

BUFFALO Teen Challenge

FAQ's

What is Buffalo Teen Challenge?

Teen Challenge is a faith based drug and alcohol recovery and rehabilitation center. The total commitment is 12-months with 4 months at Buffalo and 8 months at the Teen Challenge Training Center in Rehrersburg, Pennsylvania. Graduation takes place in PA.

Is Buffalo Teen Challenge teens?

No, our program is for males ages 18 and up. Teen Challenge DOES have adolescent programs in various regions. You can locate those centers by visiting www.teenchallengeusa.com.

Is Buffalo Teen Challenge a medical program?

While recognizing the need for expertise in some areas, Teen Challenge does not subscribe to the medical model of helping an individual involved in drug abuse. To be accepted into our program, one must be free from psychotropic drugs and medications.

Why is Teen Challenge effective?

Some might say that it is the length of the program (12-18 months) along with the religious environment that helps people kick the habits that have been formed over the years. We believe it is because of something we call "the Jesus Factor." When a person finds a relationship with God everything changes. New priorities, attitudes, reactions, plans and goals in life all add up to real change. New-found life in Christ and learning biblical principles for daily living replace the old lifestyle and the attitudes and behaviors underlying them. This has been the reason of our high success rate for 50 years!

Is Teen Challenge open to people of all faiths?

Teen Challenge is based foundationally on a literal interpretation of the Bible. It is our belief that applying the principles of Scripture to a person's life will enrich their life and provide them with a path of a personal relationship with God. Certainly people of other faiths may enter the program but, as they are informed of the nature of the program, they voluntarily choose to participate. It is not *required* that students have a conversion experience to enter or complete the program.

What about Church Attendance?

You will have 1 and ½ hours of chapel daily. On occasion, we visit local community churches to attend their worship service. This is on occasion and will be scheduled by the office based on our program schedule. Due to the nature of our program, we hold most of our worship services in our chapel.

How long is the program?

You will be in the Buffalo Induction Center (Phase I) for 4-6 months and then move on to the training center (Phase II) where you will stay for another 8 months. The usual amount of time it takes to complete the program is 12 -16 months. Optional aftercare is also available to most students.

May I have visitors while I am enrolled in Teen Challenge?

Yes. In Phase I you may be eligible to receive a visit after the initial 90 days. Phase II offers many additional visits as well.

May I make phone calls while I am enrolled in Teen Challenge?

Yes. After 2 weeks in the program you may make one 15-minute call a week. In Phase II you will receive more phone privileges than in the Induction Center. Mail correspondence is allowed from day 1.

Will I be accepted if I am on Parole or Probation?

Yes. First, you must assure that your parole or probation officer knows that you have applied and we will need written permission from them to allow you in.

How much does it cost?

There is a non-refundable intake fee of \$750.00 due when you arrive. In addition, you are required to provide sponsorship forms (located on the website) to those willing to help offset the cost of \$1200 per month that it costs Teen Challenge to house you. Financial need will never eliminate you from the program, but you need to find sponsors to help with that monthly cost.

Will I be able to work?

No. You will however, take part in our work therapy program that allows the center to raise operating funds. No personal payments will be made to you for your participation in the work program.

Will I be provided vocational training?

Once you have reached Phase 2 (The Training Center) your skills will be evaluated and you will be assigned to department which will benefit most from your skill set. The time spent in that vocational setting will provide “hands-on” training that will be very helpful to you when you graduate and re-enter the work force.

Do I have to participate in the religious aspects of the program to receive services?

An applicant is carefully informed as to the faith-based nature of the program and that entering a Teen Challenge program is voluntary; however, all aspects of the program are mandatory upon entrance. Participation in daily chapel and prayer times is not an option.

If a person drops out of the program, can they get their money back?

No. *The entrance fee is non-refundable.* It is imperative that you understand this policy before entering the program. The fee covers our time and work to get you into the program by holding a bed, scheduling your intake time, and holding a space for you on our intake waiting list. In addition, the sponsorships that come in on your behalf cover the cost of you living here and are not refunded if you choose to leave the program or are dismissed.

Do you have centers that are lock down?

As a general rule Teen Challenge is for those who voluntarily want to get into the program to receive assistance with life-controlling problems. At this time Teen Challenge does not have a true lock-down facility.