

February 16, 2010

*Please see Ray's story below,  
then keep reading to see how  
you can make a difference!*

*While he was receiving treatment for substance abuse at Wedgwood, Ray started participating in Young Life Club. Sara, our Young Life Leader, invited him to her church, and he began to attend every week. After successfully completing treatment, she asked him about his "plan" to stay away from drugs after he returned home. Ray told her he would keep going to church, and he did! It's been three months and Sara sees him every week, worshipping and talking to the pastor. Ray's heart accepted Christ – and **his life has been transformed!***

Dear Friend,

Troubling news is everywhere – the economy, job loss, decaying neighborhoods, crime. Children and teens are suffering from abuse and neglect, family trauma, drugs and other destructive behaviors. Sadly, many people believe that they can't do anything to help because the problems are overwhelming. So, they do nothing.

**But you can do something!** Every person can help chip away at the overwhelming problems facing youth and families in our community – by supporting **Wedgwood Christian Services**. When Wedgwood intervenes, deep wounds can be healed. Hope can be restored. Lives can be transformed. Ray's story is just one example.

For 50 years, Wedgwood has provided Christ-centered community, education, and residential treatment services in West Michigan. These services, including Ray's substance abuse treatment in one of our residential homes, are at the core of what we do, and are publicly funded.

But as you can see from Ray's story, there was another factor at work – **Young Life** – part of Wedgwood's comprehensive **transforming services** that are critical to our successful outcomes.

Chaplaincy/Young Life, Employment Training, Positive Youth Development, Educational Support and Wellness **receive no public funding**, yet they play a vital role in changing lives. These services exist only because of donor support.

*(over)*


**Your gift to Wedgwood** will support these important services that help provide true hope and healing for youth like Ray. But there is another reason we would like your help today.

Two supporters recently gave gifts totaling \$20,000 **and challenged us to raise another \$20,000** to strengthen our donor-funded transforming services.

**With your help, we can do it!** Every gift counts toward meeting this challenge. Every gift supports Wedgwood's critical life-transforming services that make a lasting difference in the lives of youth and families in our community.

Please join our other donors by sending a tax-deductible gift today. Thank you.

Grace and peace,

  
James N. Boelkins, Chairperson  
Board of Directors

  
Samuel A. Beals  
President/CEO

P. S. Without donor support, Ray would not have been exposed to the hope of Jesus Christ through Young Life at Wedgwood. Without donor support, his “plan” to stay away from drugs might have failed.

**Won't you please help us meet the challenge of raising an additional \$20,000 to continue transforming as many lives as possible?** More information about your how gift can make a difference is enclosed.