

SUMMER 2026



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Adult & Teen Challenge
Northeastern Wisconsin

Freedom from addiction starts [here](#).

The Mission of Adult & Teen Challenge of Northeastern Wisconsin is to help individuals attain freedom from chemical addictions and other life controlling problems by addressing their spiritual, physical, and emotional needs.

A Men's Faith-Based Residential Recovery Center

PROGRAM UPDATES

Summer is one of our favorite seasons at **Adult & Teen Challenge Northeastern Wisconsin**. After the long Wisconsin winter, the warmer months bring countless opportunities for our clients to enjoy God's creation, build healthy relationships, and create lasting memories.

From outdoor family visits and cookouts to trips to local parks, disc golf outings, fishing adventures, and other summer activities, each experience provides more than just fun—it offers moments of connection, growth, and restoration. These opportunities allow our clients to practice healthy living, strengthen friendships, and discover the joy that can be found in sobriety. As we embrace the summer season, we are reminded of God's faithfulness and the many blessings He provides.



A special thank you to the anonymous donor who helped purchase the materials to help us create a pickleball activity court!



Exciting things are coming! We are getting closer to the Grand Opening of ATCNEW's very own micro business, All Things New Auto Spa. Stay connected for updates by following us on social media and visiting our website.

THANK YOU VISIBLE CHURCH

We are deeply grateful to the men of Visible Church for their incredible generosity, hospitality, and servant-hearted welcome at this year's Man Camp. Thanks to their kindness, our clients were given the opportunity to step away from the distractions and pressures of everyday life and immerse themselves in a weekend centered on faith, encouragement, and authentic connection.

From powerful times of worship and prayer to meaningful conversations, outdoor adventures, and delicious meals shared around the table, every moment reflected God's love in action. More than just a weekend retreat, Man Camp provided a place where our clients could be refreshed, strengthened, and reminded that they are not defined by their past struggles.

Weekends like this are life-giving. They help our clients see who they are in Christ and who they can become when surrounded by a community that believes in them, supports them, and walks alongside them on their journey. Thank you, Visible Church Men's Group, for investing in the lives of the men we serve and for being a powerful part of their recovery and restoration story.



A STORY OF HOPE: MEET MATTHEW



What felt like the end of my story was actually the beginning of a new one — a story of redemption, healing and hope.”



BEFORE



AFTER

My childhood was not always easy, but one thing I can say is that my parents always provided stability and care. I was raised in the Lutheran church, attended youth group, went to Bible camp, and participated in communion. I knew God existed, but I didn't have a personal relationship with Him. Around the age of seven, I experienced sexual abuse, which left wounds that impacted much of my childhood.

My biological father struggled with drugs and alcohol, which was one of the reasons my mother divorced him when I was very young. In 1988, she married my stepfather, who later adopted my brother and me. My mom was always kind, compassionate, and soft-hearted. My dad and I had our differences growing up, but looking back, I know I wasn't always easy to handle.

At twelve years old, I started experimenting with marijuana and alcohol. What began as experimentation slowly evolved into complete chaos. For ten years, I drank heavily, sometimes going through a 1.75-liter bottle every day or two. Eventually, I discovered methamphetamine, and my life spiraled even further out of control. I was arrested multiple times, placed on probation, and spent time in jail.

The darkness of addiction is difficult to describe unless you've lived it. It slowly takes hold of you before you even realize what is happening. Over time, the dysfunction, pain, and destruction become normal. You begin to cling to the darkness because it's all you've known. The lies you tell yourself become stronger, and the drugs become the only thing that seems to provide relief from your own thoughts.

But the relief never lasts.

The pain, shame, and unresolved wounds remain buried beneath the surface, waiting for the high to wear off.

Then the cycle starts all over again. Eventually, I no longer recognized the person I had become. What once felt like an escape turned into a chemical prison. I wasn't using drugs to get high anymore; I was using them simply to avoid getting sick. I was willing to do almost anything to keep the addiction fed.

As the years passed, I lost hope. A normal life no longer seemed possible. Toward the end of my addiction, I was lost, depressed, angry, and broken. I felt unwanted and untrustworthy. More than anything, I was confused that I was still alive. In my mind, I should have been dead. I didn't want to be here anymore.

But God had other plans.

What led me to **Adult & Teen Challenge Northeastern Wisconsin**? To be honest, I was sitting in the basement of a house, sick from withdrawal and seriously considering ending my life. The police were called, my parents showed up, and I entered yet another detox program. I don't remember every detail that led me through the doors of **Adult & Teen Challenge**, but I know this: I felt compelled to come here. It was as if every other option had been removed.

The first time I knew God had spoken directly to me happened at **Adult & Teen Challenge**. One night, I was lying awake, wondering how my life had reached this point and thinking about ways to leave the program. Suddenly, my mind became completely still, and I heard these words:

"My son, you have a name."

At the time, I didn't understand what those words meant. They seemed simple, yet they stayed with me. Today, I understand them differently. God was reminding me that I am not forgotten. I am not just an addict. My failures do not define me. I have an identity, a purpose, and a future in Him.

Looking ahead, I have many hopes for the future. I want to help others who are trapped in addiction discover the truth about who they are and why they were created. I want to share the hope that was given to me. And one day, I hope to have a family of my own.

Before coming to **Adult & Teen Challenge Northeastern Wisconsin**, I had completed a 30-day treatment program. I honestly don't remember how I first heard about **Adult & Teen Challenge**, but I am completely convinced that God led me here. What felt like the end of my story was actually the beginning of a new one—a story of redemption, healing, and hope.



ATCNEW MENTOR PROGRAM

Become a Mentor. Change a Life.

Mentorship is one of the most powerful ways to make a lasting difference in someone's recovery journey. As a mentor with **ATCNEW**, you'll walk alongside a client, building a meaningful, Christ-centered relationship that begins during their time in the program and continues for months after graduation.

It's more than just volunteering—it's a steady presence, a voice of encouragement, and a reflection of God's love. Many mentors and clients form lifelong friendships that continue well beyond the program.

Mentorship may be the perfect next step if you feel called to invest in someone's life and walk with them through transformation. Ready to mentor a life in transition?

Apply today and become part of a client's journey toward lasting freedom and faith. <https://atcnew.com/get-involved/mentor-application/>



ATCNEW is incredibly grateful for the partnership we have developed with Hepner Consulting. As a veteran-owned IT solutions provider founded on strong Christian values, their team has been a tremendous resource to our organization. From our very first meeting through the onboarding of our systems, Hepner Consulting took the time to understand our unique technology needs and provide solutions tailored to help our ministry operate more effectively and securely. Their professionalism, responsiveness, and commitment to excellence made the transition seamless. While our partnership has focused on managed IT services, Hepner Consulting's expertise extends far beyond technology support. They offer a wide range of solutions designed to help organizations thrive and grow.

We are thankful for their support and the value they bring to our ministry. We encourage you to learn more about their **services** by visiting their website at www.hepnerconsulting.com.

OUR VISION

Our vision is to help struggling individuals break the addiction cycle to see...

Lives Transformed, Families Restored, Communities Strengthened

TO DONATE:

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CONTACT:

info@atcnew.com 920-930-2444

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www.atcnew.com

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Adult & Teen Challenge

Northeastern Wisconsin

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