



Founders Victor
& Carmen Torres
Celebrating

50

Years of Marriage
& Ministry

October, 2017



New Life For Youth
LIFE LETTER

This is the **WHOLE** Story. Stories of Lives Made Whole through Christ.

Nick's Tale of Redemption

"After dropping out of James Madison University, I lived a life of steady, excessive drug use. Drugs kept me on the wrong side of the law and have held me back in life. After racking up a decent record of petty crime, I was given the choice of two years in the penitentiary or the chance to really change my life at The Men's Ranch. Knowing that I needed to get back in touch with God if I was going to have the life I wanted, I chose the latter.

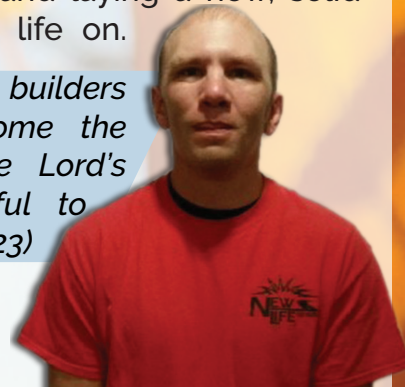
Improvement in my health was one of the first tangible changes I noticed. NLFY has

also taught me patience and the value of healthy friendships. I feel the Lord's hand in my life for the first time in a very long time.

My family means so much to me and now that I'm clean and sober, I can reestablish those relationships in a healthy way. My story is a tale of redemption and laying a new, solid foundation to build my life on.

The stone that the builders rejected has now become the cornerstone. This is the Lord's doing and it's wonderful to see. (Psalm 118:22-23)

God's unfailing grace conquers all.



Family Support

PARENTING STYLES:

FEAR - based
or
Faith - based?

As parents, we all want to protect our children. Whether a young child, teen or even young adult, sometimes parents create a fortress around their children to protect them from dangers. Whatever stage of life your child is in, it is important to know how to differentiate real dangers from your own internal, unrealistic worries. Some fears are a reaction to real threats, but some come from our own lack of faith. Either way, fear can cause parents to become stressed and even over react to certain behaviors and can cause unnecessary tension within the family.



Mercy House students graduating from SCAN Parenting Classes, pictured with Claudia Perez

To help keep overwhelming worries at bay, focus your attention on helping your child develop self confidence and strong self esteem so that they will make choices based on what is good for them instead of being swayed by peer pressure. I encourage you to resist parenting from a place of fear; instead, empower your child with a Godly perspective; equip them with family values and positive beliefs so that no matter what the environment, they will not be swayed from the core ideals you have helped to instill in them. Parent from a place of confidence and you will instill confidence in your children.

NLFY FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP

see schedule on reverse

Claudia Perez-Barragan, Director of Counseling
cperez@newlifeforyouth.org

GIVE NOW and HELP TO BRING FAMILIES BACK TOGETHER

My monthly pledge is: ☐\$200 ☐\$150 ☐\$100 ☐\$50 ☐\$20 other_____

I would like to give a one time gift of: ☐\$500 ☐\$250 ☐\$100 ☐\$50 ☐\$20 other_____

Name _____ Email Address _____ Phone # _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Credit Card Type ☐Mastercard ☐Visa ☐Discover

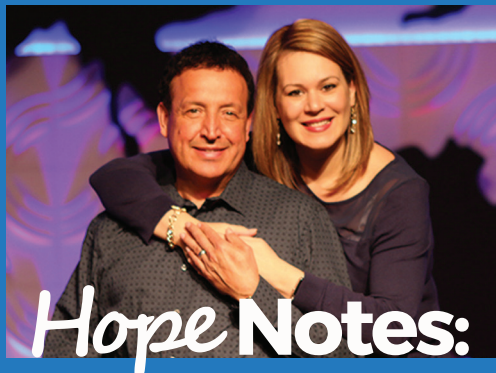
Credit Card # _____ Exp.Date _____ CVV # _____

Use this form to authorize New Life For Youth to charge your credit card the specified amount every month. If you wish to stop these monthly charges, contact NLFY Bookkeeping Dept. @ 804-276-6767 and indicate that you wish the monthly charges to end, specifying your name, address, and phone number.

New Life For Youth is a 501 (c) (3) tax exempt organization.
Donations and contributions are tax-deductible as allowed by law.
Donations by mail should be sent to:
PO Box 13526 Richmond, VA 23225

Giving changes lives.





Hope Notes:
Carlos and Rosalinda Torres-Rivera
Executive Directors

One of our staff members tells the story of her children asking for money to get candy. The mom held out her hand and revealed pennies and dimes. Not knowing anything about the coins denominations, her 5-year old daughter, the older & bolder of the two, demanded to have all the "big coins." So, the quiet, disappointed boy was left with the smaller silver coins. His mom leaned down & whispered the truth about what he held in his hand as his sister skipped off with a pocketful of pennies.

There is a great life lesson here. The little girl made a poor choice because she didn't know how to view her options; she chose based on the size of the coins & missed their real value. The boy felt cheated thinking his take was insignificant because of how the change compared to his sister's treasure. The problem? The children used the wrong unit of measure; by doing so, one got less than what she could have & the other didn't realize he had something of worth & would have just left it on the table, unused.

We all need an accurate measuring stick. God's rating scale of importance is the only accurate unit of measure and the only way to live the abundant life He died to give you.

The young people who came to NLFY had appraised themselves as worthless & they treated themselves accordingly. Through a growing relationship with Jesus, they are coming to know their Creator and the price He paid for them. As they see themselves through His eyes, and value what He values, their choices change and their lives change.



"i have a mommy."

That statement may not seem very profound to you, but to 6-year old Jacob, it means his dreams are finally coming true.

Jacob's Mom, Mindy, grew up with a pretty solid family life. Then, as a shockingly high number do, Mindy tried drugs as a teenager. "I made one bad decision after another as drugs took over my life. It got a hold on me so fast."

After Jacob was born, Mindy thought things would turn around. She loved her son so she felt sure that love would give her the strength to turn away from her addiction. But addiction is a more powerful adversary than Mindy realized. "After a decade of drug use, it was impossible for me to take care of my Autistic son. I didn't know where to turn. Having been physically and mentally abused in my relationship, I guess I didn't even see myself as someone who deserved a better life & Jacob deserved better than that...better than me."

Mindy's lawyer knew of the success of NLFY and recommended The Mercy House where the young mother began our Mercy Mom's Program. "Prison would have never changed me, but Jesus has renewed my mind and my heart and restored the relationships that addiction had destroyed. My family forgives me & Jacob is secure."

"My son climbed up in my lap, wrapped his little arms around me and I heard him whisper, 'I have a mommy.' He opened up & told me how he felt when drugs took me away from him. It was hard to hear, but it was healing & I am so grateful."



86% of high school students know someone who drinks or does drugs during the school day

68% of seniors have tried alcohol

35% have smoked pot in the past year

44% of students know a classmate who sells drugs

US Department of Health & Human Services



**COME WALK WITH US AND
 MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

OCTOBER 21ST 8-4 PM

Byrd Park - Richmond, VA

5K WALK • COMMUNITY EVENT • MUSIC • FOOD • RECOVERY FAIR

Join thousands of dedicated men and women as they fight addiction one step at a time.

Funds raised through the RVA Walk for Recovery 5K support Non-Profit Organizations providing Rehabilitation Resources, Treatment, Awareness and Prevention in the Richmond area.

RVAWALKS.ORG

Sponsored by New Life For Youth

**If you or a loved one are trapped in addiction,
 we know the Way out!**

**1-844-231-HOPE
 NEWLIFEORYOUTH.ORG**



Here's What's Happening....

Oct. 3 Family Support Group
 @The Men's Ranch

Oct. 4-8 **Legacy Conference**
 Thursday - NLFY Night
 feat. NLFY Mass Choir

Oct. 6 **Legacy Banquet***
 honoring Victor &
 Carmen Torres

Nov. 9 **Victory Banquet***
 Nov. 12 Family Support Group
 @The Richmond House

Nov. 18 FREE Turkey Giveaway*

Nov. 23 HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Dec. 3 Family Support Group
 @NLOI Church

***For tix & info: 804-276-6767**