

RESTORE MINISTRIES INC.

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2022

VOLUME 14 , ISSUE 5

“The Good You Are All Doing”



Executive Director's Message

“I like Restore, I have friends at Restore.” “We go on the best trips.” “I like talking to Ms. Ximena and Mr. Bagby.” “Restore is like my second family.” Here are just some of the things our members are saying, and it is because of your care and giving, more are showing up and getting involved with Restore. Like other youth serving organizations, we are still recovering from the Pandemic. We had 55 members during the academic year and an additional 15 at our summer program. Now we have a total of 50 students in both programs. As we inch forward in membership we recognize that we must do things differently in order to get better results. Developing strong partnerships is one of the keys or new ways Restore has taken to be stronger in youth development. Restore Ministries has a long history with The Elizabethport Presbyterian Center. We collaborate each summer to offer a month-long program.

This summer the Elizabeth Branch of the NAACP joined us. Those partnerships brought us close to pre-pandemic numbers. We are working on continuing with them this academic year. We're at the introduction stage with a local church in Elizabeth to expand with cooking classes. Patience is what is needed. It takes time to build relationships with students, parents, and within the community. For those who do not grow up in an urban area or city, one of the largest hurdles is the pace of life. People, especially young people, are busy and have a hard time seeing how they can add anything else to their already overwhelming schedule. While this is certainly challenging, it also creates more opportunities for Restore staff and volunteers to be present and available. Your financial support of this work affords the staff and myself the privilege to devote our working hours to youth development. Spending time with students and

their families is a gift and we are filled with gratitude because of your faithfulness. God's mission is an “all of life” calling; we have been sent by God to move into the lives and spaces children and youth occupy and bring hope into existence. You are the real heroes. You may not physically be here but you make possible the everyday comings and goings that our volunteers and staff experiences each time we interact with our youth. You broaden children's and teenager's worlds when they attend a play or go out to eat at a diner for the first time. You put pride in many of our members when they tell us they are getting great grades because of the help they received in the homework center. You impart a sense of control and purpose in the children and teenagers who volunteer to clean up a park, plant a tree, or collect canned goods for a food pantry. You are building leaders every Monday after school as groups of second through twelfth graders gather for large and small group activities that are teaching them; how to solve problems, communicate better, take initiative, and work in groups. Providing partnerships, patience, and hope is what you are doing when you pray and financially support Restore. Your gifts are responsible for us being with young people during the day and after school hours. Thank you and spread the good word and accomplishments you make possible at Restore to your family, friends and colleagues.

Mr. Linwood Bagby



RESTORE AT A GLANCE



Homework Center



Community Service



Happy Holidays
To You



Our Alumni

Four Centuries in a Weekend
at the Church



Thank you Richard, Marc Anthony, and Jakub for being our tour guide at the historic church.



Student's Profile

My Name is Sebastian. I am 9 years old, and I am in the 4th Grade. I found out about Restore when I was 6. My older brother asked if I wanted to join Restore. And I said yes. My first day at Restore was at the summer program. I had a lot of fun! Restore helped me with studying my reading and math, and I get to go to the Papermills Playhouse House to see real plays, bowling, and trips. I'm excited to go bowling again because I got good grades and made it to the honor roll scholars program at Restore. At Restore, I have lots of fun and play games in person.

Sebastian



HYBRID AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM

Monday **in person**
3 to 6:00 pm
Tuesday, Thursday
Virtual
3:30 pm to 6:30 pm

Program site address:
The Snyder Academy
42 Broad Street,
Elizabeth, NJ 07201

**REALIZING...
POTENTIAL...
MAXIMIZING...
ACHIEVEMENT...**

Program Director's Message

Shaping Minds

Mr. Bagby's executive message describes what Restore does within our different programs. Restore's summer arts enrichment program is the busiest and most intensive for us, and loved by our parents and youth. But I want to share and emphasize the importance and the content of our afterschool programs. After the pandemic, many parents work outside the home and may struggle to find adequate supervision for their children during the after school hours.

The pandemic is having a negative impacted on Restore's attendance. But we are on the stage of increasing our numbers and focused on offering structured programs for those parents that are in need of finding a program for their children. We ensure them that their children and teens are safe, engaged, and in a healthy and caring place.

Their children are better at resolving conflicts, communicate better, are more cooperative, and improve their social skills because of their involvement with Restore.

We offer college coaching to our junior and senior high students. They go through a complete step by step guide to make their journey transitioning from high school to college more manageable for both them and their parents or guardians.

Incentives are good ways to motivate our members. That is why we plan honor roll trips for every marking period. We also offer community service hours to high school students who help set up and clean up at our family dinners and help during homework. They run small group teambuilding activities, and with our supervision, they learn to help, share their gifts and talents and develop their leadership skills.



Honor Roll Scholar Students

We appreciate the growing partnership of Elizabethport Center, Incredible Days, Institute of Music for Children, Phillip66, Federal Work Study of Union County College, the City of Elizabeth and the Union County Department of Human Services. And of course, thank you all for your kind financial support.

This is the good you all are doing for children, youth, and our community.

Thank you, and Happy Holidays

Ms. Ximena Carrasco

TRANSFORM A LIFE: DONATE TODAY

Children and teenagers need you more than ever. We have good news to share with you. A \$5000 challenge is given to encourage you to help Restore now and until December 31, 2022. The first \$5000 will be matched. Your financial gift will have a greater impact.

- ◆ \$15- Provides a meeting with students over tea/soda.
- ◆ \$30- Helps six students to meet in a small group for life discussions.
- ◆ \$150- Provides training for high school and young adults leaders.
- ◆ \$250- Host a youth or young adult outreach event.
- ◆ \$500- Throw a community pizza party.



CONTACT US

Email: info@restorekids.org
Restore1161@gmail.com

Tax-deductible donations can be made by scanning the QR code and visiting our Donate page, or by mailing a check to:
 P.O. BOX 29
 Elizabeth, New Jersey 07207



Donate!

<https://restorekids.org/>
<https://m.facebook.com/restorekids>
 Instagram: [@restore_ministries_inc](https://www.instagram.com/restore_ministries_inc)

RESTORE AT A GLANCE



The Snyder Academy of Elizabethtown



INCREDIBLE DAYS



ELIZABETHPORT PRESBYTERIAN CENTER

NAACP



Visit us on the web!

<https://restorekids.org/>