

Relationships and Accountability To Students and Families

By Dave Batty

The Basics of Accountability¹

A. The Benefits of Accountability

1. It helps us develop _____
2. It helps us to grow
3. It opens doors to _____ living
4. It helps us become better at making _____

B. How do I get started?

1. I must say, "I want to be accountable."
2. Choose the person to whom you will be accountable.
3. Determine to be _____.
4. Set boundaries for accountability.

Exactly what do you want to be held accountable for?
This needs to be specific enough that you can measure your progress.

5. Determine meeting schedule.

Leadership and Accountability

We often think of accountability where students should be accountable to the staff, and staff should be accountable to their leaders. And this is true. However, what is the place accountability has in the life of the leader of this ministry? Specifically, as we consider what it means to be a servant leader, how does accountability fit into your life?

As a leader in your ministry, how do you want to be held accountable by the students in your program and their family members?

Let's look at this issue from three different stages of the time the person is connecting with Teen Challenge.

1. Before entering the Teen Challenge Program—the intake process
2. While the student is in the Teen Challenge Program
3. After the student leaves the program—either as a graduate or a drop-out

At each stage, Teen Challenge staff need to have a clear understanding of the right relationships they should have with both the student and the family of the student.

1. Before entering the TC Program—the intake process

We are not going to examine each component of a successful intake process, but we want to focus on what is the TC staff's priority in building a relationship with the family and the potential TC student.

What are the key issues that the staff needs to be attentive to in building a **relationship** with the student and the family before this person enters the TC program?

- A.
- B.
- C.
- D.
- E.

What are the issues of **accountability** that the staff needs to be attentive to in the intake process?

Accountability to the prospective student

- A.
- B.
- C.
- D.
- E.

Accountability to the family of the prospective student

- A.
- B.
- C.
- D.
- E.

2. While the student is in the TC Program

What is the TC staff's priority in building a relationship with the family and the TC student while this person is in the TC residential program?

What are the key issues that the staff needs to be attentive to in building a **relationship** with the student and the family while this person is a student in the TC program?

- A.
- B.
- C.
- D.
- E.

What are the issues of **accountability** that the staff needs to be attentive to as this person goes through the program?

Accountability to the student

- A.
- B.
- C.
- D.
- E.

Accountability to the family of the student

- A.
- B.
- C.
- D.
- E.

3. After the student leaves the program—either as a graduate or a drop-out

What is the TC staff's priority in building a relationship with the family and the TC student after this person leaves the TC residential program?

The need for a staff to have primary responsibility for following up on graduates and drop-outs.

What are the key issues that the staff needs to be attentive to in building a **relationship** with the student and the family after this person leaves the TC program?

- A.
- B.
- C.
- D.
- E.

What are the issues of **accountability** that the staff needs to be attentive to after this person has left the program?

Accountability to the former student

- A.
- B.
- C.
- D.
- E.

Accountability to the family of the former student

- A.
- B.
- C.
- D.
- E.

Problem issues:

1. Romantic relationships with students or family members of students.
2. Issues of racial prejudice.
3. Staff borrowing money from students.
4. Substitute parents to a student (Students calling a staff “Mom” or “Dad”)
- 5.
- 6.

Questions

Notes

¹ For more information on the basics of accountability see the article, ***“Learning the life skill of Accountability,”*** by Dave Batty. Source: www.iTeenChallenge.org in the Resources or Ministry Tools section.