

We envision

A WORLD in which

OUR TEENS ARE FURTHER EQUIPPED  
with the armor of faith and the resources  
they need to **OVERCOME**

**THE WAR** on **CHRISTIAN**  
**FAITH AND VALUES.**

WLCFS-CHRISTIAN FAMILY SOLUTIONS ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN  
**TEENS 4 TEENS**



WLCFS  
**Christian Family Solutions**

healing. helping.

# Teens 4 Teens

Dear friends in Christ,

The Member Assistance Program began in 2008 with a simple question: Could we provide secure, online video-assisted counseling that would prove as effective as face-to-face counseling?

The answer was yes, and the program has flourished. As I write this, over 1,000 individuals have found healing through more than 7,000 hours of video-assisted counseling.

The results with teenagers were especially enlightening. It was exhilarating to see how open they were to this new type of counseling. We quickly realized that teens today are fighting some fierce battles. As

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a number of area Lutheran high schools began offering our counseling services to their students, we found the response overwhelming and the results astounding.

Today, it's clearer than ever that teenagers need and want our help. Our Lutheran high schools do a tremendous job of stewarding their resources to serve their students. Unfortunately, their funds are not limitless, which is why we must remove any financial obstacles so our teens have access to Christian counseling.

What is our solution to removing those obstacles? Find partners to invest in an

# Teens 4 Teens

endowment fund that will ensure we can provide Christian counseling to all students of our WELS high schools, regardless of their ability to pay.

Our goal is to create a fully funded endowment by 2019 from which we can expect to withdraw up to 4.5% per year to support this counseling for our at-risk teens. This fund will continuously provide the resources needed to help teens and their families, ultimately resulting in strength and growth within God's church on earth.

Our heavenly Father has blessed each

of us with everything we possess; it's not ours, it's his. Here is an opportunity to use his resources to support teens battling on the front lines of Satan's war against Christians and the family.

These teens are the future of God's church. Please help us to help them. Invest in this endowment so together we can heal and help these teens in need.

In Christ's service,



Dan Degner, CEO

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# building on our strength

## “Healing and helping people in need” since 1965

Since its inception, WLCFS-Christian Family Solutions has always sought to care for the hurting. The ministry began with a vision to carry out the encouragement of Galatians 6:10: “As we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.” Beginning with housing to provide much-needed care facilities for seniors in Milwaukee, the organization has since expanded as new needs and opportunities arise.

Today, the services of Christian Family Solutions include not only senior living, but Christian counseling and in-home care programs as well.

Through all the changes of the past and all the challenges of the present, God has faithfully blessed us, and the future looks bright for our vibrant and ever-growing ministry.

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# the challenge

As society's needs change, so does our ministry, and our country today has one need especially worthy of our attention.

It's clear that Christian values face attacks on many fronts, and Satan's assaults hit our teenagers with great force. Thanks to the Internet, the entertainment industry, and a decline in the strength of families, today's teenagers find themselves in a more vulnerable position than ever before.

The challenges and temptations abound. Pressure to measure up to peers causes anxiety and pushes many teens to engage in harmful activities such as substance abuse, eating disorders, cutting, and so on. Constant access to the Internet leads to numerous issues like cyberbullying and pornography addiction. Instabilities in family life cause tensions and resentment at home, which in turn affect performance and behavior at school. The list goes on and on. The frightening reality is that no teen immersed in our modern culture is immune from these difficult circumstances.

This reality is reflected in the fact that Christian Family Solutions provides over 11,000 hours of counseling each year, many of which involve teenagers. The demand is growing significantly, along with the costs to address it. With the help of donors and the income from some reserves, our ministry has absorbed the costs for these services over the years. We need help to meet the urgent circumstances presented and ensure we have a lasting solution for hurting teens.

Christian values face attacks on many fronts, and Satan's assaults hit our teenagers with great force.

As Christians, God calls on us to help and to “carry each other's burdens” (Galatians 6:2). But what can we do?

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“AS WE HAVE OPPORTUNITY, LET US DO GOOD TO ALL PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY TO THOSE WHO BELONG TO THE FAMILY OF BELIEVERS.” —GALATIANS 6:10

## our solution

Our ministry's Christian counselors are uniquely equipped to solve this problem.

In 2008, we began tackling the challenge of assisting teens by collaborating with a few generous partners and several Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) high schools to provide Christian counseling to their students. The results have been extraordinary. In fact, the gifts we received to cover those counseling sessions were used up rapidly because the need is so great.

With your support,  
we can reach  
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6 With your support, we can reach even more teens, while ensuring the funding will never run out. Our vision is lofty—to offer Christian counseling to students at each of the 23 WELS high schools throughout the country—yet it can certainly be accomplished. How? Through an endowment campaign called Teens 4 Teens.

The name Teens 4 Teens comes from our ministry's commitment to dedicate the "teen" years of this decade, 2013 through 2019, to raise an endowment fund for counseling teenagers at our WELS high schools. Our goal is an endowment of \$7.5 million by the end of 2019, which would provide earnings to annually supply counseling and help to hundreds of teens and their families in a completely sustainable manner.

## your opportunity

Join us and help us change lives. We're counting on your compassion and generosity to make this vision a reality for our hurting teens.

We would love to help you discuss a special gift that suits you. That gift could be a one-time gift, a multi-year pledge, or even a gift for the future included in your estate plans. Please contemplate the various financial blessings God has bestowed upon you, and consider gifts of all forms, such as cash, appreciated stocks, or life insurance beneficiary designation.



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## what will your gift do?

Your gift will help strengthen and equip teenagers who will someday be husbands and wives; fathers and mothers; and Christian leaders in their church, community, and workplace. When you change the life of a teen, that change has a ripple effect on countless others connected to that individual.

“The social-emotional support that our students and their families have received propels academic results and truly changes lives.”

—Jamie Luehring  
Executive Director, HOPE Christian Schools

“We greatly appreciate the skilled Christian professionals working with our students and with us to help our teens while focusing their eyes on the cross of Christ.”

—Pastor Randall Hughes  
Pastor of Student Life, Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School

“My counselor helped me not only see that there was hope in a tough time, but also helped me make a plan and take steps to get through that time...it was nice having someone I trusted and believed would not lead me astray from God’s Word.”

—Erica  
Former client who received counseling as a teen

## a lasting impact

Your gift will provide life-changing counseling for teens like Emily\*.

Emily was a bright, talented high school girl raised with a strong Christian upbringing. Everyone admired Emily, and in the fall of her senior year, she was crowned homecoming queen at a pep rally in front of the whole school. Less than a week later, Emily’s cheerleading coach noticed deep scars on her wrists and confronted Emily about it. Emily admitted to feeling depressed and battling intense emotions of worthlessness and self-hatred. Her grades were slipping, she was sneaking around to spend time with friends engaging in risky behavior, and she frequently visited websites where teens went to help each other plan out how to commit suicide. In no way did she feel the presence of the God she heard about every day in school; she doubted whether he even existed at all.

After being referred to our counselor Eilene, Emily began to view herself in a more healthy light, the way God views her. “You’re a precious child of God. You’re worth something to him,” Eilene assured her. Eilene worked with Emily and her parents to alter her perspective and develop strategies to cope with her depression and dangerous habits.

Emily’s life is forever changed. She now radiates confidence, both inside and out, that God loves her and has a great purpose for her life. Emily says she’s eager to grow closer to her Savior and live a life of service to the Lord she is certain adores her dearly. She’s speaking out to others with her story that no teen is immune from the pressures of high school, and of the importance of getting professional help when you need it.

*\*Name changed to protect client privacy.*



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# you can make a difference

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**N**ow is the time to make a difference in the lives of our teens. The needs of hurting young people like Emily cannot be ignored, **and they cannot wait.** Please join us in praying for and generously supporting this campaign.

“Share with God’s people who are in need.” —Romans 12:13

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## contact us

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**P**lease contact us to get in touch with a member of our Mission Advancement team who can provide you with more information:

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A photograph of three teenagers sitting on concrete steps outdoors. They are all smiling and looking towards each other, engaged in conversation. The teenager on the left is wearing a dark blue t-shirt and jeans. The middle teenager is wearing a blue and white plaid shirt and jeans. The teenager on the right is wearing a light blue button-down shirt and khaki pants. They are all wearing backpacks. The background shows a building with windows and a blue trash can.

**SHARE WITH GOD’S PEOPLE WHO ARE IN NEED.**  
—ROMANS 12:13

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