



# Walking Tall

Southern Oregon

## Walking Tall's Story

Hello,  
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 Southern Oregon" and crafted this mission statement. "Walking Tall is where compassionate life-coaching men, will utilize authentic Christ sharing relationships, to focus on teen young men, creating hands-on experiences in carpentry, plumbing, electrical, automotive, fitness, outdoors and any other activity that will build personal respect, integrity and character". Since then we have seen the lives of young men impacted by caring adults showing genuine interest, teaching useful skills, instilling good character and respect. 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.

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. Our resource needs are such as project materials, tools, food and other necessities. Your donation or monthly pledge, no matter how large or small will help build a future and a hope for teen young men. While we are in application of our own federal tax-exempt status, donors that require a personal tax-deductible contribution, please make checks payable to Trail Christian Fellowship, memo line: Walking Tall or pay online at [trail.org](http://trail.org) by selecting Walking Tall in the drop down window.

Thank you for caring about lost and hurting young people!

*Tom Smurzynski*  
CEO of Walking Tall Southern Oregon  
Website: [www.walkingtallso.org](http://www.walkingtallso.org)