



Pella Teen Challenge Women's Home Newsletter

July 2008

Dear Candace,

One year and counting! A year ago on July 6th, our first student came through the doors. It is amazing to think of what has happened and to see what God has done in women's lives. There have been plenty of disappointments and failures (aka learning opportunities), but there has also been such a great joy in seeing women encounter the Father who restores within them a hope, love and a purpose for their future.

One of the lessons that has been repeated to me over this year is the steadfastness of God even in the wake of my own unsteadiness. As I was struggling with my own unsteadiness, I had a friend share a striking picture of how God looks at us. He compared it to how a parent watches their young child learn to walk. There is a lot of unsteadiness and many falls, but eventually the child will learn to walk with the parents helping to pick back up and always with open arms to fall into. What really struck me about this picture though was how the parent will delight in the child's triumphs and falls...the delight in the child never changes. God also delights in us even when we fall on our bums and walk unsteadily towards him.

This picture has been shared with the women as many wondered in their failures how God could still love them, but love them he does...and he delights in their journey's towards him. Many have a hard time accepting it, but when they begin to grasp it what a shift in their perspective on who He is.

Thank you for your partnership with us and prayers this past year!! I hope that God will continue to reveal to you his delight and love for you and look forward to sharing more of how your prayers and support are forever changing women throughout the Midwest.

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Prayer Requests

Pray for transitions as some women will begin job searches, and new students enter.

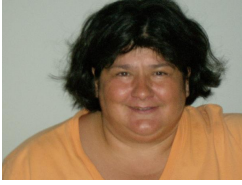
Pray for continued financial support from individuals and community support financially.

Prayer for staff for wisdom, discernment and peace in the midst of some challenging situations.

VOLUNTEER OPPORUNTITIES

Drivers for student appointments (Iowa City/DM).

Mentors



A TESTIMONY OF HOPE

I came to Teen Challenge because I was 44 years old, on probation and waiting for court/probation violation hearing. I still had a year left on my probation and I knew that there was no way I'd be able to make it that long without slipping. I believed in God, but I just didn't know much about him or the Bible. So I figured going to Teen Challenge would help me make it through the year so that I could get off probation. I was also hoping that God would cure my addiction.

Going into Teen Challenge I didn't have much hope for my life as it had already been wasted, but God knew better. Throughout my life I had been told that I was a natural born screw up. Whether it started out as a joke or purposefully meant to hurt I don't know, but what I do know is that I eventually came to believe it and then lived it out. I never dreamt that when they say "you're born again and you're a new person" that it was really real. I mean I FEEL the change inside. It wasn't an instant thing and I'm not real sure when I realized it, but I feel it. Where as before I wondered "How am I going to survive the rest of my life?" I now know God will provide a way, and it is not just a saying or a verse...I really, truly believe it! God has helped me through so much here. I don't feel hopeless anymore. I don't believe I'm a natural born screw up either, and I know if I do mess up that I can learn from it and be forgiven instead of continuing to do it over and over.

God has picked me up and rescued me from my hellhole. Praise God!

AUGUST COMPLETION SERVICE

NEEDS

Paper Products (Toilet paper, Kleenex, Paper towels, etc)

Laundry Detergent /Dishwasher Detergent/cleaning supplies (No Bleach)

Fresh Fruit/Vegetables/Meat

Weedeater

Storage Shelves for garage

Compost Bin/Tumbler

DONATE!

[TCMID Website](#)
[Teen Challenge Int'l](#)

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JULY/AUG EVENTS

July 28th: Friend's Luncheon

Aug 4th: Andrea's Completion Service @ 1st Baptist Church, Pella

You are invited to our First Completion Service on August 4th at 7:00-8:30 pm at the First Baptist Church in Pella, IA.

Our first student, Andrea, who entered last July will be completing the program in August and we would love for you to come and celebrate her. We will have a short program hearing from staff, students and family members then a time of refreshments and fellowship.

If you have questions on how you can help the women of Teen Challenge by volunteering or donating, please contact me at (641) 628-2808 or email me at c.wilson@tcmid.org

Blessings,

Candace Wilson

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