

# Greater Piedmont Adult & Teen Challenge, Inc.

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## New Beginnings

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Entry Photo



Graduation Photo

My name is Randolpho "Tony" Catu, and I was born in Guatemala, Central America. I'm 52 years old, the father of five girls, and now a new creation in Jesus Christ. I come from a loving family of hard-working parents, who dedicated their lives to giving me a better life and a future. I was raised Roman Catholic and attended church for as long as I can remember. However, I never had an intimate relationship with God. Not like I do now. I had a good childhood, until the day my innocence was taken from me at age seven. I became bitter and full of fear! I was full of shame and guilt and blamed myself for a lot, even at that early age. **Soon I had my first drink, which helped cover the guilt and fear, but the seed of sin was planted!** It took another ten years and another country for my sin to come to fruition.

When I was thirteen years old, my whole family moved to the United States. I didn't speak English, and everything was new to me. While trying to adapt to my new environment, I was introduced to tobacco and other drugs. I was afraid of the drugs, so I stayed away from them. I chose what I knew, alcohol. By the time I graduated high school, I was drinking a lot of alcohol. I got good grades, and I played sports. I think that's what kept me out of legal trouble. I never met my full potential. My soccer coach told me I could have been a great player, if I didn't drink!

After high school, I decided to go to work instead of attending college. I was disappointed with the way I ended high school, so all I wanted to do was work. My drinking continued to get worse. At the age of 21, I married my high school sweetheart. I thought marriage would stop my drinking, but instead it got worse.

We were too young and immature to be married. We lost respect and trust for each other. Things were not working because God was not in our life.

By the age of twenty-one, I had my first of many DWI's. I was angry with the world, and God. I discovered society labeled me as an alcoholic.

**The next decades my life was a living hell. I was in and out of jail, and prison!** I didn't want to surrender. The absence of God in my life drove me to the point of taking my own life! I saw no reason or purpose to be alive. I was hopeless and spiritually bankrupt. I was like a ship without a sail, and I was going nowhere! I had lost my marriage, my girls, and my home! I ended up living from couch to couch in my mess.

**On November 15, 2016, I accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior.** At that time, I was facing seven to fifteen years in prison for another DWI. I ended up getting four years in a state penitentiary. This would be my second time going to prison for DWI's, but something was different this time. God had freed me from the bondage of self and alcohol.

The process has not been easy. I stumbled and fell back into using alcohol. This time the guilt and shame hit me harder than before, and I was in self-destruction mode. By this time, I had married Sandra and she reached out to our pastor. She told him I had fallen off the wagon and she had had enough. **I knew it was going to get bad. By the grace of God, Greater Piedmont Adult Teen Challenge took me in on December 6, 2021. I have never looked back.** I re-dedicated my life to Christ and poured 100% of myself into God's Word.

God is so good! God has delivered me from my addiction. I look forward to living life, not merely existing and going through the motions. My marriage has been restored, and my relationship with my girls in New York is getting better. While in Teen Challenge, I experienced the love of God in ways I never could have imagined. My goal is to serve my heavenly Father and do His will by helping my family and others. Teen Challenge and the staff have been consistent with the love and guidance they have given me over the past seven months. I'm forever grateful for everything they have done for me and my family. I am looking forward

to the next chapter in my life, now that I have a strong foundation in Christ.

***Tony was a great student. He was a real mentor to other men in the program. Tony continues to be a blessing to this ministry. He is talented, compassionate, and loves God. I am so proud of this young man. To God be the Glory!***

**Dr. Bob**



Our new van is almost a reality. Ford is waiting on some parts to complete our order. While we wait for production, we continue to raise funds to pay for our new vehicle. We are close to \$50,000.00 now. We need \$58,000.00 and some change.

If you feel like God is speaking to your heart to help with this project, please send in whatever you can and mark it VAN. It will go into a separate account and stay in that account until the van arrives and we write the check. If more funds come in than is needed, that money will be used in general.

We are so excited about this opportunity. Thank you so very much.



After 14 years of faithful service as the Business Director at Greater Piedmont Adult & Teen Challenge, my wife, Debbie Harman, will be retiring. She has served this ministry, the staff, students, board of directors and our loyal supporters, with a heart of love for God's work. She has been a chapel speaker, organized and ran our banquets, golf tournaments, oversees

the property, been a counselor, and a "spiritual mother" to many of our staff and students. She will be greatly missed, but we are happy she can now spend more time with her grandchildren and visiting her family in Michigan. Debbie's mom, who is 102.5, is still doing great. Debbie will be able to go visit her mom and stay longer on her visits. The management of the business office will be left in capable hands. Replacing Debbie is Kim Taylor. Kim was the finance manager for Calvary Church of the Triad for nine years and is well known by most of the board and several of our staff.

Kim has an accounting degree from UNCG, and has worked in finances throughout her career. We are happy to welcome Kim to Greater Piedmont Adult & Teen Challenge. We pray God's blessings, direction and wisdom for Kim.

Please keep Debbie and Kim in your prayers as they embark on their new adventures God has led them into.

Thank you.....Dr. Bob



### Psalm 40:1-3

**“I waited patiently for the Lord; he turned to me and heard my cry.**

**He lifted me out of the slime pit, out of the mud, and mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand.**

**He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God.**

**Many will see and fear and put their trust in the Lord.**

*This is the testimony of the men who come to us and let God change their life. Praise be to the Lord.*

**Greater Piedmont Adult & Teen Challenge is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization.**