



JANUARY 2021

The faith based solution to the addiction epidemic



I have confident hope for my future in Christ.

My name is Jacob. I'm originally from Havelock, NC and I'm 27 years old. I grew up in a loving home with my mother and stepfather. Early on, sports became a big part of my life. Being part of a team is what made me feel most at peace and it brought me joy. Also, football and wrestling were the outlet I used to deal with anger and frustration.

Leading up to my senior year, I had already experimented with alcohol and marijuana. After graduating from high school, I had extra time on my hands and a lack of healthy ways to vent my negative feelings and emotions. I tried to do so with drinking and smoking. Eventually, the problem had grown much worse and it turned into a habit of hardcore drug use. This culminated in a severe dependency on heroin which caused destruction in my life. It took multiple overdoses for me to admit I needed help and it took divine intervention for me to take the first step towards getting help.

I was going through a dark period in my life. My girlfriend and I had separated and my grandfather had just passed away. When my mother saw me at his funeral, she realized I was in bad shape and offered me help. Still it took another month of heavy drug use and repeated hospitalizations for me to finally accept help.

My mother, stepfather and I researched recovery centers and felt this program is what I needed. I filled out the application and soon after was accepted into this 12 month discipleship program. Without hesitation, I took a leap of faith and came to Adult & Teen Challenge of the Smokies Men's Center. I came not just because I knew I needed it, but also because I wanted a better life. God is creating a new heart in me and now I know I didn't just have a drug problem, but a sin problem. I have accepted Jesus as my Lord and Savior, and I was baptized on August 27, 2020. I have peace and joy in my life now and confident hope for my future in Christ.

Galatians 2:20

My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live but Christ who lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the son of God who loved me and gave himself for me.



Congratulations to Jerome on his graduation last month. Jerome said that he wanted to give back and will be staying on as an apprentice at Adult & Teen Challenge of the Smokies for the next 6 months.

Our next graduation will be on Saturday, January 16, 2021, at 10:00am, in the auditorium, 336 Living Hope Way, Franklin.

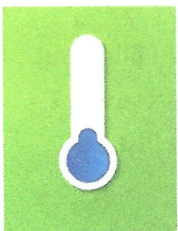


THANK YOU!



We want to thank everyone who provided gifts, food, and finances in order to make this a special Christmas for our men. What are blessing you are!

Our men helped to load the
Operation Christmas Child boxes.



\$86,644.00

Received so far toward our
property loan payoff.

TO MAKE A DONATION:

P.O. BOX 2157, Franklin, NC 28744 /OR GIVE ONLINE at our website: www.livinghopeway.com

FOR MORE INFO, CONTACT US AT: 828-524-2157/betty@mtcots.com /Thrift Store: 828-586-9966

Like us on Facebook "Men's Teen Challenge of the Smokies" and share our page.