

## RESTORE AT A GLANCE



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### UPCOMING EVENTS:

\* **Annual Science Fair**  
May 22 - 23

\* **Generosity New Jersey  
5K Run/Walk 2017**  
Oak Ridge Park, Clark, NJ.  
June 4



### Student's Profile:

### Angela and Brian



We are both 9 years old in the third grade. We are fraternal twins. We both attend to elementary school right here in Elizabeth New Jersey. We started going to Restore Ministries since September of 2016.

How we heard about Restore is through our friend Adam's mom. She told our mom so many great things about Restore that our mom decided to check it out for herself. Once our mom got the information about Restore she let us join and we are so happy. Restore means a lot to us because since we have been here my brother and I get a chance to meet other kids in the program that feels exactly the way we do.

At Restore we get help with our homework, we learn how to pray, we learned what Easter is really about. We get to play and make new friends. We do chores such as cleaning up after meal, sweeping the floors, and putting away equipment. Restore teach us how to be responsible people.

Restore helps us in many ways. They care about our education which is the best part of the program. Restore has been a part of our agenda every Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday and we are praying by God's will that we will be here right through high school. Thank you for all that you do for us, we are happy to be a part of the Restore family.

Realizing...  
Potential...  
Maximizing...  
Achievement...

SERVING URBAN YOUTH

# RESTORE MINISTRIES, INC

MARCH - APRIL 2017

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## Forming Healthy Relationships



Honor Roll Students' Field Trip

The Search Institute ([www.search-institute.org](http://www.search-institute.org)), through research and advocacy, have listed 40 positive experiences and qualities or assets that all of us in youth development should implement to help children and youth strive. Since September 2014, Restore has been committed to developing these key factors in our programs and relationships because we believe that the more assets our members are exposed to and learn to apply the better chances they will be able to grow up well.

*"The Building Blocks of Youth Development"*

No one group can provide all 40 assets. At Restore, we know that we cannot do it all. We collaborate with parents, schools, youth organizations, places of worship and individual adults that interact with our members. We have Restore members on school sports teams, involved in their churches or mosques, reading with mentors, volunteering in the community and involved in another afterschool program creating videos. Our members need to be in relationship with positive people and organizations so they are exposed to as many of the 40 assets as possible. Strong adult mentors, schools, churches and community organizations matters to positive youth development.

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### PARENT'S MESSAGE



What Restore has meant to us. We notice our son opening up more because he is such a shy person and we wanted him to come out of his shell

so Restore has done that for him and we are grateful. Our daughter on the other hand has developed a passion for cooking thanks to Restore. She tells us that Mr. Bagby lets the kids help him prepare the meals which makes them feel important. We realized that this interaction and quality time is important. That taught us to let her participate in our kitchen and let her help us with the cooking which is a plus.

We can say so many great things about Restore but what drew us in was that they generally care about our kids future. Restore is a way to give our kids a great head start by preparing them for their future. Restore's staff helps elementary students with their homework and high school students prepare for the SAT.

This proves that Restore really cares about our

kids' future. As parents we feel comfortable and trust the staff.

Thank you so much for your support and prayers. We are so grateful for your help and we pray that Restore Ministries will be around for another 20 plus years.

That shows that God is working through Restore Ministries!!

*Rony Dupoux and  
Sheila Dupoux  
parents of  
Brian and Angela*

*“The Building Blocks of Youth Development”*

*Continued from page 1*



Children during Homework Center with Phillips66 & Union County College Tutors



Annual Easter Egg Hunt



Children practicing for Vocabulary Challenge



Vocabulary Land Challenge

Whatever way you intersect with youth, as pastor, parent, teacher, youth worker, or family member, you can play an important role in building the 40 assets in their lives and in the organizations (schools, places of worship, youth groups, families and work) they frequent. In addition to the 40 assets (I do not have space to name all forty of them so please look them up) the Search Institute also created “The Developmental Relationship Framework” to help us know the kinds of relationships through which children and teenagers

develop strengths such as positive identity, agency, and commitment to community.

**(Developmental Relationship Framework: The Search- Institute July 2016)**

Children and teenagers want adults and organizations in their lives that:

1. Express Care- Show me that I matter to you.
2. Challenge Growth- Push me to keep getting better.

3. Provide Support- Help me complete tasks and achieve goals.

4. Share Power- Treat me with respect and give me a say.

5. Expand Possibilities - Connect me with people and places that broaden my world.

Every one of us can learn and use these important relationship building blocks that are meaningful and connecting children and youth to hopeful futures.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S MESSAGE**

“Every kid is one caring adult away from being a success story.”  
**(Josh Shipp)**

They had a hole in them and someone still took them. I must pick up the brothers and spend my money to buy new sneakers before we hop on the train into New York City; their first field trip with Restore. The theft gave us a late start. I want to put this out of my mind and concentrate on the two brothers. I need to call the restaurant and change the reservation to 6 pm.

John is the inquisitive older brother with the killer smile. He’s very protective of his little brother Ethan. Ethan seems to be

amazed by all he sees. As we walk to the first museum, Ethan holds onto the back of John’s coat so he will not get swallowed up into the streams of people on the streets.

We entered the Madame Tussaud’s Wax Museum, the boys’ choice. To be honest, I did not know most of the contemporary figures. I did know the old timers and the Marvel action super heroes. The second museum, Discovery Times Square, pre showing of Gulliver’s Gate, was my choice. We explored 49,000 square feet of interactive miniature models of cities and communities from around the world. Both museums took about

90 minutes each to explore.

The boys have never been to an eatery like this one. Cloth napkins, two forks and no plastic ware was a mystery that had to be explained. Ethan is fascinated that we needed two forks to eat our meal. He said he doesn’t mind because the food is “sooooo good”.

By now they are talking and asking me tons of questions about the museums, the food and what other trips were in the plans. I explained to them that because of coupons and special deals, we could experience a lot today. Our next trip will be in May, miniature golfing.

*Continued on page 3*

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S MESSAGE**

*Continued from page 2*

Now it's my turn to ask a string of questions. What do you like about Restore? What do you do when you are not in school or at Restore? Do you know why they have that smaller fork? John, you’re going into high school, have you thought about college? We are taking kids to Rutgers University on the April 29th. I want you to go. It’s never too early to check out colleges. You guys ever think about God? What is God like to you? I’m speak-

ing at a church in Trenton in two weeks, do you guys want to come with me and the others from Restore?

John takes out his phone. He will have to do a lot better in high school to get into some of the military schools he showed me. John enjoys language arts, reading, and writing. He is articulate and thinks before he speaks. Ethan said he is too young to think about

college. He excels in school and is on the honor roll.

The train was crowded on our way back. It was late. I was tired, but thankful for the time I got to know the brothers better. I texted their Mom that night to tell her how much I enjoyed spending the day with her boys. They were respectful, funny, thoughtful, and talkative. I commended on how nice it was to see brothers showing affection

for one another. She is a Restore alumni. She texted back that it is hard at times to raise two boys on her own. She thinks it is really cool to have her sons spend time with me like she and her brothers did when they were kids.

We said our good nights. I roll into bed thanking God in my prayers that I did not allow a bad start at the gym ruin my attitude and day. (The brothers’ names were changed)

*Linwood Bagby*



Two days of Vocabulary Land Challenge

I usually give an update of the activities done during the past two months, but in this occasion I will not do it because if you please look at all the pictures you would see our children, parents, volunteers, staff involved in Honor Roll Field Trips, Easter Egg Hunt, Vocabulary Challenge, Soccer Clinic, our Homework Center and more.

Therefore I would love to expand on the main article by

sharing my training at the Search Institute and how I apply those Developmental Relationship Framework principals day to day at Restore. I realize that with love we automatically begin to apply the 40 Assets suggested by the Search Institute. **“To the world you might be one person, but to one person you might be the world.”** You might ask how? . This is the answer.

Yes, you may not think you have much to offer, but the truth is that most children and teenagers are transformed by the small things adults do each day. These efforts may seem like “no big deal to us”, but small actions and simple words can have a huge payoff to children. At Restore, building on the Relationship Framework is very important because our program is about changing children and youth’s lives by loving them. Here are some of the personal attitudes, skills and actions that help us create healthy Relationships: be open and honest, listen and understand, laugh with them, model positive values and set boundaries and limits, treat children and teenagers with respect, see them as “our” responsibility and be real- be yourself.



Children tested at the Vocabulary Challenge



I hope you enjoy this issue and as always thank you for your kind support! God bless you.

*Ximena Carrasco*