



P.O. BOX 29
Elizabeth, NJ 07207
Located at 1161 East Jersey St.
Elizabeth NJ, 07201

Phone: 908-352-5522
Mobile: 908-400-3293
E-mail: lbagby2002@yahoo.com
Restore1161@gmail.com

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RESTORE AT A GLANCE



STUDENT'S PROFILE : High School Students volunteering in Soup kitchen in Atlantic City



(L-R) Jakub, Wilfredo and Giovanni

REALIZING...

POTENTIAL...

MAXIMIZING...

ACHIEVEMENT...

"The purpose of our mission was to provide aid and service for the homeless and the less fortunate. During this experience, we learned how the poor deal with poverty and what it means to help them. I met several nice people including Pastor Vicky and her parishioners. They helped me with my experience by providing instruction and authority. This experience impacted me by teaching me how to be responsible and how to help others in need. The advice I give my peers would be to think of others before yourself and have integrity."

— **Jakub Klimkowski**

"Our mission's purpose was to help the people in need that can't financially support themselves and order to survive. My experience in Atlantic City was very emotional because you see people that rely on volunteers like us in order to get by and survive. We met Pastor Vicky a very inspiring person that helped us learn that there are other people out there that are suffering, starving and homeless and nobody but a few people are doing anything to help. The trip to Atlantic City helped me become a better person by realizing there are other people who face greater difficulties everyday. I advice people to take responsibility to their own hands and play a bigger role in helping others." — **Wilfredo Baez**

"The reason for the mission was to help people in need and to try to make a person's life better. I learned to not judge people and to always help others in need. Someone we met was pastor Vicky and her youth group was a good experience working with people I didn't know. This impacted me because it taught me to not be selfish and to be a responsible person. The advice I would give to the younger ones is to help people in need." — **Giovanni Gomez**

SERVING URBAN YOUTH

RESTORE MINISTRIES INC

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Helen Keller (1880 – 1968), "Although the world is full of suffering, it is full also of the overcoming of it."



Teen leaders on a field trip to New York City

was able to forge early independence in many ways because I could pay for the extras that I wanted and my parents would not buy. That first job stayed with me throughout middle and high school years. It kept me busy. I learned a lot about myself and how to work with people. It build my confidence and most importantly, it help me to value others because most of my clients were senior citizens. Those types of jobs going door to door and going into other people's homes is not cool anymore. Too much is at stake and rightly so parents are not willing to take chances with their children. The present economy has also hit hard the prospects for teen employment. It is simple getting more and more difficult for today teens, especially those in the urban cities, to find work and learn important community values. An excellent alternatives to part time and summer jobs are teens volunteering and doing community service work.

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EXECUTIVE'S MESSAGE

Why Community Service Work is Beneficial for Restore Teenagers

The Personal Benefits of Teen Volunteering:

- Develops an increased sense of social responsibility—a global view of society and a heart for "giving back" and helping others.
- Exposes teens to diversity and multiculturalism.

- Provides an opportunity to apply academic learning to real human needs.

- Builds relationships and "social connectedness" with peers, adults, and activists sharing a cause.

- Improves com-

munication and critical thinking skills.

The Spiritual Benefits of Teens Volunteering:

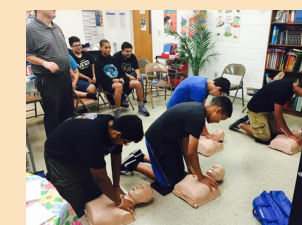
- Provides an increased sense of purpose.
- Increases teens' sense of empathy.

- Works to make teens more generous.

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Phillips 66 Volunteers tutoring our members



Teen Leader/ future leaders at CPR and First aid training



Erik completing Community Service Hours

“Although the world is full of suffering, it is full also of the overcoming of it.”



Younger members of Reading Club at Field Station Dinosaur field trip



“You are what you do, not what you say you’ll do.”

— **C.G. JUNG**



Junior Staff at our summer program

Of course, I believe most teens still look for—and appreciate—the benefits of working in a part-time or summer job but I see worthwhile community service as becoming one of the key resources to teach personal independence and personal and community values.

It may be somewhat obvious, but worth noting to remind us all that teens *should volunteer as much as they can throughout their teen years. At Restore Ministries, we create volunteering opportunities for our teenagers so they can benefit in a range of ways from increased self-esteem to acquiring valuable job skills. And it goes without saying that community service is also a critical component of a successful college application.*

Thirteen year old Joahn was too old to be on the Restore basketball team. Instead he volunteered to be our junior basketball coach. He took his coaching responsibilities seriously. Six sophomore Restore members volunteered to be junior staff at our 2015 summer program. They were group leaders, helped with snacks and lunches, provided recreation and chaperoned at field trips. Ximena, our program director, let me know how valuable their contribution was to the success of the program. At

the end of July three of them agreed to go overnight with Springfield Presbyterian Church’s youth to serve at two soup kitchens in Atlantic City.

Our new volunteer, Melinda, said it right. “What I appreciate about Restore is that we are teaching valuable lessons that it is not all about “me” to our kids. It’s about reaching out and giving to others regardless of our circumstances.”

This September/October edition is filled with examples and articles on why community service work is beneficial for Restore children and teens. I hope you take time to read every article. Ximena’s article will highlight the summer program and the positive effects our teenage volunteers had on both students and staff. Jakub, Giovanni and Wilfredo will share their volunteering time in Atlantic City. There is a short article that bullets the positive benefits of teens learning to serve others.

Community service was less emphasized when I was a kid. Today, I am often impressed by the Restore teens. They may not have the kind of jobs I did in my youth, but they are learning valuable skills, gaining confidence, and are interacting with those who are different as they learn to serve others. They are



High School members & Volunteer Ms. Melinda during SAT practice at Homework Center

leading the younger Restore members, learning how to lead, serving as junior staff, preparing and serving meals, building houses, interacting with the elderly, preparing for future jobs and colleges and more. They realize that community service has the potential to be life changing in more ways than one.

Thank you for your faithful prayers and financial gifts to Restore. You are making a difference in each child and teenager who enters and becomes a Restore member.



Ministry All-stars – Our basketball team participating in a City league



EXECUTIVE’S MESSAGE

Continued from page 1
Why Community Service Work is Beneficial for Restore Teenagers

- Raises self-esteem and creates a sense of gratitude.
- Builds faith by helping teen to feel good about themselves and the world they live in.

The College Admissions Benefits of Teen Volunteering:

Helps students stand out among other applicants; admissions officers want well rounded co-eds who volunteer; service work is a leading decision

major factor after a student's GPA and SAT scores.

- Provides a topic of interest for college essays; emphasis on "why" and "how" a student has tackled an issue.

The Career Benefits of Teen Volunteering:

- Helps students find their passion and interest that may lead to a career choice

they may have not considered.

- Helps develop life-long interpersonal and communication skills. Community service is an essential way for students to explore their interests, show colleges what they believe in, and define a possible career path. By engaging in volunteer work, Restore teens have an opportunity to learn experi-

entially. They discover where their passion lie while undertaking "feel good" projects that truly make a difference. These experiences allow them to make more informed choices about college and career options as well as instilling a lifelong interest in giving back.

Mr. Linwood Bagby

PROGRAM COORDINATOR’S MESSAGE: SUMMER PROGRAM 2015



Junior Staff and Staff (Anthony, Carmen, Jakub, Michelle, Richard, Wilfredo, Sandra, Joshua and Ximena)

The Summer program was prepared in a way that the children could enjoy and at the same time acquire different skills. For all activities, the students were divided into groups according to their age and grades. The Reading and Math clubs were essential because they were use to keep the material that kids learned throughout the school year fresh making it less difficult to forget during the summer. In

the Arts & crafts class, students were given small projects such as creating chocolate covered pretzels that resembled animals. At the end of the day they would take home their creations. There were also two big projects which the participants had fun using their imagination and creativity. Dance Clinic consisted of a combination of Latin music such as salsa, merengue and bachata, as well as hip hop. Sports Clinic was used to teach the kids the basic rules and instructions of soccer, basketball and volleyball. The summer Program was also filled with water games, icebreakers, free expression, and plenty of relaxing time in which we turned off the lights and watched a movie in a quiet atmosphere. However, what the children loved the most were the carefully planned field trips. This year we had two field trips each week. One would be to a local parks like Mattano, Kellogg or Rizzuto. And the other trips were to places such as

AMC theater, Turtle Back Zoo, Roller Skating, and Jenkinson Aquarium/ Boardwalk at Point Pleasant. To close this successful program we had our end of the summer program BBQ at Warinanco Park in which family and friends were allowed to participate. I cannot pass up this opportunity to express my satisfaction. Our atmosphere is what makes them want to return the next day. This demonstrates that we, as a team, and as a family, are doing something right and above all beneficial for our children. My team, my excellent staff, is always willing to put their best and to collaborate. Thank you for your excellent work.

In regards to the High school leaders/future leaders members of Restore, (Anthony, Richard, Jakub, Joshua, Wilfredo, Giovanni and Joahn) I feel very proud of them, they showed responsibility and commitment.

They were always the first to arrive and everyone did what was expected. They had incredible patience with the younger children. I have no words to express how pleased I am with them. This group is very special to me and I am absolutely certain that they will do great things in their lives. The collaboration of parents was extremely beneficial to the program and for that I am totally grateful. Mr. Bagby, thank you for your guidance and for making time to join us at one of the trips. I always say team work is the key to success. Restore Summer Program was a success because of all of us, Donors, Board Members, Staff, Parents, Volunteers and especially our Restore Members, without you all it would not be possible. Thank you so much.

Ms. Ximena Carrasco