



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 23, 2020

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Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge to Open New Women's Treatment Facility

Grand opening anticipated for summer 2021

MINNEAPOLIS – Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge has broken ground on its new women's treatment and recovery facility. In fall 2019, Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge purchased the property located at 3111 First Avenue in Minneapolis. The new property will be used to expand and enhance the programs and services the organization offers for women struggling with substance use disorder.

Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge continues to see high demand for women's treatment services across Minnesota; this is its third residential facility within the Minneapolis metro area. The new 60,000 foot campus is being completely renovated and designed to address the specific needs of its female clients.



Kelsey Eller, the director of the Women's Recovery Program explains, "Women face unique challenges when it comes to recovery from substance use disorders. It's never just about getting sober. Instead it often involves overcoming past traumas, addressing underlying mental health needs such as anxiety or depression, and integrating considerations for children and family needs. In each situation, women first need a place that feels welcoming and safe so they can settle in, receive the care they need, and work toward long-term recovery. "

Minnesota Adult and Teen challenge took these needs to heart while developing plans for its building renovation. Many women seeking treatment have suffered trauma, so it was important to ensure the building would be a safe, healing space for them. Socialization and shared experiences are also important factors for women in treatment, so the organization has designed ample spaces for gathering including spacious counseling rooms and classrooms, a kitchen and dining area, a chapel, a well-equipped fitness area, and an in-house salon. Living arrangements for clients in the new facility include two- and three-bedroom apartments, allowing each client to have her own room while sharing a living space and bathroom with just one to two other women. Many of the women served by Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge also have children. Recognizing that being away from kids is particularly difficult, renovation plans include spacious places for families to visit, and indoor and outdoor play areas for when children are able to see their mothers. Renovations will take place throughout 2020.

Benson-Orth has been selected as the general contractor for the project. Benson-Orth has a long history of supporting Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge as an angel sponsor. In addition to providing financial support to the organization, Benson-Orth has provided general contracting services on several other Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge facilities including its administrative offices, its Rochester women's and men's facilities, and its Lakeside Academy residential program for teen boys located in St. Michael.

Mike Monson, CEO of Benson-Orth says, "As a Christian community, we believe strongly in the work of Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge. Our bottom line is this: we are here to help people and to change people's lives for a better tomorrow."

The purchase of the new facility was made possible thanks to generous donations provided by the Sea Foam organization and HOM Furniture.

Pastor Rich Scherber, CEO of Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge, says, "We're so fortunate to have long-standing relationships with generous supporters who come alongside us to help others. Their support allows us to continue to grow and to serve more people every year. Our work would not be possible without them."

About Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge

Minnesota Adult & Teen Challenge is a drug and alcohol treatment and recovery program that has been in operation since 1983. With 11 locations throughout the state, MnTC offers a full range of services including long-term recovery and short-term intensive treatment programs as well as extensive prevention services through the organization's program, Know the Truth (KTT) program. Each year, the Know the Truth team speaks in more than 160 high schools and middle schools across the state to educate youth and prevent underage substance use.

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