

# THE CHALLENGE REPORT

An update on your ministry through Adult & Teen Challenge New England and New Jersey

JUNE 2022

## Back to Camp Champion!

What do kayaks and fishing poles ... a daring high ropes course ... and a challenging climbing wall have in common? These are just a few of the activities available for our residents at a recent 3-day retreat to Camp Champion in New York.

And it was loads of fun!

Nearly 300 residents and staff converged on the camp for relaxation, fun, food, and fellowship. In addition to all the camp had to offer, we held single and doubles pool and ping pong tournaments, plus basketball, flag football, and chess tournaments, too.

More importantly, the residents had ample opportunity to learn more about the goodness of God and grow in faith. They gathered throughout the day for chapel services, worship, and discipleship. The retreat's theme was *Endurance*, based on Matthew 24:13 — "But the one who stands firm to the end will be saved."

It was an amazing time of transformation and fellowship. Time away from the normal routine allows residents to "get alone" with God, even as they gather to worship with others. And it was so wonderful to be together after years of more isolated ministry due to Covid. Thank you for supporting the work of Adult & Teen Challenge and making events like this one possible!



**Nearly 300 residents were treated to fun, fellowship, and spiritual growth at a 3-day retreat held at Camp Champion. Thanks for making it happen!**

# From Hopeless ... to HOPE in Christ!



A shattered knee in college meant the end of Blaine's dreams of a future in sports.

It also was the beginning of an addiction to pain medications that took Blaine down a very dark path of addiction, sin, and destructive choices.

Those choices led him to a prison cell.

He had violated his probation seven times and was mandated to serve a 2½ year suspended sentence. Blaine says, "I was so

tired and hopeless, I asked the judge to give me the prison time so that my family could have some peace. The Lord intervened right in that courthouse by sending Pastor Chris Mello from Adult & Teen Challenge into lock up that day. He told me about Jesus. He spoke hope into my life ..."

Blaine entered our program. And by God's grace and mercy, he was rescued from the pain and destruction of his broken past to a joyful new life in Christ!

"When I fall short, the Lord pulls me up and places me on solid ground. God has blessed me with a beautiful daughter, Harleigh Rose ..." Blaine shares, "Words can't describe the gratitude that I have for God's love and compassion and all of the wonderful things that He has done in my life."

***Thank you for helping us rescue Blaine before it was too late. Your gift today will help us visit prison lockups and courtrooms and provide hope and healing to the next Blaine!***

## Here's What's Happening Around New England & New Jersey ...

### Rhode Island



Praising the Lord! Five of our residents recently decided to give their lives and will to Jesus Christ — and made a public declaration of that by water baptism. We are so proud of them.

### Connecticut



God changed their lives through Adult & Teen Challenge. Then, while both employed by the ministry, Wayne and Yvette met, fell in love, and married. In 2021, Wayne became the Associate Director of Adult & Teen Challenge Connecticut and Yvette serves on staff.

While under their faithful service, this center has grown and recently moved to a new, beautiful 62-acre property in rural Moodus, CT — opening the door for greater outreach and more drug-addicted men being reached and transformed for Christ.

Wayne says, "It is such a blessing to be able to give back to the ministry that God used to change our lives.... We dedicate our lives to this service and are blessed to partner with so many others who have made this same commitment."

## Greater Boston



We are renovating! In keeping with our "Resident First" motto, two of our bathrooms are being remodeled to increase the number of showers available.

## New Jersey



Research shows that art therapy helps individuals express their emotions, improve self-esteem, relieve stress, decrease symptoms of anxiety and depression, and cope with recovery. It also fosters spiritual development through the creative process. We are grateful to have Heather Henry so graciously volunteer her time to facilitate art therapy with our residents.

## Massachusetts



We held our 6th annual *Run to End Addiction*. It was an incredible time at our new course at Myles Standish State Forest.

Our residents continue to master life skills, such as carpentry, automotive, and culinary through our vocational training programs. What a blessing to teach men valuable trades as they work to overcome addiction and become men of God!

We are now providing our residents weekly one-on-one recovery coaching with certified recovery coaches.

## Maine



Strike! Spare! The perfect 300! Our residents had lots of fun recently at the bowling alley, a Christmas gift to the men from Assistant Director, Andrew Colouro.

We are making beautiful, solid maple or oak French rolling pins, the newest addition to our many hand-crafted items, made by residents of Adult & Teen Challenge. Visit [tcnewengland.org](http://tcnewengland.org) to order one today!

If you are local to us, we sell a large array of hand-crafted cutting boards at the mall, as well as hoodies with the new ATCM logo on the back and "Help End Addiction" on the front. Support our program of recovery and freedom by picking up yours today!

## New Hampshire



We had a great turnout at our 16th annual motorcycle Ride for Freedom. Thank you to all who came out! It was a great day of riding, fellowship, and food.

## Vermont



Thankful for sunshine! Our campus is getting all new windows, doors, and siding, so we are especially grateful for the great weather to tackle these projects. A huge thank you to all our friends who made this possible!!

Our annual Spring Gala on May 20th was a wonderful evening of fellowship, worship, and testimony! Thank you to all who attended.

## Bloom



We hosted a sold-out banquet on May 20, 2022 — an incredible night of celebrating lives restored! Bloom offers a beacon of hope and help for teen girls and their families in their times of need. We received almost 500 calls last year. Please pray with us for a larger home, more property, and a greater opportunity to see God move in the lives of teen girls in New England and New Jersey!

### A Bloom Testimony: Jennifer

“Before Bloom, I struggled with lying, rebellion, and self-harming. During my time in the program, I learned a lot about God and His will for my life. I surrendered my life to Jesus ... the best decision I’ve ever made! Now, I know my purpose and my identity in Christ. My life has changed in wonderful ways!”

## Make drawing the addicted from darkness to light your legacy!



Your prayers and giving are sharing hope, shining the forgiveness and freedom of Christ, and transforming broken, addicted lives through Adult & Teen Challenge!

And now, you can make this life-transforming work a part of your legacy — drawing the addicted from darkness to light for generations to come, far beyond your lifetime.

By **establishing a Christian will or estate plan**, you will ...

- » Leave a lasting testimony to others.
- » Often provide federal or state tax savings for your family.
- » Determine where your funds go and the legacy you’ll leave, taking control of your estate from the government, and avoiding costly probate and fees.
- » Continue your life-changing impact, empowering the proven ministry of Adult & Teen Challenge — long after God has called you home to heaven.

Choose to leave a specific amount to Adult & Teen Challenge — or a percentage. Either way, your legacy of sharing the hope of Jesus will never end — providing a lasting source of great joy for you ... and transforming lives!

## Two more incredible ways to support the work of Adult & Teen Challenge ...



The Carpenter’s Shops across New England and New Jersey continue to produce beautiful handmade cutting boards and other wood products. All products are made by residents and graduates of the program. Visit our shop and purchase your hand-crafted products today!



Check out our upcoming golf tournaments, fall banquets, and other events. Funds raised go back into maintenance, upkeep, and ministry of our homes and treatment centers