



Teen Life Statement of Faith

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Teen Life believes that while physical and emotional support may be provided to help teenagers overcome the pain and hurt they experience, true healing will come through a relationship with Jesus Christ. Our ultimate goal is to strengthen the lives of the young people we work with through our voluntary care programs.

What does this Statement of Faith mean for Teen Life and those it serves?

Teen Life was founded and motivated out of a belief in Jesus Christ. Simply meaning that the staff, board, and volunteers are motivated by this faith and belief to help teenagers and their families. However, instead of seeing this motivation as a threat or hindrance, we believe that parents, students, schools and donors should see this as a benefit to working with Teen Life.

We fully recognize, respect and honor the separation of state and church. While we personally believe that a relationship with Jesus Christ would provide true healing for students, our goal when working with teenagers is to equip, encourage and empower them to live life better, not to force them into a discussion about God or religion.

This motivation allows our staff and volunteers to love and accept every teen, despite their past, current or future circumstances. We can discuss and engage with students free of judgments or prejudices. We fully recognize that the grace we are able to show to these students can only come from the Lord, and we are grateful for that extreme patience, love and mercy.

Instead of running away from the term “faith-based,” we ask that you see it as the motivating factor behind our work, the driving force that makes our work and positive transformation possible.

As a faith-based organization, we promise the following:

- We will love and respect every student for who they are, not their actions or circumstances.
- When working within the public school system, we will also honor the boundaries set before faculty and staff.
- We will not force a relationship or conversation about Christ on any teenager.
- Religious beliefs or church involvement will not impact our feelings or attitudes toward any student or person our organization comes in contact with.
- Without exception, we will do our best to help teenagers live life better.