

Teen Challenge Update

February 2006

Vehicle Donation Program a BIG Success!

Warren Hunsberger and Brian Schroeder took a trip to the Milwaukee Teen Challenge after hearing of their successful vehicle donation program. They implemented the program upon return, and it has been a huge success! It's simple really. You donate your unwanted vehicle, and we pick it up and provide a receipt for your tax donation. Close to 100 vehicles have been donated so far and the calls continue to come in thanks to the advertisements of WHO radio and Van Harden of the Van & Bonnie Show. Most of the vehicles

that have been donated are taken to a salvage yard in Des Moines and several vehicles have been taken to auction. Cars and pick-up trucks are the majority, but we have received boats, RV's, and pop-up campers as well.

The program has potential to be a great source of revenue as Teen Challenge of the Midlands continues to expand its ministry in Iowa and Nebraska. For more details, call us at 1-888-344-HOPE or e-mail us at vehicles@tcmid.org.

CONTACT INFORMATION

You can reach our Intake Coordinator by email at: info@tcmid.org

Visit our website at: www.tcmid.org

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Leaving a Legacy...

Last time we talked about free wills and trusts. This month, we want to focus on something that may be a tremendous benefit to some of our older donors and that is the Charitable Gift Annuity. One common concern among the elderly is the fear of outliving their money. With Americans living longer, due to advances in healthcare, some will live longer than we originally thought. Another concern is that some are worried about protecting their present assets from any potential creditors or agencies. Many elderly people have a desire to stabilize their investments and get out of the day to day business of wondering how their investments are doing on Wall Street. Another major longing, of course, with our Teen Challenge donors, is a desire to bless ministry, whether it be with Teen Challenge or the local church down the street.

One option that addresses these concerns is the Charitable Gift Annuity. The payments are fixed and guaranteed for the length of your life and your spouse's life. The rates are tremendous and can be disbursed monthly, quarterly, or annually. Unlike investment income, you will not have to pay taxes on all this income since a portion of each income payment from us will be tax-free. This makes

the net effective rate of return even higher when you compare them with normal taxable investments. You also get a charitable deduction and may even be able to reduce your capital gains taxes.

You can go online to view the payout percentages based on your age and the age of your spouse at www.tcgift.org. Or, as always, you are welcome to call our Director of Planned Giving, Alan Briscoe, at (417) 693-1445 for any help in this area. As an example, to the right are some payout percentages. As you can see, the older you are the more you earn.

Age	Payout
60	5.7%
65	6.0%
70	6.5%
75	7.1%
80	8.0%
85	9.5%
90+	11.3%

The greatest benefit of all is that ministry will be blessed. AG Financial will distribute to the ministries of your choice, at least half of the original gift annuity amount, no matter how long you live. That is good stewardship!

Set Free: A Testimony of God's Saving Grace

I was born in a small town in southeast Missouri in 1940. When I was 6 months old, my family moved to St. Louis where I spent the next 19 years of my life. I gave my heart to Jesus at 17, just a few weeks from my 18th birthday. At the age of 8 my brother and I had attended a Lutheran church just a few blocks away from our home. I came home from church one Sunday and told my mother I knew what I wanted to be when I grew up. I wanted to be a preacher. Little did I know that God would hold me to that decision.

During my teen years, I became rebellious and did not want to go to church any longer. I kept my rebellion inside because of respect for my parents. There were times when my father would come into my bedroom to pray with my brother and me and under my breath, I was saying "Old man, I don't want that stuff."

The night I gave my heart to the Lord, it was as if God had spoken to me in an audible voice and said, "If you don't give your heart to me tonight, you are going to die and go to hell." That experience really got a hold of my life. The next year just before my 19th birthday, God called me into the ministry. I had an experience where I saw the words, "I have called you to preach the gospel," written in the sky as if a plane would have with smoke written those words to me. It was a vision like experience that I have never forgotten.

I went to Central Bible College in Springfield, Missouri, in the fall of 1959 and completed four and a half years of Bible training. During those years, I was involved in small church ministry in the country area around Springfield. It was during my sophomore year that I began to see God working in my life in regards to my future mate. My college roommate that year later became my brother-in-law. He asked me to be the best man

at his wedding in the summer of 1961. His sister was one of the bridesmaids and due to circumstances unknown to us, God was orchestrating my future with Judy. We were married a year later in the summer of 1962. God began to show us his plans for our lives in the ministry. We started as associates and youth pastor in 1963. In the summer of 1964, we took our first church in Northeast Iowa. Over a 40-year period, we pastored a total of 8 churches. We have seen the hand of God on our lives and on the ministry He has given us. He has been so faithful and so very good to us.



In the winter of 2003, I came down with Acute Rheumatoid Arthritis. I went through a time of depression that left me wondering if my years of

ministry were over. In August of 2003, I felt the need to resign my church and retire from pastoral ministry. The week I was to resign, I received a call from Warren Hunsberger, Executive Director of Teen Challenge of the Midlands. He invited Judy and me to come to the Colfax center and he shared with us the possibility of coming on staff. After two weeks of prayer and seeking God for direction, Judy and I felt God was calling us to ministry at Teen Challenge. We joined the TC staff in November of 2003. My first assignment was Education Coordinator. In August of 2004, we moved to Omaha, Nebraska, where I became the Interim Director of the Re-entry Center. At that time, Judy became the Wives' Ministry Coordinator ministering to the wives of the married students.

Judy and I are both very happy to be a part of the Teen Challenge team. It has been a tremendous joy and great opportunity for us to continue to have a viable ministry in the senior years of our lives. We are grateful for the privilege to be part of such a powerful life-changing ministry.