



Adult & Teen Challenge

of the Smokies
Men's Center



NOVEMBER 2020

THE FAITH BASED SOLUTION TO THE ADDICTION EPIDEMIC



My name is Sam, I am 30 years old and from Cherokee, NC. At the age of 3, my dad was sent to prison on drug charges, which led my mom through a series of abusive relationships. I had a somewhat normal childhood till the age of 11. I started rebelling, fighting and smoking—doing anything and everything to not deal with reality. I was in a state of confusion for a few years.

At the age of 16, I had a close call with death while drunk and high on pills. I fell off of a 45ft. bridge. I severely injured my back to a point where the doctors said I wouldn't walk again. I was prescribed Oxycotin and was instantly hooked and in love with it. Once my prescriptions ran out, I turned to the streets hustling and manipulating everyone to stay high.

This continued on a downward spiral leading to multiple jail and prison sentences from the age of 18 to 29. Finally, in December 2019, I knew I needed something different in my life. I didn't want to be angry and have hatred, but didn't exactly know what it was I needed.

Godly people always seemed to surround me and got me wondering what they had. I began attending church services and NA programs, where I met someone who works with the Haywood County Sheriff's Department. Through a course of 3 months, he helped me get into Adult & Teen Challenge of the Smokies Men's Center.

Before I found God, I felt like the weight of the world was on my shoulders. After 3 months in the program, I had surrendered to Jesus Christ and on June 17th, I was baptized in the Cullasaja River. The Lord has been showing me that I have a lot to work on—anger, entitlement, trust, and faith to name a few. God is also showing me how to forgive myself and grow in a life that would please Him. I'm so thankful for being sober and for the Hep C treatment I have received. Also, I'm thankful for being in a place filled with brotherly love.

Romans 7:14-15, reminds me about the struggles with sin: "So the trouble is not with the law, for it is spiritual and good. The trouble is with me, for I am all too human, a slave to sin. I don't really understand myself, for I want to do what is right but I don't do it. Instead I do what I hate". This keeps me from becoming discouraged and know transformation through God is at hand.

**HAPPY
THANKSGIVING!**



The graduation for Ashish was held on Saturday, October 17, 2020. Ashish will live in the graduate cabins and will be working locally. Our next graduation will be held on Saturday, Nov. 21, 2020, 10:am in our auditorium at the center. Please wear masks until you are seated and when you leave. Chairs will be spread apart.

The men sang and gave their testimonies recently at Cowee Baptist Church.



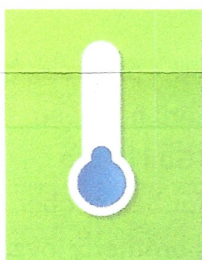
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336 Living Hope Way

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Same Place but a new road name and website name!

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\$86,069.00

Received so far
toward paying off
our property loan.

NEEDS:

Remainder of money needed for grad cabin 6 completion—\$7,000

Remainder of money for Auditorium bathrooms—\$7,400

Gas Grill

Auditorium heater—\$1800 still needed

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

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