

# WESTERN MICHIGAN TEEN CHALLENGE

February 2016

440 Pontaluna Road | Muskegon, MI 49444 | 231-798-7927

Dear Friends,

We are launched into a new year - 2016. The expectations are great. As we uphold the name of Jesus Christ and preach His everlasting gospel, we are expecting a great ingathering of souls for the kingdom of God this year.

People are desperate. Sin is abounding. Some people see no way out of their dilemma. But that's where Jesus comes in. He is able to save to the uttermost all that will come unto God through Him. Our phones continue to ring at Teen Challenge as these desperate ones - drug addicts, alcoholics, prostitutes, homosexuals and others seek help. Thank God we have the answer to their needs in Christ Jesus.

Daily we see addictions broken. We see the cold, bitter, hard-hearted sinners come to Christ. The captives set free. You on our mailing list, who are giving to this ministry and praying for us, are a big part of the deliverance and salvation of these precious souls.

**Read of Katy's deliverance and salvation presently taking place here at Western Michigan Teen Challenge.**



## Student Testimony

Hi, my name is Katy. I am 25 years old. I am from the Holland area here in Michigan. Before coming to Teen Challenge I was strung out on heroin. I had open sores on my arms from shooting up. I supported my habit by prostitution. My life was utterly miserable and I was desperate. I wanted a way out but I didn't know how. I really didn't know anything about Jesus. But when I came here to Teen Challenge and heard of the saving power of Jesus Christ, I accepted Him wholeheartedly into my life. Today I am totally set free of my drug addiction. My sores from shooting up are all healed. I have an inward contentment and peace. I truly love Jesus with all my heart. Thank God He sought me out and found me. By His grace I plan to live for Him the rest of my life. I will never be the same. Thanks to all of you who support this ministry. Without you I don't know where I would be or if I would even be alive. Thanks for helping me find Jesus. I am a new creature in Christ.

## February Graduate Testimonies on Back ►

Michelle and I personally thank God for each of you on our mailing list. You are vitally important to us. We plan to continue to preach Jesus, to see sin stamped out, Jesus glorified, and souls set free and made whole. Thank you for standing with us again this year. Your prayer support and giving humbles us and is truly a blessing. Lives here at Teen Challenge are changed for eternity. Thank you so much for your help.

Yours serving Christ,  
Phil & Michelle McClain

*Phil & Michelle McClain*



## GRADUATE TESTIMONIES

My name is Katie Swafford, and I'm 20 years old from Monterey, TN. At the age of 13, I began using drugs to numb myself and try to cope with pain and hurt. I tried to fill an emptiness in my heart that no drug or person could ever fill. This left me feeling depressed, angry and hopeless. Since coming to Teen Challenge, God has set me free and given me hope for a bright future. "You, Lord, keep my lamp burning; my God turns my darkness into light." ~Psalms 18:28

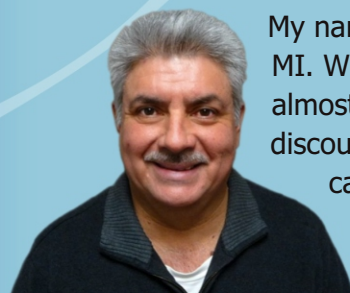


Hi, my name is Melody Short. I am 26 years old from Kenosha, WI. I grew up in a Christian home, but turned away from God at a young age due to a lot of family issues and deaths in the family. We grew apart, and I struggled with abandonment issues and lack of self-worth.



I turned to alcohol in my early teen years and later to Xanax and pain pills. After two years of battling with the decision to come to Teen Challenge, I finally made it. It was the best decision of my life! I am no longer bound to my addiction, but rather I have found a whole new confidence in the Lord. With my family relationships being restored, I have faith and hope for a bright new future! "Though you have made me see troubles, many and bitter, you will restore my life again; from the depths of the earth you will again bring me up. You will increase my honor and comfort me once more." ~Psalms 71:20-21

My name is Joshua Stewart. I am 32 and from Dayton, OH. I was hopeless, helpless, angry, and wanted to die. I was a heroin addict with chronic back pain and lots of emotional baggage. After seven rehabs, a prison number, and back surgery didn't work, I tried suicide. God saved my life and brought me to Teen Challenge where He poured His Spirit out upon me and healed my back. He is renewing my mind daily, healing my broken heart and showing me how to be His servant and comfort others with the hope, ability and purpose He has given me. "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose." ~Romans 8:28



My name is Sergio Delgadillo Silva. I'm 51 years old from Grand Rapids, MI. When I entered Teen Challenge, my life was a mess. Alcohol had almost destroyed my life, and I had no love for myself. I was filled with discouragement and pain, never had control and almost lost my life in a car accident. My grandparents and parents all struggled with alcohol abuse, so I was never taught about the Word of God. My dad died when I was 22, and my mom died exactly 10 years later. I lost many jobs, made many excuses for my addiction and made light of God and my family. I never realized the pain I put my family through. I never imagined the mercy, goodness and great love of God until coming to Teen Challenge. It was difficult at first because I was not proficient in the English language. There were nights of weeping, but in those nights I finally accepted Jesus Christ as my personal savior and asked Him to live in my heart. Day after day I began to feel the love of God and feel His mercy towards me. I then began to ask to be empowered by His Holy Spirit. Jesus Christ has transformed my life. I'm grateful for his life changing power, and now I am a new man in Christ with confidence and security that He has given me the victory over alcohol. I ask Jesus for strength, so that I may be an example to my sons and nephews and be restored to my family. I know that if I continue to obey and follow His Word, He will give me the strength to fight the battles each day. Thanks be to Jesus Christ who causes me to triumph. The Holy Spirit is in this place. "But of Him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption." ~1 Corinthians 1:30

*And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son as Savior of the world.*