individual donors. A toll-free 800 number was established for numerous callers from across Iowa who became aware of and made contributions to the Teen Challenge ministry.



One of our golfers chips his way to the green

Monthly operating expenses for the ministry are about \$1,000/month per student, so the funds raised by the Golf Marathon represent approximately one month of the funds needed to keep our doors open!

Thank you to everyone who kept this event in prayer and to those who contributed to the event financially. We couldn’t have done it without you!

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SET FREE! -- A Testimony of Hope

My name is Cameron, and I am 23 years old. Through Teen Challenge of the Midlands, the Lord has given me a purpose and love for him. Prior to coming to Teen Challenge, I was on a road heading to the complete and utter destruction of my life and the lives of people around me. Now, because of the work of the Lord in my life, I have the chance to prosper.

I grew up in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in Chestnut Hill, a beautiful section of the city. I attended Chestnut Hill Academy, an all-boy prep school down the street, which was the beginning of my partying. I had a blast through middle and high school, doing what I thought was fun, which was just hanging out with friends. Hanging out consisted of drinking booze, smoking cigarettes, pot, ecstasy, and cocaine. This partying increased and began taking place not just on weekends, but also during the week. I was able, for the most part, to keep it under control and hide it from my parents, but the occasional slip was easily dealt with by a quick lie and a "bye."

After graduating from high school, it was time for college. I chose to go south to the beach where, "the fun in the sun" never ends. I went to Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, Florida. This was the beginning of my demise. I had a lot of "fun," waking up many mornings on the beach. Life seemed to be great, the drugs were awesome, and I had not a care in life; nothing could stop me. Eventually, I learned that cocaine could be cooked up real easily and smoked, and I convinced myself that I could keep my habit quiet and under control, as long as I only did it on weekends with a select few. How naïve could I be? The next thing I knew, I wanted it all the time.

After about two years, I had had enough and moved back up north to Philly, where my life continued to spiral down to new depths. I got involved with a pretty rough crowd, and after a friend got murdered and several friends ended up in prison, I decided that I needed to move. I

moved in with my dad, who lived in Charleston, SC. I was able to stay clean for a month, but then I fell back into the same old junk. I worked on a shrimp boat, which was an adventurous job, but the hours were 3:30 in the morning to 7:00 at night. These hours posed a problem for me because even though I was clean from crack, I still drank like a fish, and I would stay out at the bar until it was time to head for the docks. I soon went right back to the drugs to sober me up enough so it appeared as though I was all right. I was eventually fired because all I wanted was my crack, so for the most part, I hung out at crack houses until I became just a feeble soul.

My physical and mental health began to diminish rapidly, and I realized I needed help. I went on two more intense benders, and during those times, God spoke to me using people that one would never think he could ever use. I was convinced that there is a God and that He loved me. Through prayer and help from my mother and step-dad, Walt, I was introduced to Teen Challenge. Within a couple of weeks, I was here in Colfax, Iowa entering the Teen Challenge program.

I am so thankful for Teen Challenge of the Midlands. They have provided me with a chance to fully dedicate my life to Christ and meet my Maker. I have been here now for six months, and in that time, God has not only delivered me from the life-controlling addiction of crack cocaine, but also has made me a completely different person. I now have hope for a prosperous future in the Lord. Every day for me is a new learning experience. I have learned that there is more to life than just money, drugs, sex, cars, and music. There is a God, and he loves me and I love him. I owe my drastic lifestyle change to the Lord God Almighty and to Teen Challenge, which has provided me a place where I might be disciplined by strong Christian brothers.



Teen Challenge Goes “Nutty!”

Teen Challenge of the Midlands is headed across Iowa selling cinnamon glazed nuts! We recently received a “Nutty Bavarian” cart donated to our Colfax Center by Gabe & Rita Lee, and with that donation comes a new way to raise finances for Teen Challenge.



Trained staff members roast and sell the cinnamon glazed pecans, cashews, and almonds, and all proceeds help support Teen Challenge of the Midlands. Not only is this a fun and creative way to raise money for our centers, but it also provides an open door for taking Teen Challenge to the public.

If you're interested in having our “Nutty Bavarian” cart at an event, please contact Beth Welch at (515) 674-3713, ext. 201, or email her at b.welch@tcmid.org. We're available for carnivals, Farmer's Markets, parades, church bazaars,

neighborhood celebrations, sporting events, and many other special events. Not only are the nuts a delicious treat, but the cart also presents an entertaining way to support Teen Challenge!



TC staff members, Sarah Hunsberger, Gretchen Good, & Beth Welch run the cart at a local event



One of our famous batches of nuts!

Exciting Opportunity To Give

You can support Teen Challenge of the Midlands through United Way! While Teen Challenge is not a recipient of United Way Funds, their Donor Choice program gives you the ability to designate contributions to our ministry in the “Optional” section of the pledge form. If you have any questions, please contact Merv Roth, our Assistant for Community Relations, at (515) 674-3713, ext. 256, or email him at m.roth@tcmid.org.

**Support Teen Challenge &
Give Through United Way!**



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Helping People Who Hurt

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