

# Passport Story

## RESPONSIBILITY

### Say what, I'm not going home!

Have you ever done something you knew was wrong? Well, Shane Sullards did. And his bad choices led to terrible results.

Shane's poor choices started at a young age. When he was 9 he started sneaking cigarettes. At age 12 he was drinking regularly. And at 13 he was doing drugs. When he was 14 he started burglarizing houses to pay for his bad habits. Shane's poor choices led to being expelled from 3 schools. Then one day his poor choices caught up with him. The police came to search his house. Finding stolen goods led to his day in court.

Shane was shocked when the judge said, "Son, I don't think you understand! Home is no longer an option for you." He felt hopeless and angry.

He was lucky to end up at Eagle Ranch. It's a home for kids with big problems. His first 3 months were really tough. He was very unhappy. He wanted nothing to do with life.

But Shane came to see that it was his responsibility to make good choices. He saw that bad choices produce bad fruit. And

good choices produce good fruit. He said, "I was responsible for my past poor choices and their painful results." He began to look at life differently. He made the choice to enjoy Eagle Ranch. He saw the chance he had to get his life on a good path to true success. He made things good with his parents. He learned valuable lessons during his 5½ years at Eagle Ranch. He thanks people there for helping him develop positive behavior skills.

One of the great lessons Shane learned was the importance of setting worthy goals. He says, "People that have no goals will rarely accomplish anything in life. Even if they did, they wouldn't recognize it." He says that without goals people have no direction, no purpose.

Shane's life goals include dancing with his wife, Steph, at their 70<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary and climbing Mount Everest.

Note: this text has been leveled for grades 3-5. For more of this and other lifestories checkout LifeStories of HOPE books. Also see multiple videos and other resources @ [www.TrueSuccessTools.org](http://www.TrueSuccessTools.org).

#### Questions can lead to understanding

- 1) What evidence is there that Shane took responsibility for his poor choices to make the most of his life? What did he have to overcome to do that?
- 2) How has Shane taken responsibility later in life? What sacrifices do you think he makes to be responsible? What are the benefits?
- 3) How can you learn from Shane's lifestory and benefit from being responsible? What specific action can you take to be more responsible?