

BRINGING WHOLENESS TO THE HOPELESS



33 TEEN CHALLENGE ROAD, P.O. BOX 98, REHRERSBURG, PA, 19550 • 717.933.4181 • PAATC.ORG

SUCCESS STORY | SEAN BILLER *by Julian Kopano*

Sean grew up in a middle-class family where sports had become the source of his identity and self-worth. All of his friends were also athletes. When he didn't make his high school basketball team, Sean started to hang out with a new crowd. Unfortunately, this new group of friends was experimenting with drugs and alcohol.

"I decided to smoke marijuana for the first time at 15 years old. That's what started it off and I never looked back. By the time I was 18, I had progressed into an opiate addiction and alcoholism."

For over a decade Sean was in and out of institutions. He moved from job to job to support his addiction. Throughout that time, Sean managed to hold on to patches of sobriety and even got saved in a local church at age 27. Sadly, though, a descent into addiction always returned. Eventually, Sean found himself injecting heroin and cocaine and living in his car on the streets of Kensington, Philadelphia. Everything finally came to a head.

"I had so many health problems including seizures, an abscess on my left arm, and pneumonia. I was just coming to the end. My Mom and the rest of my family didn't know whether I was going to make it through the night. I hated myself and knew that the only answer was Jesus Christ. I knew I had to get into a long-term faith-based treatment center. So, I came to Teen Challenge."

Today, Sean is a new man. He credits Pennsylvania Adult & Teen Challenge (PAATC) for being the refuge that changed his life. ***"PAATC gave me the time to heal. I needed a long time to heal because I was so broken. I didn't like myself, had nothing to offer the world, and nothing to run back to. At PAATC, I was able to re-start a relationship with the Lord. In my third month in the program, I surrendered everything to Him. I told the Lord that I was tired of running my life; that whatever gets in the way of our relationship, I wanted Him to take it away from me. At that point I never looked back and became fully committed to Christ."***

As Sean continued through the program, he invested himself into the Lord, his sobriety, and the ministry teams of PAATC. Sean gave his testimony in local churches, served on the Prayer Team, the Audio-Visual Team, and eventually became the leader of PAATC's Street Team Evangelism Ministry. Working for the Lord re-shaped Sean and his desires.

"Nothing fulfills me more than the work of ministry! It's a passion of mine and the ministry teams were just so huge to me. It was in doing all of this ministry work that I felt my calling to pastoral ministry."



Today, as a PAATC graduate, Sean serves as a Transfer Coordinator and Family Liaison for the Long-Term Program. He is also enrolled in the PennDel School of Ministry and on the path to becoming a pastor. As an active member and Usher at Lifeway Church, Sean is never hesitant to point towards the Lord and let people know, *"Whenever I try, I fail. Whenever I trust, He succeeds!"*

UPCOMING EVENTS



Charity Golf Tournament
Friday, May 14, 2021
Foxchase Golf Club, Stevens, PA



Charity Gala
Friday, November 5, 2021
DoubleTree by Hilton, Reading, PA

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

In Genesis 2:15, we find humanity's first call to work when God told Adam that he was responsible for tending to the garden of Eden. The text states, *"The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it"* (NIV). **An important point in this text is that God assigned this work to be conducted prior to the fall of man in Genesis 3 and it was a good and honorable thing.** We also know from Scripture that God created mankind in his image to reflect his character to the world we live in. This is accomplished through God-honoring work in addition to many other things. After the fall in Genesis 3, the world was forever impacted by sin and the process of redemption had begun, including the work that mankind is

called to perform during their time on earth. This is one of the key areas of emphasis that Pennsylvania Adult & Teen Challenge (PAATC) and Naaman Center focus on in the fulfillment of our vision, "Bringing Wholeness to the Hopeless."

When our program participants experience what we call "wholeness" they begin to embrace an entirely different way of thinking by filtering reality through healthy relationships with God, family, work, church, and community.

Your investment in our ministry is an investment in God's purpose for redemption through the vital services we provide. You are helping our program participants find

their own God-given gifts and callings to serve their communities through the God-honoring work they learn about while in our care. Your support is a vital part of our continued vision and we are truly grateful for your partnership because we could not do what we do without you.

On behalf of each person in our care, and their families, I want to thank you for your consistent support of PAATC & Naaman Center!



Kris J. McFadden, Sr., M.A.R.
President/CEO

OUTPATIENT PROGRAMS HELP WORKING PEOPLE FIND THE HELP THEY NEED

Work is often vital for long-term recovery, but it can also be a barrier to someone seeking the help they need. Outpatient programming through Pennsylvania Adult & Teen Challenge and Naaman Center is designed to tear down barriers and provide a way for people to find wholeness and recovery while continuing to work.

Our outpatient programs meet online and in various locations throughout the week to provide an off-site extension of our clinical and faith-based care. They are often a good fit for individuals like single mothers or those who cannot seek inpatient treatment because they would lose their job and need the income to support their family.

Outpatient programs are also a great option for people who are coming out of our

short-term and long-term programs and transitioning back to everyday life.

The stresses that often accompany work can be triggers, and outpatient treatment can help support individuals as they learn to walk out their recovery in their daily lives. Working with a counselor and hearing from others in therapeutic groups can help individuals learn recovery skills like managing a schedule, coping with stress, managing money, and growing in their faith.

As counselors, we love to hear about people meeting milestones in work and life. As we walk alongside them, we strive to see them embrace the hope and wholeness that God has called them to. Your support is a vital part of bringing hope to those in need who are working in our communities.

LIFE CALLING

by Shelli Mortensen

"What is my calling?"

The question has perplexed generations of Christians who deeply want to know and follow God's direction for their lives. For some, the answer requires an occupational choice; however, when this question is posed to the men and women at Pennsylvania Adult & Teen Challenge, we are teaching them to answer differently. In the course entitled "Life Calling," the preferred answer is, "I am called to Christ."

This is not a new idea. The following quote by David Wilkerson, the founder of Teen Challenge, is shared in class on the first day:

"When God calls you to something, He is not always calling you to succeed; He's calling you to obey! The success of the calling is up to Him; the obedience is up to you."

Despite their past mistakes, failures, hardships and relational losses, our students are new creations in Christ. We remind them that they are the light of the world, that Christ changes our purpose when we come to Him, and we are not merely called to a job or occupation. Rather, we are called to Christ.

Ultimately, there is no need for our students to worry about their future because their future rests in God. While work and occupation are important, it is in obedience to Christ that a person's calling will unfold.

Friday, May 14, 2021

Stevens, PA | Foxchase Golf Club

7:30am – Registration & Warmup

8:30am – Shotgun Start

REGISTER AT
PAATC.ORG/GOLF



TEEING OFF FOR A GREAT CAUSE:
Bringing Wholeness to the Hopeless

FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:
PennsylvaniaATC

