



**TEEN CHALLENGE
INTERNATIONAL**
The Proven Cure For The Drug Epidemic

Cincinnati

Spring 2002

Trading A Cookie For A New Life!

Life can be rough when your Mom has to raise several children all by herself. That was my situation while growing up in Bloomington, Indiana.

My first exposure to drugs happened when I was in the 4th grade. While helping my older brother do his paper route, one of his customers offered us marijuana ... and we accepted. I only smoked it that one time ... until 2 years later when I began smoking it on a regular basis. It was easy to get since my friend's parents smoked it and we simply slipped some from their supply when we wanted it. As my need for

“Little did I know that that cookie trade was about to change my life.”

a “joint” increased, I moved into the role of being a dealer so I could more easily support my habit. This eventually resulted in



Tommy Drummond

my being arrested. Since it was my first time in trouble with the law, they released me on 3 years' probation ... but that did not stop my need to get high. Doing marijuana was out of the question since I was being tested regularly by the Probation Department and my usage would have shown up. It didn't take long for me to learn that I could do cocaine instead ... it would clean out of my system in 3 days and I could still test clean when I checked in with my probation officer.

Life continued on fairly smoothly for awhile until a “friend” of mine, who was

also on probation, got arrested on a drug charge. In an effort to lighten his sentence, he agreed to cooperate with the law which involved his providing them information they were looking for. The end result was that he involved me in a “set up” and I ended up back in jail on a probation violation. Sitting in that jail cell, I prayed and asked God what I was to do. I began attending a Bible study with 4 other inmates and found comfort and encouragement in that. Meanwhile, my brother had contacted Arkansas Teen Challenge in an effort to try and get me help. I mentioned that one day in our Bible study and one of the guys said, “Hey, I just got an application for Cincinnati Teen Challenge!” I immediately asked him how much he wanted for the application. He thought a minute and responded, “I'll trade it for your cookie!” ... and a quick trade was made.

Little did I know that that cookie trade was about to change my life. I

completed the application and sent it to Teen Challenge. Fifteen days later friends bailed me out of jail and I called Diaz McKenzie at the Cincinnati center. He arranged for me to come for a tour of the Ranch and an interview. That happened on a Wednesday. By the next Monday, November 1, 1999, things had been cleared with the court and I was enrolled in the Teen Challenge Cincinnati program! Talk about miracles!

I had a court date scheduled for November 25 and Teen Challenge staff member Ray McMillian drove me all the way back to Indiana to help me. The judge's decision was that I had to complete the program and I would then be on probation until 2005. No prison time! PTL! Diaz told me later that the judge called him the very next day and said he didn't know what had come over him. He *never* should have agreed to allow me to come to Teen Challenge and that if I ever tried to leave he would send me to prison in a heartbeat!

How does someone get into Teen Challenge?

Daily we receive calls from individuals themselves, family members, friends, pastors and the court system. If you (or someone you know) need help, just call our office and ask for Anthony Skipworth our Admissions Coordinator.

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Introducing Our New Executive Director ... George Martin

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

George Martin

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Praise God and all his tender mercies toward us! It is with a sense of excitement and a spirit of humility that I can write to you as the Executive Director of Teen Challenge Cincinnati! For those of you who do not know me personally, I am a resident of Clermont County, having moved to the area nearly 19 years ago, with my then new bride Marty. We are truly blessed with 4 children who are in home school. From eldest to the youngest and wiry "peanut," as we call him, are – Olivia, Matt, Gloria and John Henry.

As a Christian businessman, my previous 25+ years have been spent successfully employed in the "for profit"



community. Notwithstanding, I have chosen and applied Godly characteristics, traits, motives and principles to the utmost gain for Christ in my

of discipleship ... holding out the Word of God, washing away the wounds of this world and renewing the minds of the fallen. The



business career. I know that these same attributes – conveyed to Teen Challenge - combined with sound fundamental business practices, will prosper equally as well.

battle is for the hearts and minds of men. The war is over the very soul of man himself. We, at Teen Challenge, have accepted that call and are up to the challenge.

My heartfelt belief for this ministry is that the Teen Challenge Ranch would embody the character and nature of a mission ... a mission in the midst of the battle ... where healing and restoration take place ... ministered by those "called out" for the express purpose

Following His lead,

George Martin
Executive Director

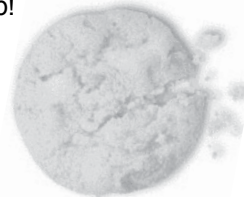
Tommy Drummond ... Continued

Well, I didn't leave. Two weeks after arriving I gave my heart to Jesus and He began to change me in ways that still amaze me today. I stuck things out and on July 7, 2000 I received my graduation certificate. I then chose to stay on an additional 6 months to complete the Re-Entry program Teen Challenge offers. God is teaching me to be an honorable and responsible man. I went back to Indiana and repaid my friends who bailed me out

of jail. I've been able to pay off the \$3,000 bill I incurred while being in the Teen Challenge program and since November 2001 I've been working part-time with them. What a blessing that God would use me to work with other guys who are going through issues and situations that I had experienced.

I thank God for a wonderful Christian mother who never gave up praying for me. Her prayers have finally been answered. For 2-1/2

years I've been clean, sober and saved!! Jesus' love is greater than any drug I have ever experienced. Teen Challenge has been such a blessing to me and I love working there. But most of all I thank Jesus Christ for saving me and dying on the cross. His blessings never stop!



Why are you called "Teen" Challenge when you work with adults?



In 1958 when David Wilkerson started the first Teen Challenge in Brooklyn, New York... the focus was on teenagers ... thus, the name "Teen Challenge". In the years since then, our ministry has grown to include approximately 160 centers nationwide, along with many locations around the world. Our particular center here in Milford is the adult male phase of the ministry. We also have centers for girls and women.



Who Are We?

Located on 165 acres of beautiful countryside in Milford, Teen Challenge Cincinnati is a Christian ministry, offering a 9-12 month residential treatment program to men ages 18-35 who are dealing with the problems of drug and alcohol addictions.

Mission Statement

Evangelize people who have life controlling problems and initiate the discipleship process to the point where the student can function as a Christian in society applying spiritually motivated biblical principles to relationships in the family, local church, chosen vocation and the community. Teen Challenge endeavors to help people become mentally sound, emotionally balanced, socially adjusted, physically well and spiritually alive.

DRAMA IN ACTION

By Anthony Skipworth, Drama Coordinator

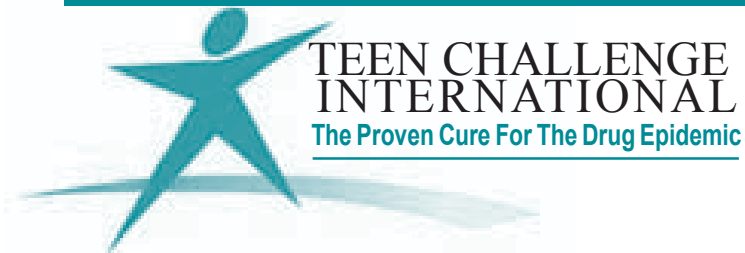


Exciting things are happening here at the Ranch! For years the Teen Challenge students have been touching the lives of people through their songs and testimonies ... and now through our new drama ministry!

This is, and has become, a success not just because of talent or human creativity. It is successful because of the students' desire to depend on the Holy Spirit. We have prayed together often, realizing that we need Him to

bless the works of our hands. Words cannot describe the response at our April Family Night dinner as our guests reacted with amazement to our first Human Video presentation. A "Human Video" is a spiritual song which is dramatized ... with no props ... so what you see is human emotion expressed vibrantly as the students live out the music. It has been a challenge to do this, but challenge is what we are all about! The students, for the most part, create the movements as they are led by the Holy Spirit. I have seen their hunger to minister to people while making sure they honor God with what they do. They are amazed at how God is using their unique personalities to bring everything together to bring glory to Him. We have had times of conflict and wanting to quit ... but as we press into Him, He has proven Himself faithful. What an awesome experience to see God at work in the lives of our men in this new ministry!





Cincinnati

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Needs List...Can You Help?

Kitchen: Fruits, vegetables, meat, dairy products, eggs, condiments, napkins

Miscellaneous: Yard and garden tools, heavy duty roto tiller, circular saw, 4wd pick-up truck

Volunteer needs:

- Cook's assistant, Mon-Fri to work part time in our kitchen
- Drivers on call - to transport student(s) to outside appointments, church, etc. (volunteer as little or as much as you want - on your time schedule!)
- Dorm staff assistants - evenings and weekend hours.

Financial needs:

- Continued funding to meet monthly operating expenses, i.e., salaries, utilities, maintenance, transportation & fuel costs.
- Financial support to allow for counselors to incur overtime & accompany students to court sessions or probation meetings. (approx \$750 per month)
- Funding to expand lower parking while at the same time correct water drainage problem behind multipurpose building (approx \$10,000)
- Funding to correct HVAC system in Administration building (approx \$2200)