

**“I am a Changed Life!”**  
*Brandon’s story*

Brandon’s story is not so unusual. He had a great childhood. Grew up with two brothers and two sisters he adored. Attended church weekly. His father was an incredible role model and a hard worker. At a young age, Brandon accepted Christ into his heart.

High school changed everything though. Brandon excelled in football and lacrosse, and found himself a 15-year-old freshman trying to fit in with 18-year-old seniors. It was a recipe for disaster. Like so many of the ones who come through our doors at Adult & Teen Challenge, he fell into a life of partying, drinking alcohol, and smoking marijuana.

A dislocated wrist in college led to an addiction to pain meds. After college, heroin became the drug of choice. Life was dark for Brandon.

5 different rehabs. 15 different detoxes. 6 overdoses in a 3-month period. A DUI. Brandon’s downward spiral continued.

He remembers, “I had no purpose or hope for my life. I believed that everyone would be better off if I was dead.”

On October 10, 2021, Brandon hit rock bottom. He woke up in Philadelphia on a cardboard box after totaling his truck. Helpless, broken, and defeated, he decided to try something radically different. He entered Adult & Teen Challenge.

Brandon says, “I came into the program with so much damage to my body, my mind, and my spirit. God has restored all these things in a truly miraculous way. He has removed the desire to use drugs. My family and fiancée have witnessed a great change in me. God has given me confidence again to move forward and to know that I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength. *I am a Changed Life!*”



***Helpless, broken, and defeated, Brandon decided to try something radically different, Adult & Teen Challenge. Now, “I am a changed life,” he says. Your gift today will help us reach more like him!***

**We made it!**

We met our \$100,000 *Summer of Freedom* Matching Challenge goal. Thank you for helping us get there ... and for giving generously to help break the chains of addiction and bring hope and healing to men, women, and teens!

**THE CHALLENGE REPORT**

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

September 2022

**A Brand-New Home for Help and Healing**  
*Glory to God ... and Thank You*

It’s a 9,000 sq. ft. testimony to God’s faithfulness ... and your compassion! A beacon of hope and light ... hidden away from the city on 5.5 acres of land ... and ready to help women from Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and Connecticut break free from the bondage of addiction!

After 28 years in the city, this new location will provide our residents a much needed, serene escape for life transformation, practical, educational, and spiritual help.



**God continues to amaze us! This new home will bring hope and help to many women in the days to come.**



**Residents and staff recently held a ribbon cutting to celebrate the grand opening of our brand-new, beautiful home.**

**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 brand-new App! It connects you to more stories of your impact, as well as upcoming events and happenings across our homes and treatment centers.



< Check out our upcoming fall banquets and other events.

# No More Lies!



Tessa couldn't help it. She believed the lies. The lies of her friends, telling her the drugs would mask her pain.

The lies of the enemy, whispering that she'd never be free of her past, and

her life wasn't worth living anyway.

She let those lies sink in so deep, she didn't know how to let them go!

Tessa says, "They were like ropes tied around my neck. Instead of trying to pull them

off, I just let them be there. And they just kept getting tighter ..."

But, in one of her family sessions at Bloom, she learned the truth about those lies. And she felt the ropes loosen their grip. And when she finally surrendered her life to Christ? Total freedom! *The weight of all the lies ... lifted!*

Tessa says, "I am walking in freedom now. My favorite person in the Bible, besides Jesus, is Mary Magdalene. She is living proof that no matter what you go through, God can still deliver you from your past ..."

"Just like Mary, God delivered me from darkness to light."

Thank you for speaking truth into Tessa's life and helping her find the hope and love of Christ!

***Tessa was burdened under the weight of addiction and many lies ... until Jesus set her FREE!***

***You make stories like hers happen every day!***

## Here's What's Happening

### Around New England & New Jersey ...

#### Bloom



Our students have many opportunities to collaborate with one another and learn to work as a team to create something beautiful, through skits, songs, poetry, and more! We base our activities on the Fruits of the Spirit. Each week, the girls are continually learning the importance of teamwork.

#### Connecticut



As construction continues in Connecticut, we are so *blessed* and *grateful* for what God is doing. He is providing for us in a mighty way — paving a road in the wilderness for our futures in Christ!

Thank you to all our donors and volunteers who have made this possible. Your prayers and generosity have had such an impact on us. As God is restoring lives, we are restoring this beautiful campus. It has also been a great opportunity for the men to learn new trades, and to use the gifts that God has given them.

#### Greater Boston



Renovations are completed on one bathroom, and we are diligently working on a second bathroom. These updates enable our residents to get ready for the day much more efficiently with six new shower stalls and sinks and locker spaces. Great growth!

#### New Jersey



We congratulate our recent graduate, Chris, and pray he continues to allow God to transform his life for His glory. We are so proud of him and know God has big plans for his future!

The Director of Adult & Teen Challenge Czech Republic, Petr Kral and his wonderful family, were our special visitors last month. They shared incredible things God is doing there. They have been devoted to this ministry since 1986 with no plans of letting up!

#### Massachusetts



Our *20th Annual Golf Tournament* was in July at the Easton Country Club with 102 golfers! After completing 18 holes, they were treated to brick-oven pizza appetizers and a delicious lunch at our center, prepared by our own Chef Charles Hermann.

We thank our title sponsor Keegan & Werlin, lunch sponsor D'angelo's Real Estate, and all the other sponsors. A special thank you to our host, Easton Country Club, those who donated raffle prizes, and of course, all our golfers! *We are so grateful for your support of this ministry. Your partnership with us is helping change lives, now and forever!*

#### New Hampshire



It's been a great summer in New Hampshire. Our residents have enjoyed being out in the community as our *End Addiction* team. This team raises awareness, share the Good News, and sells our beautiful cutting boards. God rewards their faithful service and hard work as they continue to experience Him on a deeper level — allowing Him to change who they are.

We had a beautiful day attending *Hillfest* — a huge event featuring Christian artists Tauren Wells and Phil Wickham, among others and enjoyed a steak and lobster dinner and ice cream. We thank Chad Gibson and Hillfest Events for inviting us again this year.

#### Vermont



Summertime always brings a day set aside for our staff members to demonstrate how much our residents are *loved* and *appreciated*. Our fun-filled event was held at Caspian Lake, complete with delicious barbecue, cooked and served by staff, games, swimming, and all enjoyed the Cornhole and KanJam tournaments!

Both staff and residents gave all glory to God as we prayed together and loved one another. God has made our lives so full!