



OCTOBER 2021

THE FAITH BASED SOLUTION TO THE ADDICTION EPIDEMIC

SOBER WITH PEACE AND JOY



My name is Cody and I am from Simi Valley, California. I would say that my life when I was young, was kind of chaotic and on the move a lot. I was a huge sports fan, but I seemed to have a hard time making friends. I heard a lot of fighting at home. When I was six, I came to Georgia to live with my grandparents, my mom and brother. At this time I started to hear about God and life was good. I was going to church several times each week. I volunteered at church, went to church summer camp, and was involved in other activities there.

When I was twelve, my dad died. I started to develop anger, depression, anxiety, and suicidal thoughts. I was completely out of control and just rebellious. Several months after my dad died, I was sent off to a mental hospital for children and youth. After being there for about three years, I graduated but couldn't go home. So they and my parents found me a place at a group home. This is where my addiction issues started. I was seventeen at the time and it started with a beer. Then it progressed to smoking weed, which I thought I could handle, but I was wrong. I fell so hard into peer pressure and was such a crowd pleaser, wanting to be cool. I started using harder drugs such as meth, prescription drugs, crack, and also had a huge alcohol problem. It had gotten so bad that I almost died from making a bad judgement while in the midst of being on drugs. Not only that, I couldn't even hold a job very long without quitting or going to jail.

Back in June of 2020, I had lost all hope and everything important to me— family, friends, respect of self and others, and a place to live. This is when I genuinely surrendered to Jesus. When I got out of jail, I had someone tell me about a program in Georgia. After a few months, they sent me here so I could get more help and get to know the Lord more.

This program has helped me get back to my Christian roots and also gave me a hope. God is showing me that I am a part of His kingdom. I am grateful for each day that I wake up here at Adult & Teen Challenge of the Smokies Men's Center. I'm also thankful for being able to study His Word and to be sober with a peace and joy. My favorite Bible verse recently is 1 Peter 2:9. "But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye shall shew forth the praises of Him who hath called you out of darkness into His marvelous light".



**NEW BALANCE—
\$117,361**

ORIGINAL BALANCE - \$566,000



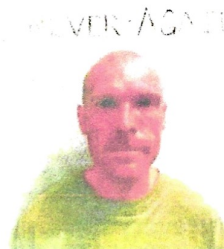
Thank you to all who are coming along side of us to see this accomplished. If you would like to help us with this goal, we would appreciate gifts of any amount. Just make note on your check to designate toward the "Mortgage Payoff".



On August 21, Countryside Chevrolet hosted a golf tournament to benefit Adult & Teen Challenge of the Smokies Men's Center. Pictured above is the tournament organizer, Ava Alvarez, presenting a check. \$4,100.00 was raised at the tournament.



Congratulations Josh!



Before



After

We want to congratulate Josh on his graduation from Adult & Teen Challenge of the Smokies Men's Center this past month. We are so proud of him and thankful for all that the Lord has done in his life.

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/Thrift Store: 828-586-9966

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