



## Meet Terese!

**Terese Juntz is one of Teen Esteem's newest board members and supporters. We sat down with her to learn more!**

### How did you get involved with Teen Esteem?

I was looking for a place to serve where I could apply my gifts to charitable work. One of the areas I feel passionate about is helping teenagers flourish in their maturity as they prepare to enter life as an independent adult. My friend, Chris Crawford, shared with me his passion and service to Teen Esteem's mission as a board member. He invited me to a Teen Esteem dinner where I heard more about the organization and their growth plans. Before considering joining the board, I asked my teenage daughters whether they ever participated in either an assembly or classroom presentation by Teen Esteem. Their answer was, yes! Both recounted positive experiences for themselves and their classmates and I knew that Teen Esteem was right for me!

**“ Thank You for making me realize that I mean more to people than I thought. Now, everyday I wake up and feel like a teacup. I didn't know how valuable I was!”**

### How has Teen Esteem helped you as a parent?

Teen Esteem's Parent Ed night gave me information about the risky behaviors common in the schools my daughters attend. The parent resources on Teen Esteem's website have increased my awareness of the everyday struggles teens face, and provided examples on effective ways to engage my daughters in conversation about risky behaviors and how to avoid them.

### How has Teen Esteem helped your daughters?

My girls have grown in their self-confidence as a result of hearing they are special and have value because of who they are, rather than their worth being defined by what they do. Being involved with Teen Esteem is an opportunity for my daughters and me to share the hopeful and encouraging message with others that they are precious, unique, and irreplaceable...like a valuable teacup.



**Volunteer Speaker, Tim Lee has been with Teen Esteem for 5 years.**

Teen Esteem is an amazing organization with a great mission. It is one that has wonderful people with huge hearts to bring change to the culture that surrounds our kids, their classrooms, schools and families.

As a speaker, I get to go into classrooms to talk about positive life choices. I get the chance to warn students about possible consequences to high risk decisions like using illegal drugs, prescription medication, drinking alcohol and being sexually active. I get to share "The Teacup" illustration, which communicates that **the life of every student is not disposable or worthless, replaceable or average, but that every student's life has value!**

I love volunteering with Teen Esteem because I get to speak truth to the student who has never been told that their life has value.

I get to engage with the student who has never been empowered to say "no" to the pressures around them.

I get to be a reminder to the student who knows these truths deep within, but seems to be wavering. I get to give students tools before they ever face their first struggle.

The best part about being with Teen Esteem is not the amazing mission, the great people, or the positive message...it's **getting to connect with the hearts of students** who are struggling to establish their identities. Getting students to see that their value is in who they are - not in what they have or have not done - is an opportunity I'd take any day. Getting to relay this message is worth the time and energy because these students are all teacups and their lives are worth it!

**“ We admire the speakers for being so honest and upfront with the students. The energy they bring and the care in which they bring it is amazing! Great meaning and message behind the topics.”**

### Partnership news

Teen Esteem continues work as a collaborative partner in the SAPP program (Substance Abuse Prevention Partnership), helping educate student-athletes, coaches and parents about the dangers of substance abuse, especially as it relates to prescription drug abuse.



### Teen Esteem 2016-17 School Year by the Numbers

**14,859** students heard our life-changing message

**4,723** parents/adults reached

**37** classroom presentations

**11** school assemblies

**55** adult education events

**1,289** volunteer hours

**44%** increase in students reached

**95%** of students said the Teen Esteem presentation provided them with tools to make a difference in their life!

### Did you know?

**Teen Esteem has reached over 208,460 students and parents since 1994!**