



# Teen Challenge of Nevada

Changing a Generation One Life at a Time

## ADOLESCENT PROGRAM

### Program Information Packet

Dear Prospective Students and Parents,

We understand that you wish to apply for admission to Teen Challenge of Nevada. All prospective students and parents/guardians must read the information in this packet carefully and then fill out the enclosed forms. Also, please indicate, in a cover letter, who actually filled out the information.

### Your packet includes the following:

#### General Program Information

- Important Points
- Criteria For Placement
- Teen Challenge Goals
- General Rules
- Statement of Faith
- General Information F.A.Q.'s

#### Application Forms

- Student Entry Application\*
- Parent's Report\*
- Medical Form (must have blood tests)\*
- Financial Form\*
- Letter to Sponsors\*
- Sponsorship Form Information\*
- Legal Release Forms (10 Forms Notarized)\*
- Civil Rights Waiver\*

#### Additional Required Information

- Psychological/Counseling Reports (if applicable)\*
- Probation Reports (if applicable)\*
- Custody Documents (if applicable)\*
- Health Insurance Providers\*
- Health Insurance Card\*
- Official Transcripts (last school attended)\*
- Immunization Records\*

#### Summary of Financial Items

- Application Fee (\$75.00)\*
- Damage Deposit (\$300.00)\*\*
- Education Fee (\$500.00)
- First and Last month's Tuition (\$5,900)
- \$100.00 (Cash)\*\*\*
- Return Fare (\$200.00)\*\*
- Runaway Fee (\$15 - \$30/hour)\*\*\*\*\*

\* All items due with application before entry date can be given. All other fees & deposits are due on the day of enrollment (\$6,000 in Cashier's Check or Money Order).

\*\* Withheld for damage or other unexpected expenses and refundable if not used.

\*\*\* For personal items & students activities.

\*\*\*\* All medical, dental, vision, etc are the responsibility of the parent.

\*\*\*\*\* If a student decides to runaway from the program, there will be a \$15/hour/staff member fee to search for the student. If student leaves after hours, (5pm-8am) the fee will be \$30/hour/staff member.

### VERY IMPORTANT!

If all items are not returned or if they are not completely and properly filled out, your application can not be processed. The information is to be filled out (handwritten or printed, not typed), by the individual wishing to place a minor (child) into the program, and/or the parent. Mail to: Administrative Office, P.O. Box 1136, Sparks, NV 89432. We will notify you by phone call as to whether or not you are accepted into the program. You will NOT be contacted unless we receive the Processing Fee with the application. Nevada residents have preference for admission.

# Important Points

- ◇ Teen Challenge is a Christian Growth Program for males only ages 12-17 who have life-controlling problems.
  
- ◇ We are a donation-based program; however, the parent's portion of a student's support is considered tuition. Our cost to sustain the program is \$2,950/month. This amount covers room & board, counseling (individual & group, continuing education for Jr. High & Sr. High (accredited school on campus), & direct supervision (24-hrs/day, 7 days/week). Additional costs may apply: recreational activities for those who qualify, missions trips, etc. Deposits for damage or return fares are due at intake. (\$300 refundable deposit for damage to facilities/property, possible \$200 refundable deposit for return home fare if student is prematurely discharged.)
  
- ◇ We trust God to make changes in the lives of our students. Our staff at Teen Challenge does not profess to work miracles but we certainly believe that God can. We are not always successful and there are occasions when we, after a period of time, will determine that we are not the correct facility for your child. At that point we work with the parents/guardians to make other arrangements for the student.
  
- ◇ If a student chooses to leave the program early for any reason or is removed by Teen Challenge staff for failing to follow the rules, no refund of tuition will be made. If we choose to remove a student from our program for any other reason we will pro-rate the tuition portion based on the number of days the student has actually spent at our facility. Per IRS regulations, any sponsorship money (i.e. not from parents or legal guardians) cannot be refunded. It will be up to the parents to let their sponsors know that their child has left our program.
  
- ◇ We have one (1) one week break each year during Christmas for eligible students. Tuition is based on a 12 month operating budget therefore no refunds will be credited for this week.

If you have any questions, please call the Admissions Office at (775) 424-6777.

Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

# CRITERIA FOR PLACEMENT

A prospective student (parent or legal guardian) must:

- ◇ Have a "life-controlling" problem.
- ◇ Be a male who is at least 12 and not more than 17 years old and have prior consent of parent(s)/legal guardians.
- ◇ Have a behavioral dysfunction related to substance abuse and/or maladaptive family lifestyles.
- ◇ Have sought counseling via minister, priest, psychologist, psychiatrist or school counselor prior to acceptance.
- ◇ Agree to change his behavior. This also includes the parent(s)/legal guardian's desire to have a changed lifestyle (this may include required reading material, parent conferences or meetings).
- ◇ Have a level of emotional stability necessary to participate successfully in a group living situation.
- ◇ Submit all pertinent information requested by Teen Challenge relating to the individual's entrance prior to acceptance.
- ◇ Need and agree to a structured, Christ-centered program to achieve a victorious lifestyle
- ◇ Be free of medical conditions requiring ongoing medical attention and or medications.

Even though you may feel you are suitable for our school, we retain the nondiscriminatory right to accept or decline the entrance of anyone to Teen Challenge of Nevada.

## TEEN CHALLENGE GOALS

God can change your life. One main goal of Teen Challenge is to show you how to depend upon God to compensate for problems that may be too hard for you to overcome on your own. No one can force you to change but your parents and other concerned people want to provide you a place to increase the chances and opportunities to make necessary changes.

Another main goal of Teen Challenge is to teach responsibility. You, the prospective student, need to be aware of the fact that your life-controlling problems are due mainly to the lack of your being responsible under God for your own actions. Therefore, if you are to overcome this lack, you must now begin to take steps of responsibility in securing help to overcome your problems. Teen Challenge will assist, guide, direct and help you in every way possible, but we will not take your responsibility from you. To do so would hinder individual responsibility.

You, as the student, must realize that Teen Challenge is not a free program. You are here because certain people care about you and are willing to pay a price for you. It is up to you to put forth the effort necessary to receive help and become the person you were designed to be. If you choose to put forth this effort, you will in turn reap the benefits of becoming a responsible individual. You will also need to express a grateful attitude toward those who have helped you in your time of need and need to have a grateful attitude toward those who have helped you in your time of need and be willing to assist others in their time of need.

# GENERAL RULES

There are rules everywhere. Schools, homes and nearly every public place has rules. Everyone has rules to follow. Even your parents have many rules that they must follow. There are rules at Teen Challenge. Most of the rules that are established at Teen Challenge are to help you change change your life, not just to govern civil order. Therefore, you may find some of the following rules a little different from most you have seen in other places.

1. Drugs, smoking, chewing tobacco and alcoholic beverages are not allowed.
2. Profane language or bragging about past lifestyles is not permitted.
3. Secular music, gambling, books/magazines that are not conducive to Christian growth will not be permitted.
4. CD players, cell phones, radios, TVs, video games, iPods, and iPads are not allowed.
5. Witchcraft, astrology or anything occult-related is not allowed.
6. All students will participate in scheduled activities.
7. There will be no back talking, arguing or disrespect to staff members.
8. Proper care of Teen Challenge property is expected at all times.
9. All manner of unacceptable dress and hairstyles are subject to change at the staff's discretion. Uniforms will be worn at all times except for special activities. Traditional dress clothes are required for church attendance.
10. Students are not allowed to carry money. Students may have an Activity Account of \$100.00 which will be managed by staff members and used with their approval.
11. All incoming & outgoing mail will be opened and checked by Staff. All incoming & outgoing phone calls will be monitored. Electronic communication such as cell phones, email, IM accounts, social networking sites, blogs, chat groups, and the like ARE PROHIBITED.
12. Visitors must be immediate family or approved individuals. All visitation plans must be approved by the Director 30 days prior to the visit.
13. Suitcases will be checked coming in and going out. The student will be allowed to bring only two suitcases or one trunk.
14. Students cannot have personal cars, bicycles, motorbikes or pets.
15. All personal belongings left at the center by a student automatically become the property of Teen Challenge. If you should accidentally leave something at Teen Challenge and you contact us within 24 hrs of your departure, we will send the items to you C.O.D. Teen Challenge is not responsible for items that are lost or stolen.
16. School supplies should be brought with the student and should include paper, pens, pencils, scissors, glue, protractor, ruler and two spiral notebooks.
17. If a student decides not to finish the school program or if the student is asked to leave, he must return to the same place of residence that he came from upon entering the program. A money order for the amount of return fare must be on file before entrance to the program will be allowed.

# STATEMENT OF FAITH

## We Believe...

- ◇ The Bible is the inspired and only infallible and authoritative word of God. (II Tim, 3:16, II Peter 1:21)
- ◇ There is one God, eternally existent in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost (Matt. 28:19; John 15:26; I John 5:7)
- ◇ In the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, in His personal future return to this earth. (Matt 1:18-23; 16:16; 28:6-7; Heb 4:4; Luke 1:26-27; 8:22-25; John 2:11, 14:13; Is. 53:7; I John 2:1-2; I Cor. 15:3; Eph. 4:8-10; Rom. 8:34; Acts 1:11; Rev 1:7)
- ◇ In the blessed hope - the rapture of the church at Christ's coming (II Thess. 4:16-17). The only means of being cleansed from sin is through repentance and faith in the precious blood of Christ. (Rom. 10:9,10; Acts 3:10) The redemptive work of Christ on the cross provides healing of the human body in answer to believing prayer.
- ◇ The sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live an overcoming life.
- ◇ In the resurrection of both the saved and the lost: the one to everlasting life and the other to everlasting damnation. (II Cor. 5:10; John 5:28-29; Rev. 21:28)
- ◇ The baptism of the Holy Spirit, according to Acts 2:4, is given to believers who desire it. (Acts 2:4; 2:38-39)
- ◇ In water baptism by immersion

# GENERAL INFORMATION F.A.Q.'S

## What is Teen Challenge of Nevada?

Teen Challenge is designated to help young men find a meaningful answer to their problems, habits, and conflicts that control them, while continuing their education.

## Who does Teen Challenge Help?

Any male from 12 through 17 years of age, who has a sincere desire to seek answers to their spiritual, emotional and physical problems.

## What does Teen Challenge Offer?

Teen Challenge is concerned with the "total person." Our program is structured to be aware of each person's spiritual, emotional, physical, social and educational needs.

Spiritual: Teen Challenge deals with the student's problems as symptoms that relate to deeper problems and conflicts. Zeroing in on a person's spiritual need is when and where real healing in life begins. Instead of escaping their problems, they find, through the life of Christ, the changing power that gives the ability to cope with problems and live a more efficient life.

Emotional: The rebuilding of the used and abused mind is of key importance. The study of the Bible enhances mental growth by serving as the foundation for the restructuring of broken-down thought patterns while creating new and more stable ways of life. Individual and group counseling with experienced counselors and concerned staff members help individuals work out questions and conflicts, which they are facing.

Physical: Teen Challenge cares for such needs on a long-term basis. Assistance is given for shelter, food, clothing and recreation.

Social: Through the benefits of a group living situation, students are helped to work out relationship problems and to successfully relate to family and peers once they complete the program. Such interaction promotes a strong character of moral fiber, right attitudes and desires.

Educational: Teen Challenge provides an academic program for those who have not completed their education. The high school educational program (ICDA Charter School) is accredited and offers a high school diploma. The middle school utilizes an approved distance education program, 'Switched on School House' by Alpha Omega Publications. Our school is operated as an exempt school under the provision of NRS 394.211 and as such is exempt from the provisions of the private Elementary and Secondary Educational Authorization Act.

## How Does The Program Work?

Teen Challenge operates a four-phase co-educational Christian growth program. Parents considering the program must commit themselves to approximately 15 to 18 months. We have found that our current three-phase program, and the appropriated months have been the most effective in meeting each student's needs.

### Program Phases

Induction: The first ninety days at our live-in facility located in Sparks, Nevada. This phase involves screening and testing for academic placement, beginning school work, initial counseling, Bible studies, chapel services, daily chores, and recreation.

Training (Christian Growth): This phase provides a structured atmosphere where counseling and understanding of individual problems are combined with firm discipline. It includes Bible studies, chapel services, an on-campus accredited Jr. & Sr. High School, daily chores, church rallies and recreation. All of this is preparation for becoming a productive individual in society. This phase usually lasts twelve to fifteen months and ends in graduation.

Emerging Leader Program: 6 months commitment in residence. Students are placed in a position of responsibility termed "Student Intern". In this phase, the student applies the experiences of the previous phases and is prepared for re-entering society, home life and leadership.

## How Much Does It Cost?

Teen Challenge is an international, non-profit, interdenominational, faith-based program ministering to people with life-controlling problems. Teen Challenge of Nevada Inc. is a nationally standardized program which is financially an entity of its own and governed by a local board of directors. It is not underwritten by any organization.

In order to maintain a student in the program, we depend on donors to cover the costs. It takes approximately \$98.00 per day to keep each student here.

If parents are unable to provide the entire share of the tuition at Teen Challenge, they may want to solicit help from family, friends and their local church. School loans are also an option and offered through Clark Behavioral Health Financing ([www.clarkbhf.com](http://www.clarkbhf.com)). Teen Challenge receives funds from concerned individuals, churches and other organizations, however these funds are applied to the general operating budget, and not to student tuition. It is assumed, that parents are assisting Teen Challenge to the fullest possible amount. Every case will be considered on an individual basis.

The **Donor Letter** is provided for you to use in creating sponsorships for your son. Friends, family and churches are invited to partner with you in getting your son the

assistance he needs at this time in his life. All donations are tax deductible with the exception of monies paid by parents or guardians. These donations will be applied to your son's account, and can not be used for personal spending. Parents/guardians are responsible to contact each donor to confirm their commitments. Parents/guardians are also responsible for the total cost of tuition, even when donors do not follow through.

It is mandatory that a parent or guardian accompany the student upon their arrival to the program. If you have any further questions, please feel free to write, or call.

Teen Challenge does not discriminate against any qualified person on the basis of age, sex, handicap, race, color, and national or ethnic origin.