



Adult & Teen Challenge

ANNUAL REPORT 2019



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

What a blessing and honor to see thousands of lives transformed through Adult & Teen Challenge, USA (ATCUSA). In the United States in 2018, we had 11,392 students in our programs with 8,576 decisions made to accept Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. Evangelism is a core ministry for us and we had 9,459 church outreach meetings, 4,060 prison outreach meetings, 4,022 school outreach meetings, and 3,104 street outreach meetings. Discipleship (leading students through their faith journey, life-skills training, and work preparation) is another core element of our ministry. In 2018, we had 2,703 students graduate from our twelve month residential programs, a long-term accomplishment to better prepare them for their new life.

Our work is far from complete. We are building momentum in a number of strategic initiatives including sustainability, curriculum development, and leadership development/training. We will be launching a new, comprehensive learning management system enabling online learning and development for all staff and students. This will help with course accessibility, costs, and give a platform for future courses and certifications for career development within the Adult & Teen Challenge ministry globally. We are excited to announce investments in research within our family of ministries. Adult & Teen Challenge has partnered with the Department of Behavioral Health and the Center for Compassion at Evangel University to develop and launch multiple research projects, at the individual corporation level and at the national level, fully funded by ATCUSA. These projects will focus on program improvement, outcomes (including success rates after one year sobriety,) and other key areas of research.

ATCUSA is also developing brand-new curriculum, over forty new courses across eight new tracks. This new curriculum will enhance student learning, experience and growth. The new curriculum will also be available for all churches and other organizations directly engaged with people struggling with addiction or addictive behaviors.

Our future depends on how well we steward and sustain our ministry. With this in mind, ATCUSA has begun developing a sustainability plan to include partnering with core-aligned organizations, direct management of selected centers for innovation, and the expansion of services into non-residential programs in more than 2,500 churches nationwide.

We are looking forward to great results to share in the coming months. Please be praying for the ATCUSA family in North America and around the world. I firmly believe God is going to do more with ATCUSA and our family of ministries in the next ten years than He has done in the last sixty years. We must be open to His vision, do our best to steward with excellence, and believe all things are possible.



With much respect, love, and blessing,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary W. Blackard". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Gary W. Blackard
President & CEO

A person wearing a grey long-sleeved shirt, blue jeans, and a dark cap is walking away from the camera on a wooden railroad track. The track curves through a dense, green forest. The person is walking on the wooden ties between the rails. The background is filled with lush green trees and foliage.

**“EVEN IF YOU
ARE ON THE
RIGHT TRACK,
YOU’LL GET
RUN OVER IF
YOU JUST SIT
THERE.”**

— WILL ROGERS

MISSION

EMPOWER

We want to provide you and your loved ones with hope for a drug-free future through the power of Jesus.

EDUCATE

We exhibit and inspire excellence. We provide curriculum for students and training tools so they can learn dependence on God. Our programs foster role clarity and place tools in their hands to learn a new way of living.

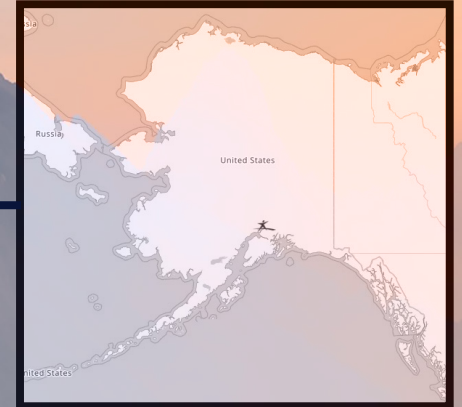
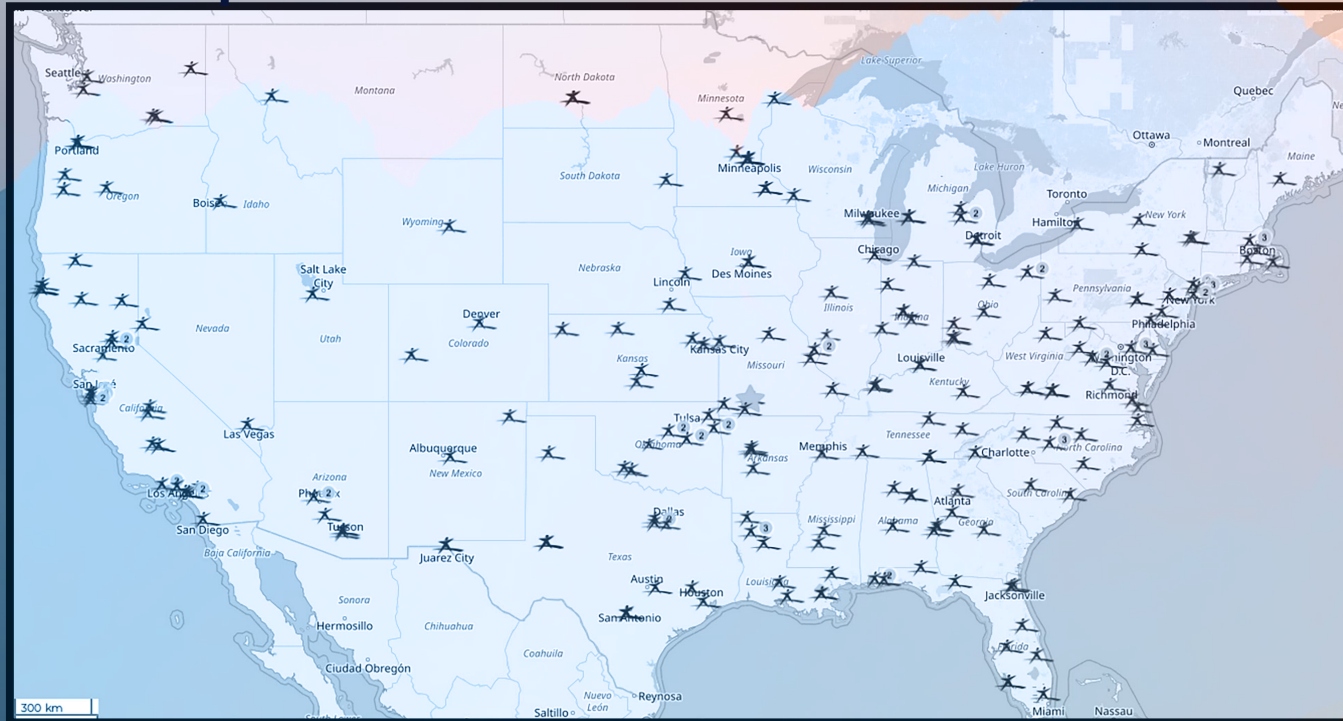
EQUIP

We are stronger together. Our office nurtures resource connections and seeks out funding options to strengthen the ministries. We also pursue legislative positional opinions to remove barriers that stand in the way.

VISION

**FREEING ALL PEOPLE FROM LIFE-CONTROLLING ISSUES
THROUGH THE POWER OF JESUS CHRIST!**

ADULT & TEEN CHALLENGE USA MAP



ADULT & TEEN CHALLENGE LOCATIONS

256

2018 PROGRAM STATS



BEDS

7,498



STUDENTS

11,392



DECISIONS FOR CHRIST

8,576



WATER BAPTISMS

3,317



SPIRIT BAPTISMS

2,365



COMPLETIONS

2,703

MEETINGS ATTENDEES

CHURCH OUTREACH

9,456

908,086

MEETINGS ATTENDEES

SCHOOL OUTREACH

4,022

296,225

PRISON OUTREACH

4,060

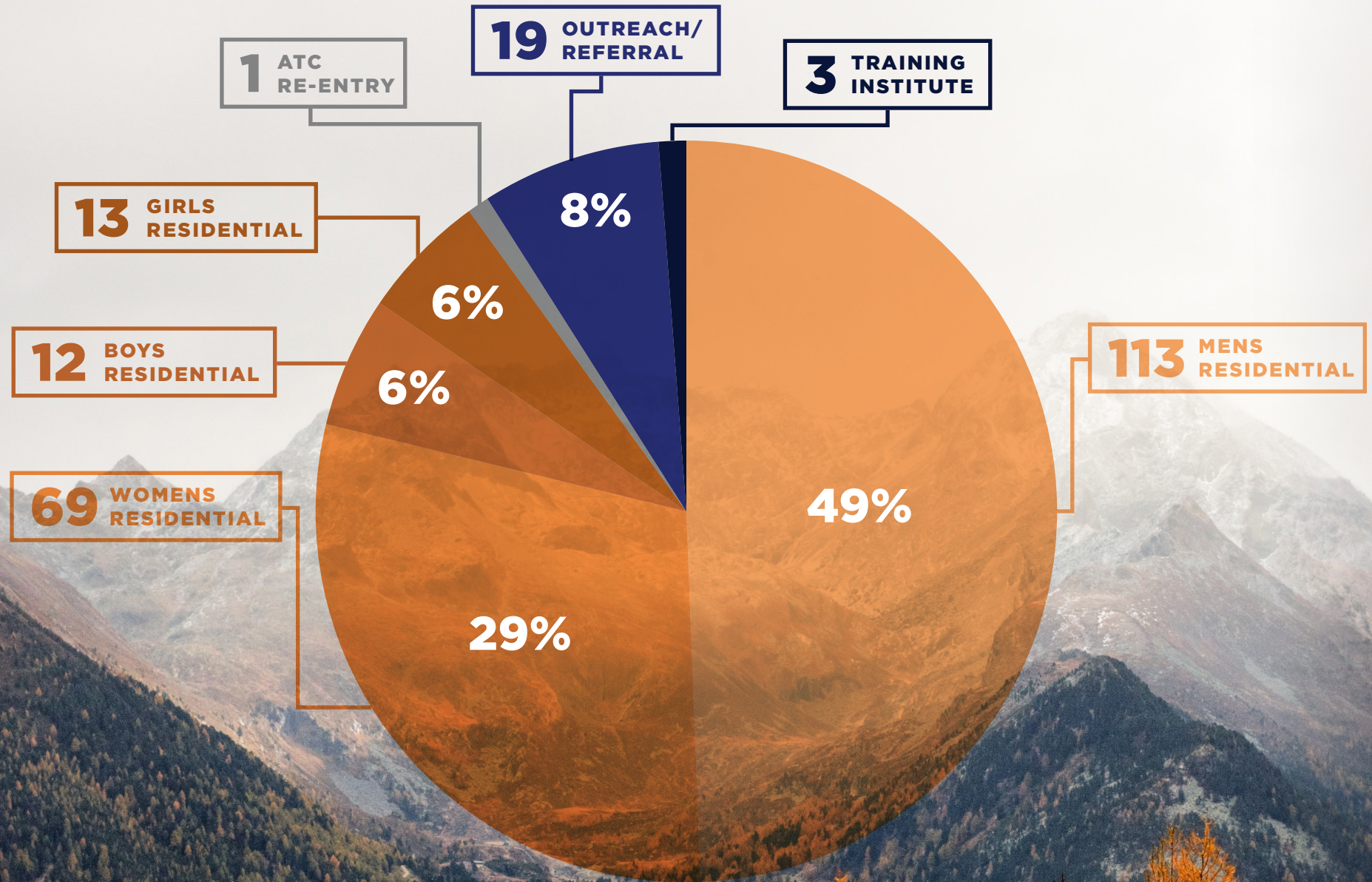
59,639

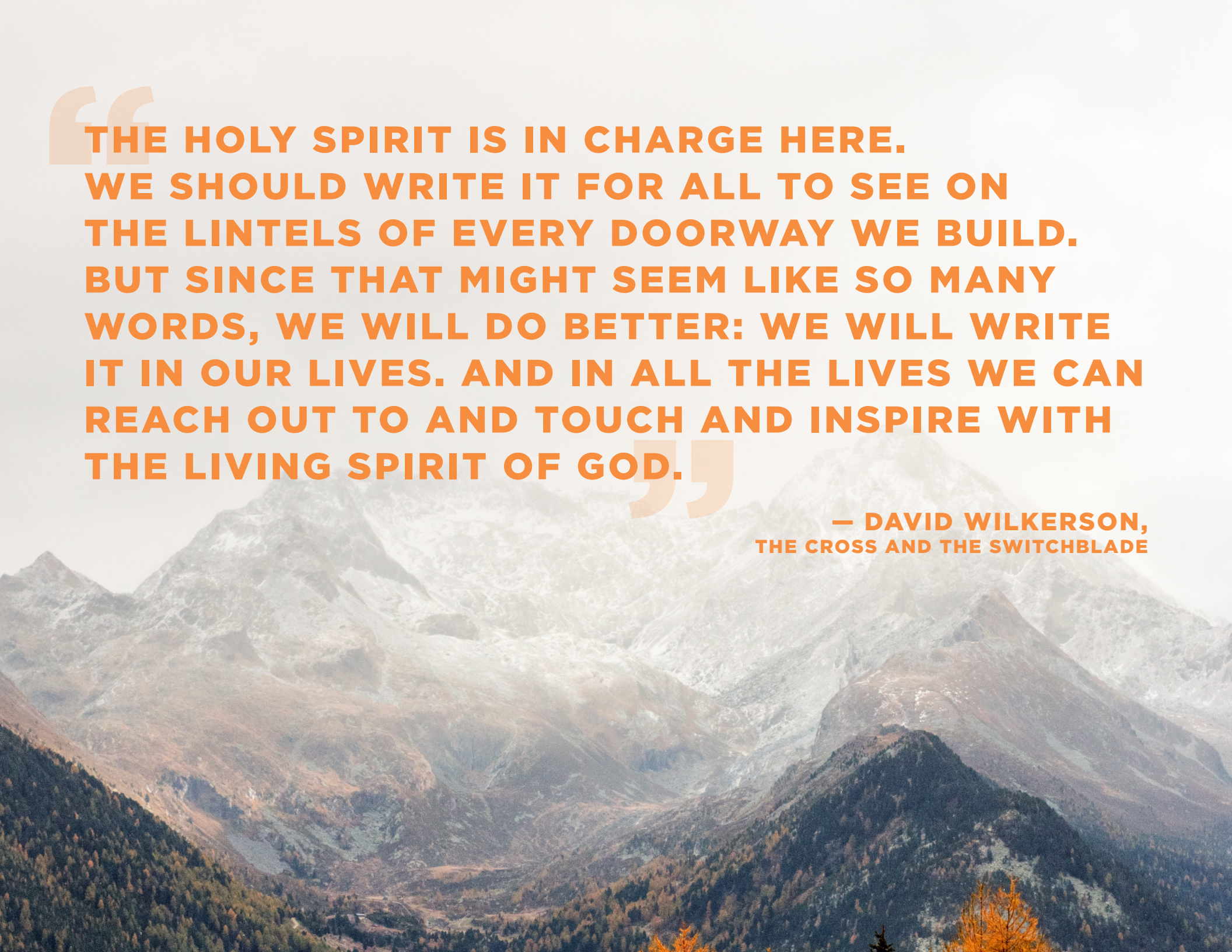
STREET OUTREACH

3,104

829,359

USA MINISTRY BREAKDOWN



A full-page background image of a mountain landscape. In the foreground, there are dark, forested slopes with some autumn-colored trees. The middle ground shows a valley with more forest and some rocky patches. In the background, several large, rugged mountain peaks are visible, some covered in snow or light-colored rock. The sky is a pale, hazy blue.

**“THE HOLY SPIRIT IS IN CHARGE HERE.
WE SHOULD WRITE IT FOR ALL TO SEE ON
THE LINTELS OF EVERY DOORWAY WE BUILD.
BUT SINCE THAT MIGHT SEEM LIKE SO MANY
WORDS, WE WILL DO BETTER: WE WILL WRITE
IT IN OUR LIVES. AND IN ALL THE LIVES WE CAN
REACH OUT TO AND TOUCH AND INSPIRE WITH
THE LIVING SPIRIT OF GOD.”**

**— DAVID WILKERSON,
THE CROSS AND THE SWITCHBLADE**

TRAINING/NATIONAL CONFERENCE SESSIONS

DISTRICT PRESENTATIONS

2

SESSIONS



250

ATTENDEES

STAFF TRAINING

4

SESSIONS



699

ATTENDEES

CORPORATION BOARD TRAINING

4

CORPORATE
BOARDS



37

BOARD
MEMBERS

ONSITE TRAINING STAFF AND TEACHER TRAINING

4

SESSIONS



110

STAFF
TRAINED

14 eNEWSLETTER TRAININGS 2,560 RECIPIENTS

ONLINE COURSE COMPLETIONS (STAFF TRAINING) 971

CORRESPONDENCE COURSES COMPLETED 265

**“THEREFORE ENCOURAGE
ONE ANOTHER AND BUILD
ONE ANOTHER UP, JUST AS
YOU ARE DOING.”**

1 THESSALONIANS 5:11



ROADMAP

TO MEET THE INCREASING DEMAND FOR ADDICTION TREATMENT AND RECOVERY SERVICES, ADULT & TEEN CHALLENGE USA IS COMMITTED TO DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING SEVEN STRATEGIC INITIATIVES:

1

SUSTAINABILITY

As an organization, we must practice both wise stewardship and intentional development of financial resources available for ministry. Diversification of income streams will be a key factor in ensuring that we operate from a position of financial stability. We will particularly encourage development of social enterprises such as thrift shops, coffee houses, and cottage industries as a means to generate revenue and also reach those in need.

2

CURRICULUM OPTIMIZATION

We are undertaking significant curriculum development with 48 new courses being introduced for personal studies. Our general studies curriculum will also be greatly enhanced. All courses will soon be accessible via a new online learning management system.

3

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

We will increase investment in the professional, personal, and spiritual development of each of our staff. We will soon unveil several online resources including certification tracks for managers. We are also exploring the creation of a new Center for Innovation & Learning where we can test systems and processes to develop a new standard of Teen Challenge “best practices”.

A background image of misty, rolling mountains under a soft, hazy sky. The mountains are layered, with the closest ones in dark green and the distant ones fading into a light, hazy blue. The overall mood is serene and expansive.

4

TECHNOLOGY ENHANCEMENT

We are going to greatly increase our investment in technology to improve our inputs and outcomes. Tools such as the online learning management system as well as a comprehensive student management system will allow us to foster success as well as better measure our effectiveness.

5

NON-RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMMING STRATEGY

By working with churches and partners like Living Free, we must expand the number of resources available to reach those with life-controlling issues. Many of those struggling with substance abuse are unable to enter residential programs but still need support. We must find a way to reach them. This will also include a national evangelism strategy to be announced soon.

6

SCHOLARSHIPS

We will work to establish an endowment fund that will generate scholarship income for perpetuity. Proceeds may be used to offset costs to families of those enrolled, or even to provide resources for graduates to pursue academic degrees or trade certification programs.

7

PREVENTION STRATEGY

We will be looking at revamping our prevention strategies through programs like Stay Sharp and others. Adult & Teen Challenge must become a larger presence in the area of prevention.

“FOR I KNOW THE PLANS I HAVE FOR YOU, DECLARES THE LORD, PLANS FOR WELFARE AND NOT FOR EVIL, TO GIVE YOU A FUTURE AND A HOPE.” JEREMIAH 29:11

ROHN'S STORY

Obedience is everything. Rohn Ishmael gave his first gift to Adult & Teen Challenge USA from prison, while serving time for a felony drug conviction. He had never seen the inside of a Teen Challenge Program Center and doesn't even remember what spurred that first gift over twenty years ago (though he does remember seeing a few David Wilkerson videos). "I wasn't making much—maybe \$30 a month. I just felt that God showed me Teen Challenge was the place I was supposed to be tithing."

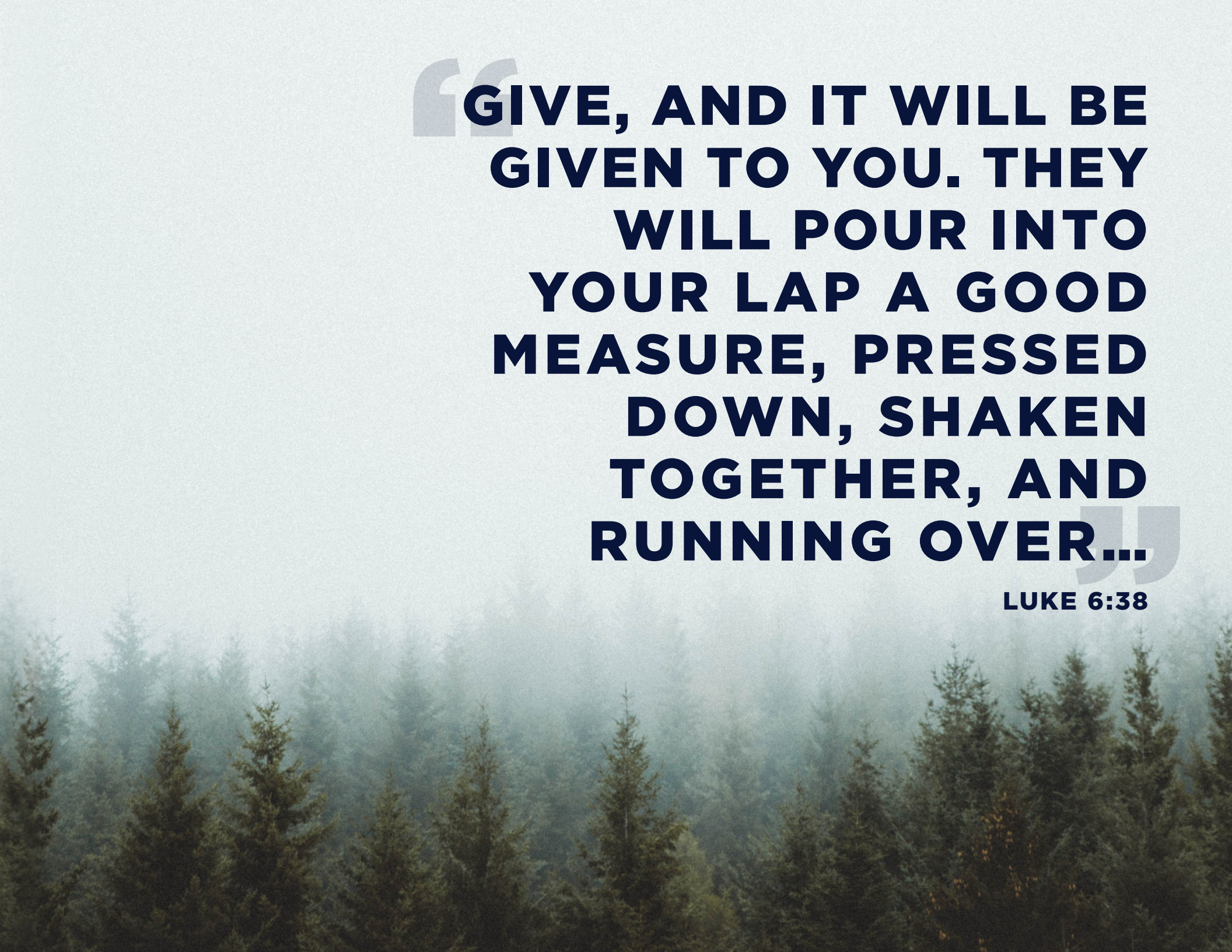
God's persistence, mercy, and provision are clearly shown in Rohn's personal testimony. In and out of prison, facing constant legal struggles, his time working on oil rigs contributing to a tumultuous home life, Rohn struggled to find peace in Christ. He often heard God calling him to submit to His authority, but it was always a battle. "When God wants you to do something, Satan's going to come against it—and that voice of fear is what I would listen to." In several well-defined moments that serve as crossroads in his story—Rohn would fail to obey the Spirit's prompting—only to suffer the consequences of disobedience.

Eventually, Rohn decided enough was enough. He was no longer going to be a slave to fear. "One afternoon in my little four-man [cell], I just threw my hands up and said, 'Either You're going to save me, or I'm going to Hell.'" The gift of salvation was finally his. Rohn said later of that critical moment, "That was the prayer that actually did it, because I quit trying to earn it, and just depended 100% on Jesus." In result, amazing things began to happen in his life.

Today Rohn is a free man leading a life of obedience to the Lord. His story speaks to God's provision, love, and grace. His first gift of just \$3.00 has led to a staggering history of giving well over \$110,000! At the national office of Adult & Teen Challenge we are grateful to Rohn Ishmael for his obedience and his generosity, but especially for making it possible for us to reach thousands of people struggling with addiction and other life-controlling issues!



ROHN ISHMAEL
ADULT & TEEN
CHALLENGE DONOR

The background of the image is a misty, atmospheric photograph of a dense forest of evergreen trees. The trees are dark green and silhouetted against a light, hazy sky. The overall mood is serene and quiet.

**GIVE, AND IT WILL BE
GIVEN TO YOU. THEY
WILL POUR INTO
YOUR LAP A GOOD
MEASURE, PRESSED
DOWN, SHAKEN
TOGETHER, AND
RUNNING OVER...**

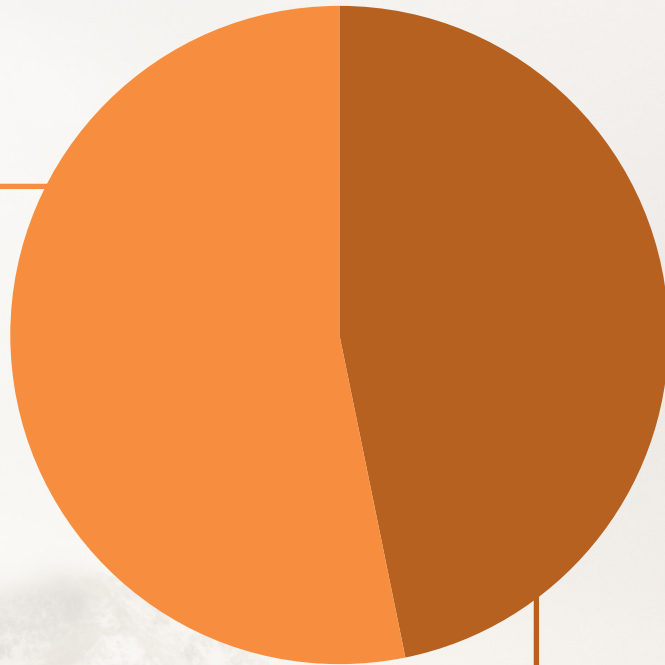
LUKE 6:38

2018 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

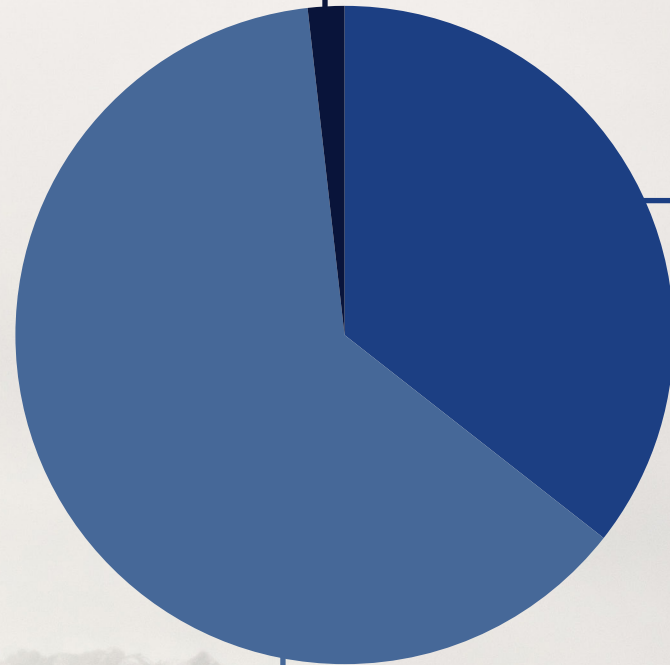
\$654,452 GENERAL DONATIONS

\$24,623 FUNDRAISING EXPENSES

\$399,146 G&A EXPENSES



\$550,397 OPERATIONAL REVENUE



\$751,235 PROGRAM EXPENSES

FISCAL YEAR 2018:
APRIL 1, 2018 TO
MARCH 31, 2019

TOTAL REVENUE
\$1,204,849

TOTAL EXPENSES
\$1,175,004

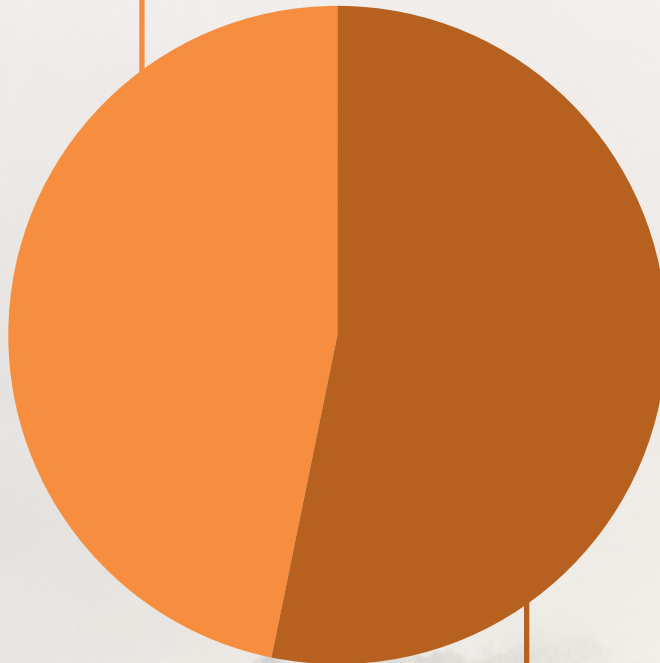


2019 FINANCIAL PLAN

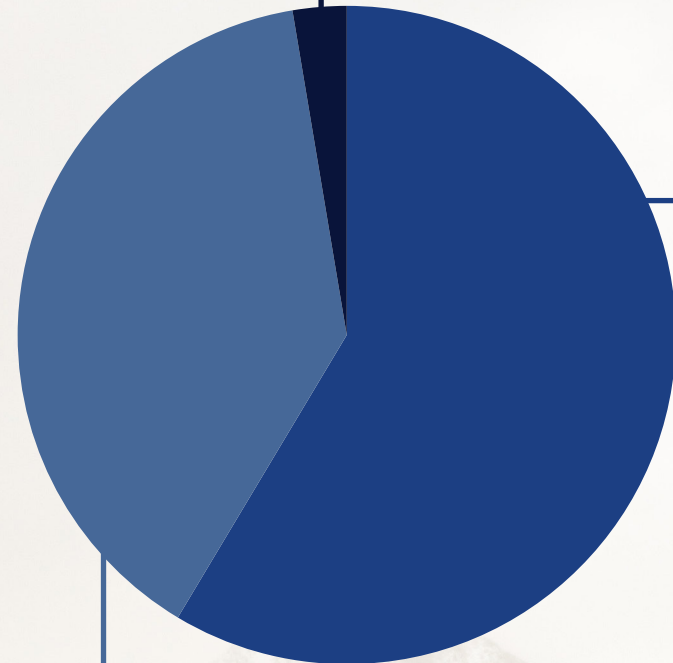
\$775,000 GENERAL DONATIONS

\$38,388 FUNDRAISING EXPENSES

\$897,812 G&A EXPENSES



\$861,760 OPERATIONAL REVENUE



\$575,489 PROGRAM EXPENSES

FISCAL YEAR 2019:
APRIL 1, 2019 TO
MARCH 31, 2020

PLAN TOTAL REVENUE

\$1,673,760

PLAN TOTAL EXPENSES

\$1,511,690

HOW YOU CAN HELP

PRAY

James 5:16 assures us that “the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much”. At Adult & Teen Challenge USA, we know and understand the supernatural power of prayer—in fact, we depend upon it! Please commit to **join us in prayer** for our vision to help end addiction, for each strategic initiative outlined above, and for the teams and individuals working hard to achieve these audacious objectives.



PARTNER

Even Mother Teresa acknowledged the need for resources to fund the work she did when she said “To keep a lamp burning, you have to keep putting oil into it.” Our work cannot succeed without the support of many friends, donors, and partners like you. **Your gift to our general fund** will allow us to utilize resources in the areas of greatest need—needs which emerge and evolve daily within a dynamic ministry like that of Adult & Teen Challenge USA.



PROMOTE

Share the Teen Challenge story with your circle of influence. While history confirms that our ministry has impacted millions of lives since our founding in 1958, we remain a “best kept secret” among those outside the addiction space. In order to accomplish the work the Lord has set out for us to do, we must greatly increase awareness of our programs. In a country in crisis, where thousands are desperate for help, there should be no “empty beds” at any of our program centers!



ALYSSA'S STORY

I grew up in an abusive home, so I was constantly walking on eggshells. I learned at a young age to be reserved and quiet and to hold secrets. Whatever happened in the house stayed in the house. Bottling up my emotions caused me to become rebellious, bitter, and angry. Eventually I fell into a lifestyle of addiction and the entrapment of human trafficking. I just remember thinking, "This is my life now. This is how I'm going to die."

Then I got pregnant. I began to pray. "God, if you'll just open a door—any door—I'll go through it for the life of my child." That's where my testimony begins—walking through the doors of Teen Challenge with my two-week-old baby. Since then, I've never been the same.

While in the program, I learned how to overcome fear and that God is my safe place. I learned how to have joy and contentment that I never was able to have before. I used to do whatever it took to fit in, whether that meant drinking or smoking or anything else. At Adult & Teen Challenge I learned that God loves and accepts us. He accepts us as we are, but He also loves us enough not to leave us that way.

In God, there is true contentment, no matter what circumstances you are going through. Go to God, obey Him, and He is faithful.

ALYSSA GRAVES

**1ST PHASE TEACHER
MINDEN ADULT & TEEN
CHALLENGE FAMILY CENTER**



**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON
ADULT & TEEN CHALLENGE USA,
VISIT [TEENCHALLENGEUSA.ORG](https://teenchallengeusa.org)**



Adult & Teen Challenge

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