

Departments:

3000 Club Planned Support
T 8431 9847
E finance@tc.asn.au

Housing Association
Adelaide Aid Housing
Association Inc.
T 8332 4899

Teen Challenge Chapel
T 8431 9847
M 0458 101 180
E prayer@tc.asn.au

Life FM Careline
T 1800 771 777

Teen Hope Line
T 1800 024 488

Living Free Branches:

Living Free – Adelaide
Residential
Discipleship Program
T 8212 5427
M 0458 101 182
E Livingfree@tc.asn.au

Living Free Elizabeth
Residential
Discipleship Program
T 8287 1685
F 8255 7488
M 0431 474 015
E Livingfree@tc.asn.au

Regional Centres:

Murray Bridge
18 South Terrace
Murray Bridge, SA 5253
T/F (08) 8531 2851
M 0458 101 186
E tcmb@lm.net.au

Mount Barker
13 Mann Street
Mt Barker, SA 5251
T (08) 8391 0210
M 0458 101 185
E sidney.farrow@gmail.com

Mannum
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E joymarks@bigpond.com

21/03/2009

Dear Friends of Teen Challenge;

I am writing to thank you for your financial support and prayers, without you Teen Challenge is not able to help restore broken lives and give our young people a hope for the future, free from the affects of drugs, alcohol and abuse. Please be encouraged that your support is making a difference and I hope that as the apostle Paul said that you will continue to be generous in every way!



Executive Director Mr. Graham Ross

Instead of a newsletter I want to write personal letter from the heart to you about the work and ministry of Teen Challenge SA and where I see the us heading into the future that I believe that God has in store.

The past 9 months have been a series of highs and lows for Teen Challenge. However, we continue to see wonderful miracles of people coming to know Christ, rededicating their lives to Jesus and moving on, in and with Him. Testimonies similar to such as Donna's continue to inspire us. To share in this with us go to www.teenchallengesa.com and view "Giving Our Youth a Hope and Future".

Since May 09 Teen Challenge has assisted 9 new students through the Living Free Program. Countless numbers of young men have been assisted by the Living Free Centre in Adelaide and many parents have been given hope, assistance and advice as to what to do with their young rebellious teenage kids who enter the party atmosphere of drugs and alcohol so prevalent in Adelaide. The Women's Living Free Program has also moved from Waikerie and is now co-located with the Men's Program at Elizabeth.

Teen Challenge has receives hundreds of calls via the Life FM Careline. People just like you and me needing a friendly listening ear along with many requests from people asking for prayer support for the many concerns in their lives.

Presentations to school children continue. With further resources to promote the Teen Challenge drug and alcohol prevention program we would be able to run full time in prevention work alone due to the demand and impact this program has on youth! Trips to Coober Pedy and the remote Fregon Aboriginal Communities continue and greatly reward to all who participate in this outreach ministry. A review of this work has highlighted the vital importance of young people being involved. We are very interested in hearing from youth groups or individuals that may be interested in participating in this ministry. (18+ years of age)

In June 2008 I had the opportunity to go to the 50th Year celebration of Teen Challenge in New York. There,

I met the founder of Teen Challenge Pastor David Wilkinson along with Nicky Cruz and Israel - the president of the Mau Mau's mentioned in the book "Cross and the Switchblade" which is a true life story on how seven teens on trial for a gang murder brought Dave Wilkinson to the gritty streets of New York City. There almost immediately, when Pastor David Wilkinson was thrown out of court, he started Teen Challenge to help teens in gangs and drug addiction. This book has inspired tens of thousands of hard core drug addicts to break away from their addiction.

I remember how Pastor David Wilkinson said to Nicky Cruz when he was a gang member.... "You could do that, you could cut me into a thousand pieces and lay them out in the street and every piece would love you.



Since then (1958) Teen Challenge has grown to include some 1038 programs/chapters in more than 80 countries around the world. These programs offer a total of 23,000 beds for boys, girls, men and women whom are seeking freedom from their addiction and other life controlling problems. These programs offer an outstanding variety of services, including residential addiction recovery, Crisis Centres, Outpatient Counselling, Coffee Houses, Street Rallies, Youth Programs, School Presentations, Child Rescue Operations and more. In parts of the world where Christians struggle to find community, Teen Challenge has helped to start new Churches. In all these years and in all these countries, the Teen Challenge program has found success because of Jesus being the focal point of all Teen Challenge does. There is no program, no special person who can set a drug addict free like the power of the Holy Spirit pointing people to Jesus. (see DVD attached)

The United Nations reports that there are more than 200 million drug addicts in the world. Recently, I was speaking with Pastor Doug Boyle the CEO of TC Kazakhstan where he quoted a much higher figure and shared that as Kazakhstan was situated along the most central (opium) trade route to Russia where there were many Muslims caught up in the grip of drug addiction from the crops of opium in Afghanistan. Many of them are now turning to Jesus, as parents prefer their children to be set free by Jesus (mentioned in the Koran as the divine healer) rather than be a dead Muslim.



At the 50 year celebration Global Teen Challenge President Jerry Nance advised at the meeting that they had developed a strategic plan that focuses on five critical areas: staff training, sustainable funding, communication, operational standards and new program development. In the past 6 months Teen Challenge SA Inc has also concentrated on these issues.

I would like to share with you on these 5 areas where Teen Challenge SA has taken initiative;

1) Staff Training,

Many people asking for help in western countries and in particular in Australia are presenting with Co-morbid conditions. This means that people not only have Drug and Alcohol conditions but also have mental health issues as well, and which came first is difficult to tell. Teen Challenge SA sought financial support from the Federal Government to be able to deal with such complex problems. It is clear from evidence to date that along with the increase in (ice/crystal) methamphetamine use the effects of such drugs such as;

- feeling dependent on the drug,
- sleep disturbance,
- weight loss,
- feeling scattered or agitated,
- suffering depression and
- anxiety – particularly when coming down from the drug and
- people experience methamphetamine psychosis where they feel they cannot trust people and may see or hear things that are not really there.

These issues are having a major effect on the people needing help.



To this end we here at TC SA are seeking expressions of interest from people who are willing to take part in the work of Teen Challenge SA with an empathy and interest in acquiring formal qualifications in a Certificate IV course in Youth Work. A component of this course is a Cert IV in Mental Health.

It is envisaged that Teen Challenge will be able to provide some financial assistance to people intending to do the Teen Challenge Training and then voluntary work in the ministry of Teen Challenge SA Inc. for a given period of time. Applications for enrolment into the course are available by contacting Teen Challenge SA Inc. on 8431 9847.

2) Sustainable Funding,

Since July 2008 I have been developing a sustainable financial strategic plan with a task group of business people called the Teen Challenge Foundation. In developing this strategic plan the task group has come up with a plan to attract financial support from individuals, churches, government and the corporate sector. To this end the work that has developed so far has been to;

- a) Negotiate with Government for some initial funding to equip TC SA to respond to;
 - i. Co-morbid conditions of people
 - ii. Plight of aboriginal people in Coober Pedy and Fregon SA.
- b) Develop new contacts in the corporate world to attract ongoing funding and support
 - i. In our next Newsletter you will see a report on a Corporate Company whom has partnered with Teen Challenge to feed homeless people
 - ii. revamp the Teen Challenge Web Site;

In the last 6 months the Teen Challenge web site has been totally revamped with the aim in mind to be able to;

- Make it easier for people to donate
- Be more transparent about the use of Teen Challenge funds to reassure the general public that their donations are supporting the intent of the donors giving

- c) Develop new partnerships where possible with other agencies such as;
 - i. Police
 - ii. Health professionals
 - iii. Education
 - iv. Housing Providers
 - v. Job Employment (friendly) programs

3) **Communication,**

a) *New Logo*

When my wife, Janine and I returned from the 50th anniversary of Teen Challenge in New York we both realized that Teen Challenge SA was part of something much bigger that our Lord was doing around the globe. From this revelation we decided to utilize the Global Teen Challenge Logo this means that if anybody from overseas comes to SA and sees the global logo they immediately recognize who we are.

To this end we also have replaced the phrase “who dares wins” with “New Beginnings” Not only do our students discover a new (beginning) life in Christ when they enter the TC program but every area of Teen Challenge SA, has and is being reviewed with a sense of a New Beginning occurring within the heart of Teen Challenge SA.



b) *Revamp the Teen Challenge Web Site;*

In the past 6 months the Teen Challenge web site has been totally revamped with the aim in mind to be able to;

- i. Reach people with children getting involved with drugs and alcohol*
- ii. Provide educational materials and information to people via appropriate links via our web site*
- iii. Reach young people needing help to escape alcohol and drug addiction*
- iv. Encourage corporate companies to donate and support the ongoing work of Teen Challenge SA and*
- v. Provide ongoing information to the general public about the ministry activities of Teen Challenge SA Inc.*

You may look up www.teenchallengesa.com and please provide us with your feed back

c) *Build deeper relationships with our communities;*

- i. To this end we plan on having a series of information sessions within different regions throughout SA. To achieve this more detailed planning on events and information sessions will need to be implemented and the roll out of these information sessions is expected to occur in late 2009*

4) **Operational Standards**

In December 2008 a total revamp and restructure of how we “do Teen Challenge” here in South Australia was launched. The exciting part of this is that Teen Challenge is sticking even more closely to the Teen Challenge curriculum that has been tried and proven for the past 50 years and we are now also equipping our people to adhere to procedures and standards and have committed to making ourselves even more accountable by reviewing the operational policies of Teen Challenge SA.

In addition all staff were told to forget their “positions” and what they have become used to doing over the years. The new purpose is to better fit people with their gifts to tasks expected from them. For example, having an evangelist stuck behind a desk rather than out on the street is a wrong fit and has now been addressed. Gifted teachers with experience of running the Teen Challenge curriculum are now concentrating on improving service delivery and curriculum presentation to the students in the program. New people have been appointed with administration skills to manage the rehab program to ensure enough volunteers are on board, bills are authorized, nutritional concerns are attended to etc.

Not all the volunteers felt comfortable with the restructure at first however, once they became used to their new roles, they have applied themselves with renewed enthusiasm.

5) Program Development.

As stated above the Teen Challenge Foundation has been created. All donations continue to be tax deductible and a more transparent reporting of how funds are used will be available to the general public and more importantly to you our donors.

Our goals are to;

- *Establish the Teen Challenge Foundation Capital Base – current target \$925,000. The purpose of this is to invest the monies and enable Teen Challenge to operate from the interest earned from these funds into the future*
- *Provide more resources toward the Adelaide Living Free Centre(s) for homeless youth. Our project goal for this is \$95,000. The purpose of this is to provide emergency accommodation to male and female homeless youth*
- *Raise \$53,000 to support the ongoing work and ministry of the Women’s rehabilitation Living Free program. The aim of this program is to see young women set free from alcohol and drug addiction and achieve all that God has planned for their lives.*
- *Raise \$53,000 to support the ongoing work and ministry of the Men’s rehabilitation Living Free program. The aim of this program is to see young men set free from alcohol and drug addiction and achieve all that God has planned for their lives.*
- *Raise \$64,000 for Aboriginal Outreach in Remote Areas. We need to desperately play our part in seeing Christ come to the Indigenous people in Australia*
- *Raise \$10,000 to support and increase the Ministry resources of the Living Free Program. In addition to this other support programs are required such as;*
 - *Drug and Alcohol Prevention Ministry throughout our education system in SA.*
 - *Parent and Grandparent Support Programs need to be established throughout SA.*
 - *Family Support Programs also need to be established to support families whom have spouses in the Living Free Program.*
- *Finally, it is within our heart here at Teen Challenge to re-establish a City Base in the heart of the CBD Adelaide. Not only has this been prophesied over Teen Challenge SA, the poor need a place they can call their own, a place where they will feel comfortable and receive support, food and pastoral care and the love of Christ. Drugs and Alcohol are rampant throughout Adelaide and rural areas and our young people need an alternative to what the world is offering.*

In order to establish this City Base our project goal for this is \$2,800,000

Future Directions

Some thoughts about the future;

- 1) *Teen Challenge believes that the TC Chapel is again to return to the CBD of Adelaide to provide food for people and spiritual food for Adelaide's homeless*
- 2) *Street Outreach Ministry is to become a high priority*
- 3) *Aboriginal Ministry and Aboriginal Rehab work is to be further developed*
- 4) *The development of future rehabs throughout SA are to be implemented*
- 5) *Country Ministry drop in Centre's are needed*

Prayer Points:

Please pray for the following;

- 1) *Currently, the Teen Challenge Living Free Rehab / Discipleship Program along with its partner Lutheran Community Housing Support Unit is negotiating with the State Government to be able to remain in its current premises at Elizabeth. Government is currently reviewing the use of the premises and overall future plans for the site are being considered*
- 2) *Please pray for all staff and servants/volunteers within Teen Challenge SA Inc*
- 3) *Please pray for the students within the Living Free Rehab / Discipleship Program*
- 4) *Please pray about your financial contribution towards this ministry. In tough economic times the strain can get greater if it were not for your financial support – giving regularly each month enables us to plan for the future.*
- 5) *Pray for (future Teen Challenge) workers of the harvest - Amen*

God's Priority

In **Matthew 28:18-20**, we have the top priority on God's list, *And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.*

Just imagine after the Resurrection that an angel comes up to Jesus and says, "Jesus, this is wonderful! You have paid the price for mankind's sin. What are You going to do to let the whole world know that they can be saved and they won't have to perish and spend an eternity without God? What is Your plan? How are You going to do it?" And Jesus replies by saying, "Well, My few disciples are going to tell people, who in turn will tell other people, who are going to tell other people, who are going to tell other people." Puzzled, the angel then asks, "Well, do You have a backup plan?" And Jesus says, "No." Still confused, the angel asks, "Well, no offense, Lord, but what if they fail?" Jesus replies by saying, "I have confidence in them."

My friend, there is no Plan B. God has no backup plan. You and I are it! We are Plan A! The problem is, too many Christians today do not have God's priority as their priority. I encourage you to actively share the Good News of our risen Savior!

*Yours in
Christ*



*Executive
Director
Teen Challenge
SA Inc.*