

Overview

According to the 2003 National Survey on Drug Use, an estimated 7.7 million individuals age 12 or older were in need of care for an illicit drug problem. Furthermore, an estimated 18.6 million persons age 12 or older were in need of assistance for an alcohol problem. Teen Challenge has responded with action to statistics like these. Providing residential and non-residential care for thousands of men and women seeking freedom from life-controlling problems, Teen Challenge has become their answer.

In the process of breaking down the addiction cycle, Teen Challenge has become a solution to the addiction crisis. Teen Challenge is known throughout the world for providing successful recovery programs. Enthusiastic law enforcement officials, judges, mayors, governors and other prominent community and country leaders advocate the mission of Teen Challenge. Several United States presidents have voiced their appreciation for the unique work of Teen Challenge.

Teen Challenge is structured to allow flexibility in meeting the needs of those whose lives have been shattered by addictions. Where residential care is needed, Teen Challenge offers a well-developed, multi-phased discipleship training program. Teen Challenge also provides extensive non-residential assistance through personal and group sessions. Prevention programs are provided to thousands each year through public school assemblies and church meetings.

Teen Challenge has a significant impact on local communities. By the time an individual enters Teen Challenge he has typically had almost every relationship and family tie shattered that might be helpful in recovery. He has usually formed strong relationships with people and groups that actually perpetuate the addiction spiral. After completing Teen Challenge, hope is restored to more than just the addict, but to the family as well. Solid, positive relationships within community and family are also re-established. Teen Challenge involvement in a community facilitates a reduction in drug-related crimes in the area. Prevention efforts within the community improve since recovered addicts exert a profound impact on family, friends, and community. The economic cost to society is reduced and restored men and women become contributors to their community. Teen Challenge even participates in community projects, outreaches, food bank services, correctional facility meetings, thrift stores and work projects. Many Teen Challenge programs offer assistance and referral services to the community.

Services

- Recovery Programs
- Residential Care
- Telephone Intervention
- Outpatient Guidance
- Multi-Phased Discipleship Training
- Non-Residential Assistance
- Personal Mentoring
- Group Sessions
- Prevention Programs
- Public School Assemblies
- Workshops
- Food Bank Service
- Community Project Assistance
- Community Outreach Assistance
- Correctional Facility Meetings
- Thrift Stores
- Work Projects
- Referral Service
- GED
- Adult Basic Education

Not all services available
at all locations

In 1958, a young pastor from a farm town in Pennsylvania, took a step of faith into the inner-city of New York City. David Wilkerson started a movement that would change the lives of thousands. With a heart for young people, he began working with gangs and troubled youth. As he began to establish rapport within the city, he became aware of the life-controlling issues destroying these young people. Everywhere David turned he saw the consequences of addiction: a 16 year old girl working the streets, a 12 year old boy murdered by his younger brother, the sight of a teenage mother with her baby on her lap, begging for food and shelter.

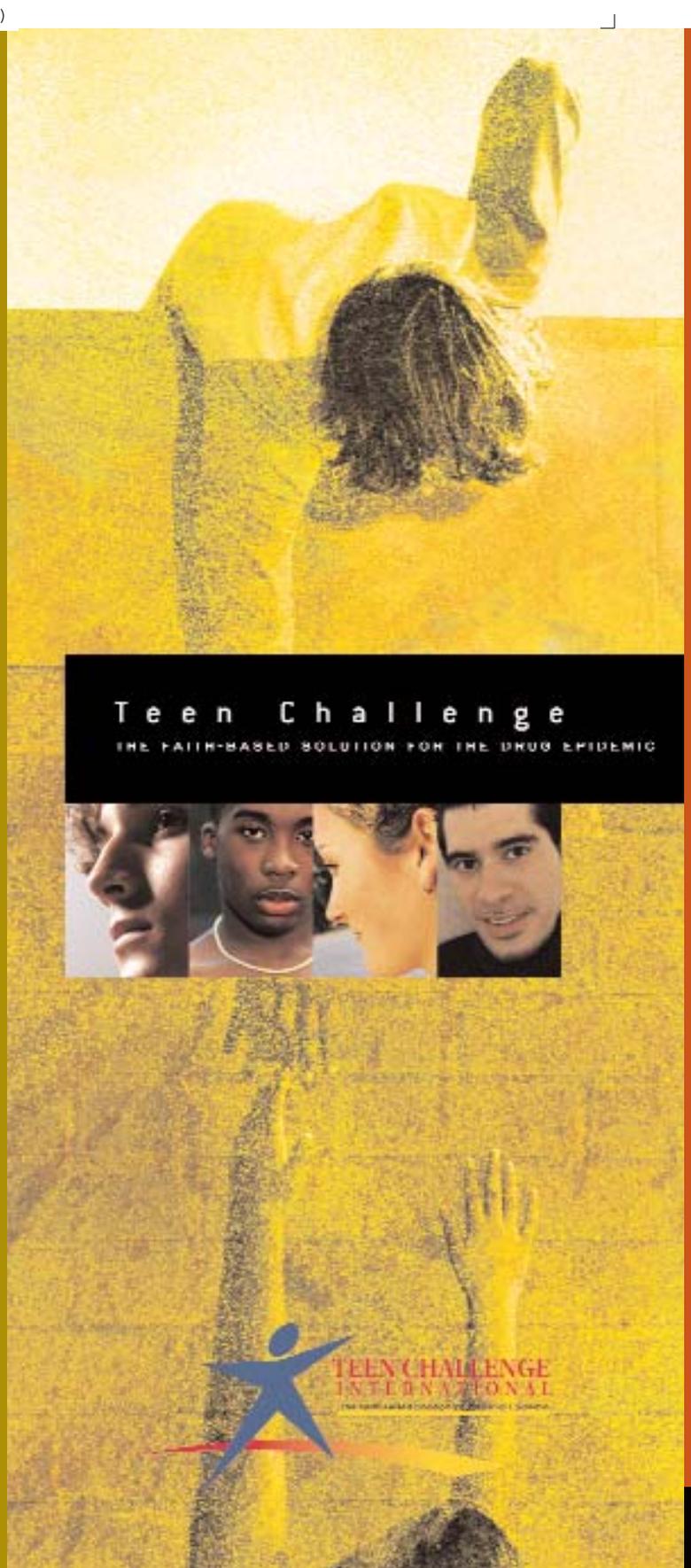
The young pastor found himself in a place with no hope and no future: these children had been set up for failure. He knew he had to break the vicious cycle. He had to offer a way out of their trouble and despair. Later that year, the first Teen Challenge Center was established in New York City. Wilkerson worked with inner-city youth wanting a different kind of life, other than gangs and drugs.

Since 1958, Teen Challenge has seen remarkable growth. Thousands of lives have been changed in over 170 centers throughout the United States. The Teen Challenge approach to helping men and women trapped by addictions has been used in several cultures. And, Teen Challenge Centers are now operating on six continents around the world.

In 1963, David Wilkerson co-authored the book, *The Cross and the Switchblade*. The story covers David's first 5 years in New York and became a best-selling phenomenon. More than 15 million copies have been distributed in over 30 languages. In 1969 a motion picture based on the book, was released. After 45 years, the story continues to inspire renewed faith in God's ability to overcome problems that even the most determined human efforts cannot resolve.



P.O. Box 249 \ Ozark, Missouri 65721
Phone: 417-581-2181 \ Fax: 417-581-2195
tcusa@teenchallengeusa.com \ www.teenchallengeusa.com



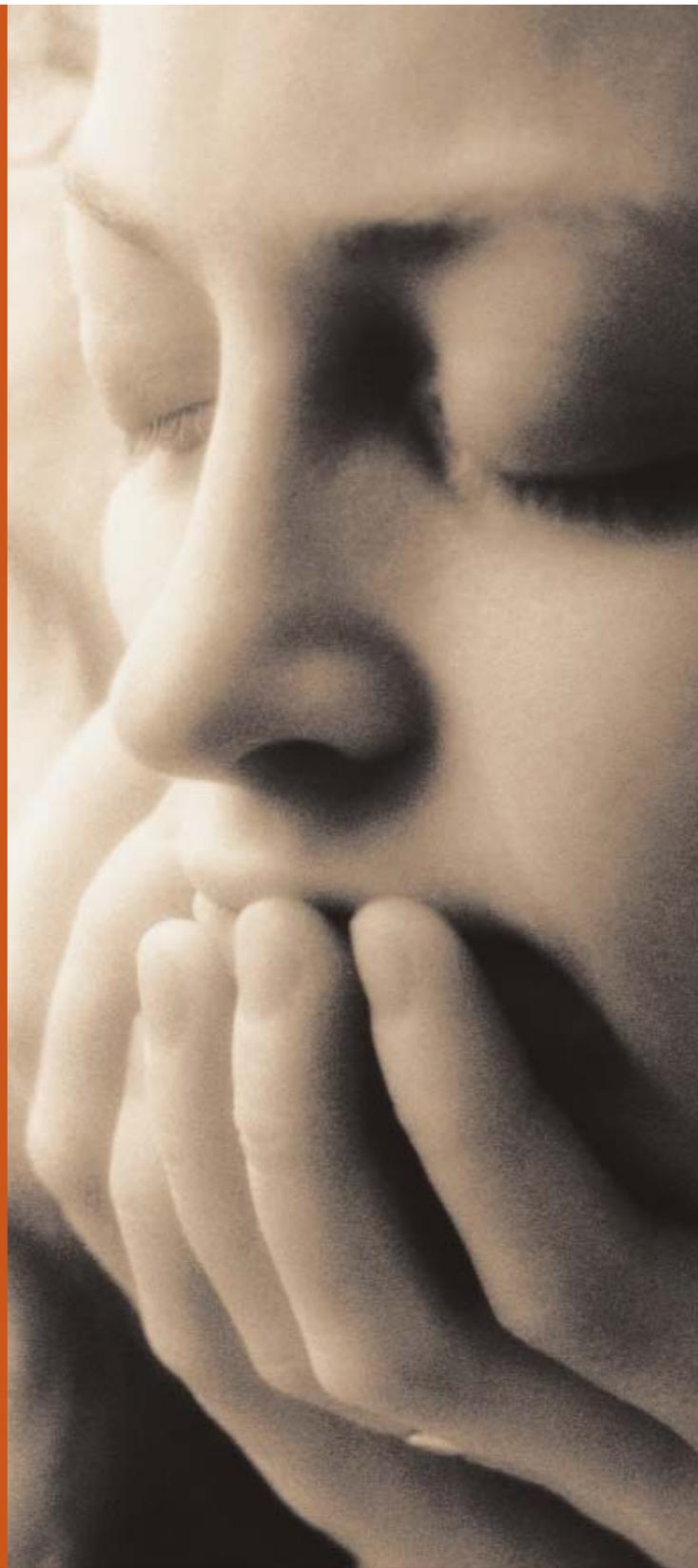
T e e n C h a l l e n g e
THE FAITH-BASED SOLUTION FOR THE DRUG EPIDEMIC



} 2000 years ago,
a teacher sat among prostitutes,
thieves
and murderers.

Critics questioned why he would waste his time and associate himself with these "types" of people. But he ignored the skeptics and continued to invest in the lives of those who had no hope. He chose to spend time building relationships and restoring the lives of the most unlikely members of society. Jesus became their source of hope.

The teachings of Jesus are the same philosophies applied to each Teen Challenge program. Jesus taught love and forgiveness. Teen Challenge not only provides a recovery program, it provides a restoration program. When lives are restored through the teachings of Jesus they are changed forever.



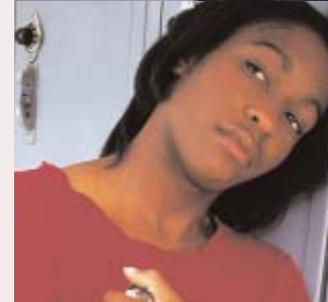
Mission + Goals

Recovery begins with a change in behavior and the elimination of binding life-controlling habits. Teaching faith in Jesus Christ alters behavior and instills positive values that allow a person to holistically heal. Teen Challenge firmly believes, and results show, that an addict establishes a personal relationship with Jesus Christ if he wishes to find permanent freedom from bondage. This central spiritual dynamic is the foundation on which all aspects of the Teen Challenge program are built. Teen Challenge rests upon one reason for success: "the Jesus Factor".

Teen Challenge does not view a person as a statistic - but rather a unique life set apart by God. The mission of Teen Challenge is to provide a successful faith-based solution to individuals of all ages with life-controlling issues. Recovery programs hinge upon biblical principles. Teen Challenge endeavors to help people become mentally sound, emotionally balanced, socially adjusted, physically well and spiritually alive.

Addiction is stirred early in life. It does not happen overnight. Teen Challenge understands the timeline of addiction. Millions of young lives are in the beginning stages of life-controlling issues, and Teen Challenge is determined to fight back. Bringing prevention programs to the youth of America through school assemblies, community events and church outreaches; Teen Challenge is helping to prevent addiction from capturing another life.

For those millions already addicted to drugs and alcohol, Teen Challenge is an effective solution. To ensure success for each individual, Teen Challenge utilizes the faith-based proven recovery methods developed over 45 years. Teen Challenge aspires to enable each student to function in society as a restored and responsible individual.



In 2003, an estimated 19.5 million Americans age 12 or older were current illicit drug users.

[2003 National Survey on Drug Use and Health]

Methods

The Teen Challenge model is summed up as: "It's not just drugs or alcohol; it's moral training. [The Gospel of] Mark, chapter seven says, 'It's not what enters a man that makes him unclean, it's what comes out that destroys him; it's what's in a person's heart that is the problem.' We don't just talk about drugs and alcohol. We talk about character."

The road to recovery is paved with the knowledge that there is real hope for every addict. A willingness to change is the common denominator in recovery. Once this is realized, no one is viewed as beyond help. Teen Challenge's holistic approach is often cited by graduates as something that stands out from other programs they have tried. Teen Challenge deals with "the whole man." In helping students lay "a foundation" by working on "what's inside" and challenging them with "biblical teaching", they discover faith in Jesus Christ and a new way of living.

The long-range transformation that is projected for each addict is broken into three stages: addict, ex-addict and non-addict. When a person first comes to Teen Challenge, she is usually at the "addict" stage - still engaging in addictive behavior and thinking. Upon entry into the program, she is required to stop addictive behavior. Some students may go through a detox program in a local hospital before entering Teen Challenge.



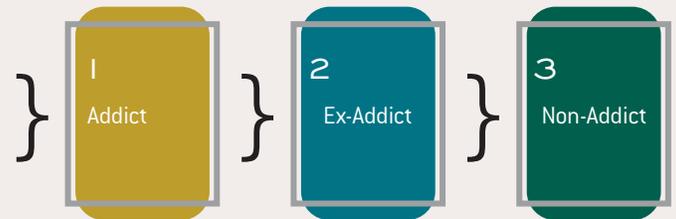
In one study of youthful suicide, drug and alcohol abuse was the most common characteristic of those who attempted suicide; fully 70% of these young people frequently used alcohol and/or other drugs.

The National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information

Q: Why is Teen Challenge one of the most effective drug recovery programs in America?

A: We know that to be successful an addict needs to move from a self-centered paradigm to a Christ-centered paradigm.

The long-range transformation that is projected for each addict is broken into three stages:



The ex-addict stage is potentially risky. This person may revert to old ways of responding to pressure and problems. The third stage in this process is to move to the non-addict stage. At this point the person no longer thinks like an addict, but has developed a completely different way of thinking. His entire world-view has changed. He no longer wakes up in the morning thinking like an addict. His self-identity is not based on using drugs. His new identity is in a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

With the realization that some will not achieve the non-addict stage until several years after completing the Teen Challenge program, a plan for continued support and encouragement is vital for every graduate. Providing the best setting for on-going relationships and role models, the local church is fundamental in providing aftercare to graduates. Some Teen Challenge centers offer a re-entry program to assist students in the transition from the residential program to life on their own. The primary focus of the re-entry program is to establish healthy personal relationships with non-addicts in society and assist them in getting a job.

The Teen Challenge approach is built on the foundation that a personal relationship with Jesus Christ is essential for long term success. Founded on this, Teen Challenge attends to the needs of the whole person, not merely the drug addiction problem.



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stages:

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Who will sit with them today?

Critics question why we spend our time and associate with those who are addicted. We ignore the skeptics and continue to invest in the lives of those who have no hope. We spend time building relationships and restoring the lives of the most unlikely members of society. Jesus becomes their source of hope. ***You can be a part of the work that Teen Challenge has undertaken.***

The Faith-Based Solution For The Drug Epidemic