



## Teen Challenge Cincinnati Women's Home Love Letter

*For those who have a heart to  
Rescue women from their distress and their children from death*



*Autum 2009*

My name is Jennifer Reineke. I'm 30 years old and I am from Sidney, Ohio. I am the proud mother of four wonderful children.

I grew up in a family outside of the norm; a family in which being an addict was not only accepted, but expected. Doing drugs was how everyone related to one another, so I grew up thinking that relationships were built on the usage of drugs and alcohol. As a result, in my adolescence I went through life socially abusing drugs and alcohol in order to gain acceptance among my family and friends. At the age of 18, I became pregnant and I knew I didn't want that kind of life for my child. With that motivation, I was able to temporarily clean up my life.

Seven years later, in 2005, I was involved in an accident where I broke my femur and my jawbone. I was prescribed painkillers for the pain and picked up the habit of abusing those drugs. Eventually, I tried heroin and it helped with the pain from the accident. This led to my addiction to heroin, and so began my life of destruction, entanglement and my unsuccessful search for freedom. I ended up in jails, rehabs and eventually prison. I was always searching for a way to escape, only to get out and start the process all over again.



*Jennifer and her son Nick  
at Teen Challenge Adventure Camp*

In March 2009 while incarcerated again, my drug and alcohol counselor, Bridgett (thank you Bridgett!), came to see me. She told me about a place called Teen Challenge, and from where I was sitting it sounded like freedom. At that time freedom to me was anything outside a cell. When I got to Teen Challenge I was so willing to accept the Word of God as truth. I wanted so much to believe that I could have a different future for my life; and not only in my life, but also in the lives of my children.

While I have been at Teen Challenge, I have learned so many new things, and experienced the real freedom from the life of sin that only God can give through placing your faith in Christ as Lord. He has shown me that I no longer need to try, in vain, to attempt to be accepted by others because He has adopted me. I am a person of value because God loves me - period. And as a result, God is restoring and healing the damage I have brought upon myself and my family - physically and emotionally. Recently, He has placed people in my children's lives to teach them about Jesus, and my mom has also accepted the Lord into her life! Praise God for all He is doing and restoring by His grace!

This verse has been very helpful to me: "I no longer look behind me, but I keep pressing on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me." Philippians 3:14





My adventure with the Teen Challenge Cincinnati Women's Maternity Home began in January 2009. I had just moved back from Los Angeles to my hometown of Cincinnati. For the past three years I had been on staff with Campus Crusade discipling college women to help them reach their campuses with the gospel. I had no idea then how

the training I received would prepare me for my work at Teen Challenge. I now had this awesome privilege of joining the pioneering staff of the new Women's Maternity Home! I really did not know what to expect but knew God has and would continue to equip me to do His work. I was used to discipling women, but was the transition from college sorority women to women with serious drug issues going to prove difficult? I had no idea what to expect!

Well, the Teen Challenge women's staff team and I prayed, prayed and prayed for some time for the first female student to enroll. In season, God brought us Tasha. She was very thankful for all we did for her, yet after awhile, she left the program. I thought to myself, "God... is everyone who walks through our doors going to feel that way?" The next female student He brought to us was Sarah Moore (who I can proudly say is still with us!). While Sarah also struggled with wanting to leave and quit daily, she persevered and is doing famously, entering the final stages of our program. Sustaining change from addiction takes time. Since March, the new Teen Challenge Women's Home (thanks to your financial support) has been able to give 10 different women the chance to break free from their bondage of drug addiction. Some seize that opportunity and others forfeit it. The one thing that God has made very clear to me during my time on staff is this - you can only provide someone the opportunity and tools they need to change. You cannot, no matter how hard you try, make those tough decisions for them. Christ is the only one that can bring true freedom from bondage to sin. This has become a much deeper reality here at the Women's Home. The other secular attempts and programs just put on band-aids which only serve to cover up the real problem, which is sin and rebellion toward the Creator.

I am so joyful to be able to report that all five women in the program know these truths and are learning to live them out day by day!

**Needs Corner**

Contact Marty at [Mmartin@TeenChallengeCincinnati.org](mailto:Mmartin@TeenChallengeCincinnati.org)

- Volunteer Drivers - Requires good driving record. Use of TC vehicles.
- Volunteer staff during Saturday evenings 5:30 to 10 pm.
- We want to purchase a living room sofa (\$1200) to complement decor.
- We could use two commercial picnic tables (plastic, 8ft, ADA accessible) \$725 ea. See [www.barcoproducts.com/walkthru](http://www.barcoproducts.com/walkthru)
- Sponsor a student for a day/week/month- \$30/\$210/\$900

They all are working toward total surrender and away from self centeredness, giving themselves to the King and Lord of the Universe - Jesus Christ.

I found that the only difference between college sorority girls and the women at TC are external. They all have the same problem and solution. A heart set against God. A God who will bring change through surrender.

I recently was offered an internship with a public relations firm in Washington, DC. I am excited to say that I have accepted the offer and I am moving in two weeks! I am passionate about the Lord, people, conservative/family values and strategic communication. And am eager to see how the Lord will use those and hopefully make a difference through me in our nation's capital! I have been told that I have helped the TC women a lot and will be missed, but I don't think it compares to how much I value those friendships I have made, and all the Lord has taught me in this season of my life! I am definitely going to continue those relationships I have built here, and will strive to support this ministry in any way I can. Please join me in continuing to pray and support the Teen Challenge Cincinnati Women's Home!



Carrie and the ladies after harvesting raspberries from the orchard.

**A note from the director:**

I am so very thankful for Carrie's obedience and her example of diligence to the ladies. Her investment as a founding member will endure in lives for generations. Go girl!

*Marty Martin*

*Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation... and He will make me to walk upon my high places Habakkuk 3:19*