

Winter Newsletter



Vision 2012

January 2012

Tim McLaughlin, Executive Director

From the Teen Challenge of the Upper Cumberland family to yours, I thank you for your prayers, donations, and financial support in 2011. Because of you, in 2012, we can continue to share the message of *Hope for Life* to those struggling with addiction in the Upper Cumberland area.

In a world where 80% of the people live below the poverty level and 20% are unemployed or working part-time. In a time when more people are dying young, divorce is still rising, church attendance is down, jails are full and people are trying to find comfort in a pill, a bottle, or anything that will give them a temporary comfort, it would appear to most that we have no hope.

But, let me assure you, there is HOPE and His name is Jesus! In Colossians 1:27-29, Paul writes about a people nearly 2000 years ago that were hopeless: *To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.*

Jesus Christ IS our Hope, friend, and we need to share this Hope with all we come in contact with like never before. Our hope is not in our economy, our job, the lust of the flesh, or the temporary highs of this world. The real Hope that we have rest in is the Savior of the world.

Here at Teen Challenge of the Upper Cumberland, we offer Hope to those who are poor in spirit, broken by the trials of life, held captive by addiction, and oppressed by the enemy. We offer them an opportunity to have an authentic relationship with this Savior, Prince of Peace, Healer, and Deliverer—Jesus!


In 2011, we placed sixty-eight people into long term Teen Challenge centers, had fifty-four ladies stay at the crisis center, and had eighty decisions for Christ! Since opening at the end of 2009, we have placed 146 people into Teen Challenge centers and 102 ladies have stayed at the crisis center.

Our vision for 2012 includes opening a men's crisis facility and expanding ministry outreach through non-residential classes and the Stay Sharp prevention program. We need your help in order to see this vision accomplished and we ask that you would consider partnering with us.

Partnership with Teen Challenge of the Upper Cumberland comes in many forms. Please pray for us as we continue to seek property to expand the TCUC ministry facilities and for the financial income to meet the growing needs of the ministry. We gladly accept donations of food, paper products, and household supplies. Regular monthly financial contributions are the fuel to propel this ministry forward in 2012. Monthly partnership helps us to plan for the future and to maintain the day-to-day ministry operations. You can use the enclosed envelope to start monthly contributions or make a one time donation.

For more information about contributions or about TCUC, please call us at 888-688-0470 or visit www.teenchallengeuc.org. May you and yours have an abundantly Hope-filled 2012!



**TEEN CHALLENGE**
Upper Cumberland
P.O. Box 49291
Cookeville, TN 38506
888-688-0470
www.teenchallengeuc.org

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146 people placed into long term treatment

80 decisions for Christ in 2011

You can make a donation securely online at www.teenchallengeuc.org



Transformed Lives !



The Blooming of New Life

If you have ever seen a flower bloom or a new kitten or puppy start to open their eyes and see the new world around them for the very first time, you can imagine what being a volunteer is like. We see the blooming of new life in Christ. We see eyes that get opened and hearts that receive the truth for the very first time. It is unbelievably beautiful, wonderful and glorious. Who wouldn't want to be a part of that?

Obedience is the key for me. I thought that there was nothing for me to offer as a volunteer. I argued with God (yes, I must admit it) – how could He possibly use an imperfect mother to help the young women to recover from addictions? Was I too busy to obey His calling? I did not realize how many blessings were to come with each lady I would meet. I almost missed out!

These residents have given much more than I could ever imagine. To see God glorified in their lives, the changes in their spirits, their hearts, their minds, their physical bodies and even in their countenance. When they get ready to go on in their walk with God, they are glowing and radiating the love of Christ!

God truly works miracles every day they are at the Crisis Center. Yes, some days are difficult as their old habits are laid down, and they become new creations! Lives are changed and God has given me the privilege to see these ladies who glorify, praise, and thank Him for what He is doing in their lives. We are His handmaidens, and I thank you, Lord for that honor.

Kim Starling
Mother of 10, and Grandmother to 7



Playing a Part

I am the Administrative Assistant for Teen Challenge of the Upper Cumberland. I live in Gainesboro with my husband and we have four children. My main duties at TCUC are: to interact with clients, vendors and visitors; to answer the telephone; to pray for and assist people in getting themselves or their loved ones placed at this center or at other Teen Challenge Centers; to open and distribute incoming mail, faxes and/or emails; and to perform other office duties such as typing, maintaining client files, maintaining office files, maintaining office data base programs and the like.

When a person desires to enter the Teen Challenge program, the

first step is for them to call me at 888-688-0470. I conduct a detailed telephone interview with them and explain the program requirements and intake process. I direct them to our website and help them locate our online application. I then prepare a computer file for that individual and forward the information on to other staff, who then calls the individual to let them know whether we can accommodate and assist them here at our center or at another Teen Challenge facility.

If the person is in jail, their family member should call in for instructions on that process, and I then notify Pastor Tim of the applicant's attorney and/or



Lisa Finch, Administrative Assistant

probation officer's names and phone numbers, so that he can obtain the court's approval for that individual's admittance into the program.

Serving in this ministry is extremely rewarding, fulfilling, and uplifting. I am grateful to be here at Teen Challenge of the Upper Cumberland and to be able to play a part in transforming people's lives.

SAVE THE DATES!

IHOP PANCAKE DAY

February 28th
7 am - 10 pm

Free Pancakes and
Make a donation to TCUC!

DESSERT BANQUET

March 22nd - 6:30 pm

Leslie Town Centre

Family testimonies!

GOLF TOURNAMENT

April 14th - 8 am
Southern Hills

Cash Prizes!

For more details on these events,
please call our office at 888-688-0470
or visit www.teenchallengeuc.org





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Teen Challenge of the Upper Cumberland Staff Members



Teen Challenge of the Upper Cumberland Staff Members(left to right) include: Jennifer Mullins (Assistant House Director), Brandi Pressler(House Director), Pastor Tim McLauchlin(Executive Director), Sheridan McLauchlin(Development Director), Lisa Finch(Administrative Assistant), and Jamie Williams (Assistant House Director). Brandi, Jamie, and Jennifer are Teen Challenge graduates who have been called to serve other women who are where they once were. Teen Challenge of the Upper Cumberland is blessed to have faithful ministry staff members!