



# The Journey of Trust

Reflecting the glow of recovery from Starlight at Tamassee

By Jon Holland, CEO of Tamassee DAR School



I'm in the stage of life when my children are moving from adolescence to adulthood, and a key milestone of that transition is learning to drive. The joy and challenge of their driver's education is largely mine in the Holland family. I'm two down with two to go.

My older two were quite reticent to learn to drive mostly because they were afraid of having an accident. But needs must, and when it was time for dual enrollment classes and part time jobs, they relented and began the process. At first, we only drove around the Tamassee campus – slowly. Occasionally, I had to push a right knee to get the acceleration above 10 mph. In time, they were ready to tackle Highway 11 and then “the big city” traffic in Walhalla and Seneca. As the driving lessons wore on, they came to believe they could handle the car and stay safe on the road. Their confidence grew along with their skill.

What a picture of recovery from addiction. Those of us who struggle often have good reasons not to trust others. We've experienced significant wounding in our lives, and we learned to be cautious for fear of being hurt again. Yet our failure to trust others drove us into

isolation and addiction. If we were ever going to find our way out, we were going to have to learn to ask for help and trust good people willing to support our recovery.



Step Two of the Twelve Steps says we “came to believe a Power greater than myself could restore me to sanity.” For most of us belief is a process. The kind of belief the Steps describe is not just believing a set of facts like the multiplication table or even the brain science of addiction. No, this kind of belief is relational trust. We came to believe in a caring God who has the power to restore us to wholeness. Like teenagers learning to drive, for many of us this a slow process of learning to trust God. We move through the challenges of reconciling our painful pasts with God’s goodness. Then we surrender to his love and guidance day by day and discover over time that he really can be trusted. Eventually, we are talking with God through the day, every day, fully confident in his attention and direction.

At Starlight at Tamasee, we believe in the journey of faith, and we give moms and children the time and space to build a relationship of trust with God. To learn more about Starlight, visit [www.starlight.tdarschool.org](http://www.starlight.tdarschool.org), or contact us at 864-944-1390 or [starlight@tdarschool.org](mailto:starlight@tdarschool.org). If your church or civic group is interested in a presentation on recovery, contact Jon Holland at [jholland@tdarschool.org](mailto:jholland@tdarschool.org).

