

Teen Challenge Update

September 2006

9th Annual Golf Marathon-September 20th

Every year the Teen Challenge of the Midlands Golf Marathon gets bigger and bigger, and this year's event on September 20th is no exception! For the second consecutive year, Dan Stanbrough of Stanbrough Development in Des Moines has signed on to underwrite all expenses for this event, allowing all proceeds to go directly to support the operating expenses of the Teen Challenge ministry. What an AMAZING blessing!



some of our students and graduates, and some of our sponsors. This year we'll be introducing a new "Closest to the Pin" contest for the public. Folks can stop by the golf course at 63rd and Army Post Road and hit ___ balls for \$____ or they can call in and have a WHO personality hit for them. We're in the process of securing some great prizes for the winners! You will be able to see Van & Bonnie broadcasting live, and while you're at it, you can have your vehicle washed in the golf course parking lot by the Teen Challenge car wash crew!

There's still time to get involved, so if you'd like to donate money for this year's event, or if you'd like to learn how you can participate as a golfer, please call Merv Roth at 515-674-3713 x256 or 1-800-596-1706, or e-mail him at m.roth@tcmid.org.

Be sure to listen to WHO Radio on your AM dial, from 5-9a.m. on September 20th as the Van & Bonnie Show will be broadcasting live from the Willow Creek Golf Course in West Des Moines, this year's marathon site. Van & Bonnie will be interviewing our Executive Director, Warren Hunsberger,

Leaving a Legacy...

Effective August 17, 2006, President Bush signed into law the Pension Protection Act of 2006. Included in this law is a tremendous opportunity for donors and charities which is valid for the next 15 months only. Section 1201 of this bill gives donors the option of donating tax free to ministry or charity their IRA Accounts up to a limit of \$100,000/year.

This only applies to donors that are age 70 1/2 or more and the donation is made directly from the IRA Trustee to the charity. The huge benefits to the donor are the distribution of the IRA money does not increase their taxable income (which could impact social security payouts or increase their federal or

state taxes), and it will qualify for all or part of the owners required minimum distribution for 2006 or 2007.

This is a very simple and easy way for all levels of donors to help the work of this great ministry and to continue to lay up treasure in heaven. Whether you would like to give \$2,000 or \$100,000, it is as easy as calling your IRA Account Trustee and giving them instructions on how much and what portion of your account to give to Teen Challenge! This opportunity is only good through December of 2007. If you have other types of retirement accounts, please give me a call, and I can walk you through how you can do the same thing with those accounts. Contact Alan Briscoe at (417)693-1445.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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

Visit our website at: www.tcmid.org

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Set Free: A Testimony of God's Saving Grace

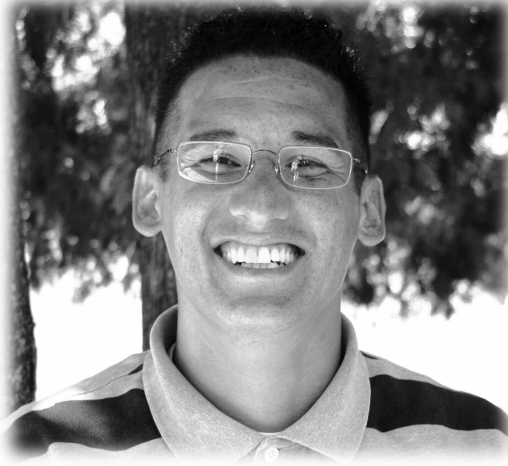
I was raised in Hollywood, IA, and during high school, my father's employer went bankrupt. Our house was turned upside down. My older brother stepped up to keep the peace in our home while I decided to stay far away from it. After graduation, I immediately obtained fulltime work and started to sell cocaine. Over the next six years, I kept the same lifestyle, though my drug use increased. I got involved in trafficking cocaine and selling stolen pharmaceuticals.

In my early twenties, my family moved to Missouri to open a Christian gift shop in Jefferson City. I came along, and now that I can reflect back, I can see that I was blind then. I feel this is when God started to bring our family back together. Knowing in my heart that I needed more than just to move, I joined the Navy. I was stationed in Florida, and the primary purpose of the vessel I was stationed on was to patrol waters in the Caribbean and slow down the flow of narcotics. Our first bust was 3,600 pounds of cocaine. To be honest, this was pretty cool to be a part of, but in the midst of it all I fell into temptation. In October of 2002, I was discharged after testing positive on a port visit in Aruba.

For the next three years I lived in Missouri. No matter how much I tried to better myself, I could not do it alone. I started off clean and sober, but within a year and a half I was ready to jump back into the world. I began consuming OxyContin, heroin, and then I was right back to cocaine. It happened so fast. I was locked up four times, overdosed three times, and was charged with two felonies.

After my last arrest, my mom mentioned Teen Challenge, but I thought she was nuts, so I

decided to move back to Palm Beach, Florida. I walked out seventeen months of my probation using cocaine and pain medications. I was emotionally dead. I had had it. I couldn't do it anymore, and I wanted help.



In December, I went to Missouri for Christmas and met an intern from Teen Challenge of the Midlands. He seemed decent, but it wasn't enough to convince me to come. About five weeks after I met him, I was in a car accident and was put in the hospital. I immediately called Teen Challenge to start the intake process. My probation was terminated and I was a free man, but I

still decided to come to Teen Challenge.

I believe that God has spared my life and has allowed me to be in a place where I can grow. He has allowed me to be in a greenhouse where He can take care of me. I have learned that I have to put Him in the center of my life and lean totally on Him. He has shown me that without Him I am weak. I believe that during my life, God has allowed me to make choices that have resulted in some very hard things to live out. Through that he shows me that I can't do anything by myself, and if I would just give it all to Him, He will make a way. It's not just that I have been drug-free for five months, but the Lord is continuing to work in my heart on a day-to-day basis. He is giving me true life in Him. Since I have been at Teen Challenge, He is restoring my relationship with my father and other family members that I chose to destroy over the last fourteen years. Through Him, He has given them back their son, and brother. I don't know much, but I do know that somehow, someday, God will use me to help those that have little hope.