

# RESTORE MINISTRIES INC

## 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

OCTOBER - NOVEMBER

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 4

### *Afterschool Programs Can Make a Difference*

During the past six years Restore has been going through a transition. "How can we include in the Restore experience, high quality programs and services, that will not only make us a safe haven, but also help our kids participate in less risky behaviors and experience greater school success?"

Well, the research is relatively new. It acknowledged that schools, especially in the inner cities, are hard pressed to

meet the growing needs of city children and teenagers. The emotional and academic gaps between children in wealthier districts as compared to inner city youth has shrunk some. But there still needs to be a concerted effort between schools and those who work outside the schools, like after schools programs, to give inner city children and especially teens the tools needed to close those

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*Restore's members, Board members, Volunteers, family, friends and Staff at Hallows eve party*



*Members during Homework Center*

### *Executive Director's Message*

#### *Happy Birthday Restore*

In 1994 I received a letter from the IRS granting Restore 501 (C) 3 approval to work as a non profit organization. I read the paper over and over again, knowing that Restore just entered a new era in regards to delivering services and programs to the eight teenagers who were coming once a week. Little did I know the impact and the good that Restore would bring into the lives of hundreds of

young people and their families in the twenty years of our existence. Our goal by December 31, 2014 is to have the same 40 students attend our meetings at least 3 times per week. We started the school year, September, with 15. Our membership has grown to 36. The Elizabeth Board of Education agreed that we can display our brochure in the public schools so parents and area schools will



*Mr. Bagby giving a speech to family and friends at Restore's Open House*

know how to get their children involved with Restore. We hope to meet our number of 40 members in the next two months.

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## *Afterschool Programs can make a difference*

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gaps and help them reach goals for a better life (college or trade school that leads to high skilled jobs).

Research states that longer duration (number of days per week and multiple years in the program) and greater intensity (attending many activities, services and trips offered) are the key ingredients of a high quality afterschool programs' ability to teach social skills and help students achieve greater school success. Members in after school programs who participate multiple years and attend various different activities and services often benefit the most. This is especially true for inner city teenagers, however, access to afterschool programs may be lacking due to poor or no transportation, lack of money, home responsibilities and low interest.

Restore is open four days during the week. Our current membership is 36. We have 15 kids who joined in September. We recently opened the Restore membership to students in grades 2-5. Our average participation of our members are three times per week. We offer snacks, a sit down meal, open gym, college educated tutors, computers, internet access, book, bike and cooking clubs,



*Nasir, Tre'Quan and Richard helping at the Open House*

field trips, college tours, Pre SAT and SAT help and a summer enrichment program. Each September we ask our kids to renew their Restore membership. Most of our older members have five or more years with us. Our average



*Justin, Isaiah and Diego at Homework Center*

length of membership is three years. We are excited to watch them all grow in their number of days per week, their length of time and intensity with us.

Active membership in Restore does make a difference. We are using the knowledge gain from afterschool research to select and improve programs and to train our volunteers and staff. Our biggest success has been our 2012 and 2013 graduating classes. Twelve of our 2012 graduates and all four of our 2013 graduates are in colleges

and universities. We have one young man who will graduate in June 2015 and four in 2016. Our next big class is our fifteen ninth graders. Their average membership is 4 years. They are the most involved in our weekly programs and all of our activities. The expectations are high for them to be able to carry out the educational goals they have set for themselves.

I am sure there will be bumpy roads ahead as we move forward to put into practice what we have learned about high quality afterschool programs. I am equally positive that we are transitioning and moving in the right direction. With your prayers and financial support, we aim to keep offering a vast array of research based programs and build relationships that will attract new students and cause our current students to renew their membership each school year.



*Ms. Michelle and Kids in the dining room*



## Executive Director's Message

Why am I so excited about meeting a number goal? It is not really the numbers that brings joy to me. It is the thought that 40 children and teens and their families will be able to be part of the Restore family. The research I have been reading states that it is not necessarily the programs that keep teens in afterschool programs but the relationships with their peers and the adults who run the programs. Children may at first enter our doors because of their friends, the gym, the food, or to get a ride home on a rainy or wintery



*Phillips66 Volunteers and members at Homework Center*

evening. But they become members because they have found a safe place where adults listen, inspire and challenge them. They take down their defensive walls and open up to us and eventually trust is formed. We see them move forward into positive directions. They see Restore as an avenue to make their goals possible.

When I look at the future of

Restore, I want this place to remain a safe haven where kids and teenagers can grow emotionally and spiritually and find hope filled futures. I trust that you will continue to pray for us. None of us know the future, but I am confident that God is not finish with Restore. So as we reach our 2014 goal of 40 members, I pray that we will continue to have high quality programs, but more important, men and women who work hard at developing and maintaining healthy relationships with our members.

*Linwood Bagby  
Founder and Executive Director*



*Jakub in the cooking class*



*Terrell making Pizza*

*Joshua, Jeremiah and Ms. Michelle in the Italian Cooking class*

## Program Coordinator's Message

Restore Ministries celebrated its 20th anniversary in September. Since September, fifteen new children and teenagers have joined our safe haven and are experiencing academic success. Carmen is our new hired from Union County College. She is paid by the college to work with us twenty hours per week. After her first week she asked if she can invite her two children. Simon's parents found out about us through family members. His mother came and sign Simon into our program. Moses and his mother were getting ice cream and bumped into us



*Ms. Ximena and High School leaders (Eric, Norberto, Richard, Jakub, Joshua, Giovanni Anthony and Eliobet) planning an event*

during one of our bike club outings. She called in September and Moses now enjoys going to Restore. We may not have the latest technology or gadget, but our thirty six

members enjoy good food, caring adults and a great place to meet and learn.

I am specially thankful for the 10 high school freshmen who stepped into leadership and help me organize and run our first Halloween Carnival.

In this issue you will read and see pictures of Restore members in the Homework Center, fulfilling their community service hours, attending field trips. They also attend reading, bike, and cooking clubs. Of course none of this would be possible without our donors, parents/guardian,

volunteers, staff and community support. Thank you all and thank you RESTORE MINISTRIES!

HAPPY 20th  
ANNIVERSARY,

*Ximena Carrasco*



*Younger member with Ms. Carmen and Ms. Ximena in the Italian cooking class.*

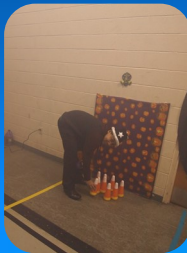
# RESTORE AT A GLANCE

## RESTORE MINISTRIES

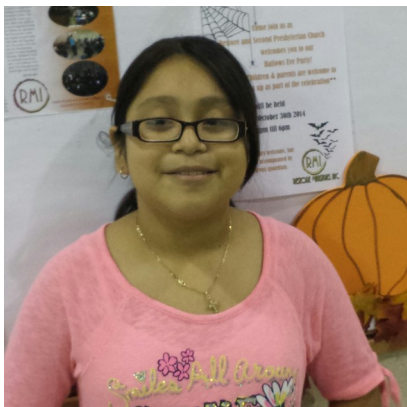
P.O. BOX 29  
Elizabeth, NJ 07207

1161 East Jersey St.  
Elizabeth NJ, 07201

PHONE: 908-352-5522



## OUR HALLOWS EVE CARNIVAL



## STUDENT'S PROFILE

### JOCELYN MANZANO

My name is Jocelyn Manzano. I am 11 years old and a 6<sup>th</sup> grader at Joseph Battin, school number 4, in Elizabeth NJ. This is my first year coming to Restore and I love it. When I just first started I thought it was going to be hard making friends but it has been great! I feel that Restore is a fun place for kids like me. It is like another home where I have more family. I am always influenced to do my best in school. Manners are very important to us here and I take these things everywhere I go. My friends at Restore always help each other and that's something we learn here. I like coming to Restore because I can be myself and I feel safe. I'm inviting my friends from school to come to Restore. Restore is one of my favorite places to go. It is my second home.

Jocelyn Manzano.

REALIZING...

POTENTIAL...

MAXIMIZING...

ACHIEVEMENT....

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