

Hello, ***Walking Tall's Story***

Tom and I have been making dreams a reality in the automotive business for over 30 years. We are taking the opportunity to use our experiences in a new and different way.

We live in a smaller community where a few years ago a tragic incident took place involving a teen girl. She was intentionally stalked and assaulted by 3 teenage boys, at a local community building that should be a safe haven for all teens. As a father of 2 daughters and a live-in nephew, Tom was deeply affected by the teen violence and wrestled with the question of how this could happen. It became evident these young men who committed the crime didn’t have men in their lives teaching them good character and respect. It was at this point; Tom felt compelled to gather good men to do something about this!!!

Three years ago Tom found some of those good men, started the ministry "Walking Tall" and crafted this mission statement. “***Compassionate life coaching men, establishing permanent connections with Christian faith-based mentorship, who will focus on teen young men to create hands-on experiences for job readiness, not limited to, carpentry, plumbing, electrical, automotive, fitness and outdoor activities which will build personal respect, integrity and character.*** In turn we see these teens gain confidence, good character, occupational skills and hope found in a God who loves them. As we develop young men, we will see an improved workforce, loving husbands and fathers producing stronger families and healthier community passed on to future generations.

We are pleased to announce in October we joined Youth for Christ. It was evident the missions of both organizations merge perfectly in the lives of young men who don’t have the necessary relationships to thrive. This allows us to broaden our reach, focus on the teens and strengthen the mission of both organizations. So now our new name is “Walking Tall-YFC”. We have started weekly automotive and carpentry projects with other activities scheduled monthly. This is a big commitment for us but believe it's a necessary step to accomplish the mission

As you can see, there’s an opportunity to make a huge difference in the lives of young men and communities, but we can’t accomplish this project without you. We need you to invest in the lives of these young men through your involvement in sharing your skills and your finances. We are starting with a ministry budget of $3000/month, which includes shop costs and some time taken away from my business. This amount is equivalent to just 120 gifts of $25 a month payable to WalkingTall/YFC or at [roguevalleyyfc.org](Toms%201st%20draft.docx) . Would you consider how much of that amount you could cover? Your donation or monthly pledge, no matter how large or small will help build a future and a hope for teen young men.

Thank you for caring about lost and hurting young people,

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