



# Adult & Teen Challenge

of the Smokies

Men's Center



OCTOBER 2020

THE FAITH BASED SOLUTION TO THE ADDICTION EPIDEMIC



My name is Dalton. I am 27 years old and I've been struggling with drugs and alcohol for 10 years. I did not grow up in a Christian home and I witnessed my parents go through a divorce. I was a bigger kid growing up and was made fun of a lot, which led me to having a bad self image. I just wanted to feel important and accepted by others. I began drinking in the 9th grade and began smoking pot in 10th grade. In the 11th grade I suffered a baseball injury which introduced me to pain pills. I fell in love with them because they helped give me the confidence I had lacked all my life.

After I graduated from high school, I went to college and my habits went with me. I was smoking, drinking and partying more than ever. I was also using pain pills and other pills daily. Basically, I was using whatever I could get my hands on. I ended up dropping out of college at the end of my junior year. I moved home and continued in a downward spiral with my drug abuse at an all time high and ended up in jail. Shortly after I was released, I met a girl and fell in love but my addiction didn't stop. I married her and ended up leading her down the same dark path I was on. Due to my addiction, and putting it first instead of her, she left me. That was my breaking point. I had never been so broken and lost in my life.

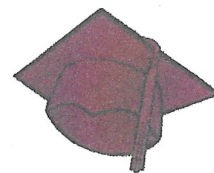
I reached out to my pastor looking for help. The drinking and drugs were causing me more pain instead of taking the pain away. I remember seeing a quote that said "Our greatest fear is the light, not the darkness". That spoke to my heart that just maybe I could actually stop living in the darkness and step into the light and be somebody. I went to church in early January 2020. When the pastor did an altar call, I was the first one to the front. I felt God move in my life that day. As the pastor and others prayed over me, I cried out, "Please God, please God, over and over again.

Two days after that Sunday I was accepted into Teen Challenge. The following day I was in detox and 6 days later I arrived at Adult and Teen Challenge of the Smokies Men's Center. Since being here, God has done amazing things in my life and I am building a personal relationship with Him —something I've never had before. I was baptized on March 9th, 2020. God has given me hope about my marriage and He has begun to restore my relationships with my parents, in-laws, and sister. He has give me hope about my future. I meditate on Jeremiah 29:11, and Philippians 3:13. "But one thing I do: forgetting what is behind and straining towards what is ahead." Thank you God for all you have done!





**CONGRATULATIONS** to Ron on his graduation this past month. Ron is now living in our Graduate Cabins at Adult and Teen Challenge of the Smokies Men's Center and started his new job the Monday after graduation, working for Habitat for Humanity in Franklin, NC.



## NEXT GRADUATION

**Our next graduation will be Saturday, October 17, 2020**



**10:00am in the auditorium at the**

**Adult and Teen Challenge of the Smokies Men's Center.**

***Masks to be worn in and out. You may remove them when seated. We will be practicing social distancing. Bathrooms will be open.***



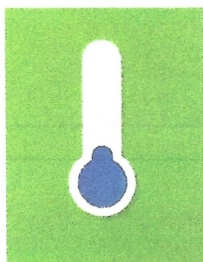
**336 AG Camp Rd. is now:**

**336 Living Hope Way**

**Franklin, NC 28734**

**[www.livinghopeway.com](http://www.livinghopeway.com)**

**Same Place** but a new road name and website name!



**\$86,044.00**

**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*

### **TO MAKE A DONATION:**

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