



From the heart of Mary,

Merry Christmas from the Teen Straight Talk Executive Board and Staff. As we are beginning to turn our hearts and minds toward the Holidays with shopping for the perfect gift, getting your favorite recipes out and making preparations to travel to be with family, I'd like you to take a minute to pause and ask yourself how many gifts do you remember receiving last year? Could it be the only reason we remember what we gave to our loved ones last year is because we don't want to repeat the same gift? Christ gave His best gift to secure our eternity which is the gift of Himself.

The best gift you can give is yourself. When you share your time, life, gifts and talents with another person especially a child, that kindness invades their hearts and they will be moved to pass that kindness on to someone else. This is what the world needs now more than another tangible gift that can be forgotten and put away to collect dust. As these special holidays draw near may we revisit and refocus on what Christmas is all about. So come let us adore Him, Christ our Savior and Lord.

Mary Duke - Executive Director



Teen Straight Talk Partners with Warren G. Harding Teaching CBI Students Work Ethics

Warren G. Harding & Teen Straight Talk partnered to help educate Career Base Intervention students in moral ethics in the workplace. You may be wondering what does work ethics and morals have to do with abstinence education? The same principle of abstaining from wrong choices from a personal and moral standard is the same that must be applied in the workplace. Rather we taught on respecting your superiors, leadership, team building skills, being a great employee and coworker or rather we gave students insight on what it means to be punctual, each student left knowing every decision they make is a reflection of their moral character.

The students who were receptive and participated in class received the opportunity to make a work ethics video entitled Consequences. The result of the video was so impressive that Warren City Schools Superintendent Steve Chiaro asked to use the video as a promotional for the Warren G. Harding CBI program. Teen Straight Talk educators and volunteers who helped teach the students were blessed to spend 8 weeks pouring into the lives of these wonderful 11th and 12th graders. May God protect all of our youth this school year and remember what Psalms 127:3 says...Children are a gift from the LORD; they are a reward from Him.



TEENAGE STRUGGLES

The world that I grew up in looks nothing like the world our children are facing today. The choice to self destruct is assessable through the media and in many environments our teens find themselves in every day. Recently a mother told me her 14 year old daughter entertains her 16 year old boyfriend in her bedroom while both parents are home. When I asked the mother if she felt that was the best place for them to spend time together she immediately responded by saying the boyfriend is a Christian. She shared with me how the boyfriend is a member of a well known church in our community. I stood shaking my head in disapproval and concern for both teens and their families. I told this story because as guardians and caregivers we must teach our children how to make positive moral and character based decisions in life. Boundaries and rules are important to be implemented in our homes so that our children will learn to obey them in and out of our presence. As responsible adults we must show our children the way through Christ Jesus. Teen Straight Talk is designed and committed to teach the message of truth according to Gods holy word, exposing wrong choices and helping equip children to know the difference between truth and the deception of lies.

FAMILY MATTERS

A concerned mother and I were talking when she expressed concerns about her out of control teenage daughters and young adult son. Meeting with both the husband and wife they both admitted they had not been the spiritual parents God had called them to be. Both agreed to meet with one of the Teen Straight Talk Core Pastors. This Pastor met with them and shared with them the gospel of Jesus Christ and they received Christ as Savior. Our prayer is that this family will begin attending his church to receive the love and care that God provides through His pastors and the body of Christ. I am still rejoicing with this family for their new found salvation and walk with Christ. Truly family matters to God and family matters to Teen Straight Talk.

~ Mary Duke Executive Director

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

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Doctors Community Forum

October 8th Teen Straight Talk traveled with local Doctors from the Youngstown Warren area to the House of the Lord Church in Akron Ohio to present the principal of abstinence and share from a medical science perspective on why abstinence is the only sure way to avoid sexual transmitted infections. The Doctors team was led by Teen Straight Talk Executive Board President Dr. Tonia Farmer- Pitts. Each physician shared with both teens and their parents in breakout sessions the different cures and treatments for various STI's. TST Office Manager and Minister Cassandra Leavell gave her life's testimony of where she was as a teen and young adult that led her down a dark path that she wasn't sure she could recover from until she encountered Christ. Her truth helped break the ice and Executive Director Mary Duke followed up by facilitating a powerful and insightful question and answer session with the parents. Mary encouraged many parents whose children were struggling with self respect and sexual identity.



Puerto Rico In The Valley

Teen Straight Talk will be helping spread Holiday cheer to a local family who has relocated to the city of Youngstown from Puerto Rico due to the devastating impact of Hurricane Maria. Gift cards for Walmart, gas cards, local grocery stores, clothing stores and cookware are needed. Please consider partnering with us to be a blessing to this family in their time of need. Gift cards may be sent to the TST office. For more details please call 330-539-6040.

Proverbs 11:25: The generous will prosper; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed.

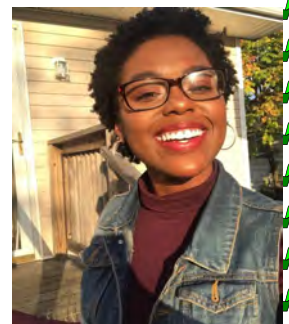
Teen Straight Talk Hope for Haiti 2018

This past spring Teen Straight Talk was invited to St. Louis Du Nord Haiti to share the gospel of Jesus Christ as well as present our Abstinence Education Program for the beautiful people of Haiti in the NorthWest Haiti Christian Mission Orphanage. Service learning students from Youngstown State University will receive training from Certified Teen Straight Talk Educators in January as they prepare to serve on the mission field along side the TST team of missionaries. I am very grateful to be included as a part of this team of which both my Father and Mother are on. Being that I play soccer for my High School Varsity team I will be holding soccer camps for the youth at the orphanage. The Teen Straight Talk 2.0 Youth Board will all be sending hand written letters to a group of teens in Haiti to connect with and build a relationship with. To donate a monetary gift to help purchase baby powder for the orphanage in Haiti please call our office for more details.

The Youth Board will meet on November 18th to plan our upcoming Christmas service project and 2018 Calendar. May God bless you and your family during this Holiday season and please pray with us for all of the families that have been impacted by all of the natural disasters over this past year.

Aaliyah W.

Youth Board
President





Have a Blessed Holiday Season

1st Annual Fundraiser

October 1st approximately 100 people gathered at the Avalon Inn and Resort to help raise funds for the continuance of ministry. Former OSU Head Coach and current President of YSU Jim Tressel was the keynote speaker and Mrs. Leslie Kitchen gave a powerful testimony on how Teen Straight Talk has impacted her life and was accompanied by her daughter Olivia who is now a Teen Straight Talk Youth Board member. The two sung a duet and blessed all who were in attendance. Olivia has committed to abstinence until marriage following in the foot steps of her mother. A silent auction was held and the entire event was a success!

DID YOU KNOW? You can increase your generous donation to Teen Straight Talk at no cost to you thanks to the Youngstown Foundation's Support Fund.

If your donation is \$100 or more, the Youngstown Foundation will add 5% to your TST check . It's that simple.

Via Check: Make payable to the Youngstown Foundation just add Teen Straight Talk to the memo line.

Via Credit Card: Visit www.youngstownfoundation.org, click "Donate Now" and see TST listed as an approved partner. You can also give by sending your check directly to the TST Office.

Save the Date

June 22, 2018 Avalon Inn & Resort

We are excited to **celebrate 30** years of faithful service and will be honoring TST's Executive Director Mary Duke. Look for more details in the New Year.

HELP WANTED

Office Manager Assistant
Office Assistant
Social Media Volunteer
Presentation Coordinator



Teen Straight Talk

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Hours of Operation
Tuesday-Thursday
8:30 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Visit us on the Web:
<http://www.teenstraighttalk.com>

TST 2018 NEEDS LIST

- ⇒ Financial donations for daily operations
- ⇒ School presentations
- ⇒ Abstinence educators (We will train)
- ⇒ Prayer support for the ministry & Haiti mission team