

# RESTORE MINISTRIES INC.

JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2019

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**“Many people will walk in and out of your life, but only true friends will leave footprints in your heart.” – Eleanor Roosevelt**



**Mr. Gary Reece, Elmi Ventura and Mr. Linwood Bagby**

We can see creativity in works of art, dance and music. Some people call it innovation, passion, knowledge and giftedness. But creativity is all the above and more. Everyone has creative potential.

Creativity is about using new ways of thinking and structuring something for a useful purpose. It's putting the pieces together to get a better outcome.

Cultivating creativity in young people is a powerful thing because you can see the kernels of ideas land in their minds and hearts and then suddenly, they just start growing and becoming stronger, make better decisions and create greater opportunities for

themselves and others.

One of the best examples was when a group of fourth graders worked with a Restore volunteer on their medieval social studies project.

They started out building a castle. They spent weeks researching, looking at details, understanding the history and the purposes behind the architectural designs of historical castles. They became experts and were able to collaborate verbally and intellectually with each other and the volunteer. Only after weeks and many hours were, they ready to design and create their group castle.

Their castle was a work of art. It looked beautiful. It stood strong and majestic. As they walked it to their classroom, kids and

teachers were in awe. I and a group of high school Restore members were present for their group presentation. They were able to talk with authority about medieval life, what happened in and outside of their castle and how each part of the structures was important for medieval society. The teacher came to me and said he was suspicious at first, but their group presentation and each group member's ease and knowledge proved that this project was theirs. The result of their creativity was a useful model to their classmates on collaboration. More important, it became the foundation showing them that they are smart, hard work brings good results and they can control their destinies.

There are various examples in the twenty-five years of Restore of adults creating the environment for Restore members to be creative. We still have some of the proof such as the community quilt hanging in the office, the student made videos and the group meals during the Saturday morning cooking classes. Individual creativity is Restore members excelling in sports, robotics, math, visual arts, drama and instrumental music.

Making creativity a priority requires partnerships and recurring funding. When afterschool programs forge partnerships with individuals, churches, community and businesses they are able to bring a broader range of meaningful programs and services. It also takes funds to keep the services and programs focus on skills that encourage creativity in individuals and group members. Recurring funds free up after school programs from being stuck in survival mood to being able to budget and plan. Staff can strategically engage parents, community leaders and key stakeholders to create a network of support for both the youth they serve and the programs.



**Cooking Class – Theme \* Chinese  
2014**



## SUMMER VIDEO CLUB



**2017 \* Interview to  
Mayor Christian Bollwage  
Elizabeth City Hall**



**2017 \* Interview to  
Mr. Haas and Ms. Jenifer Costa  
Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce**



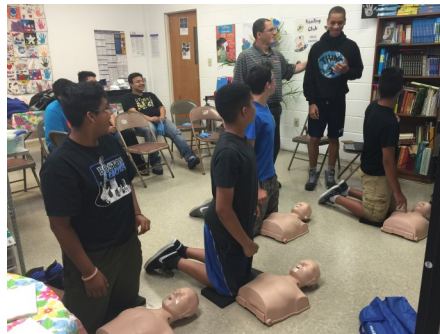
**2016 \* Tour to  
Snyder Academy - First Presbyterian  
Church of Elizabeth**



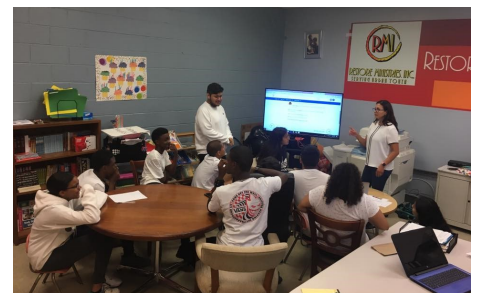
## TRAININGS



**Summer 2015  
High School Leaders Students  
First Aid, CPR & Babysitting  
Training**



**Summer 2018  
Banking & Financial Training**



**Hands on Banking assessment**



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## Executive Director's Message



**2016 - Honor roll students**

The landscape is different. Restore is a growing group of students who are looking to yours and our help to provide safe places for them to spend time and receive the services and supports they need. Yasmine is six years old and still deciding what new foods she wants to test to see what she likes. Her favorite is always sweets and fries. Although she did like the Asian dish, we had last

month. Josiah is our athlete, he is in the high school gym at six in the mornings with his teammates. He in practice or has games after school or on weekends and he still manages to come to Restore meetings on a regular basis to stay connected with us. Nicole, Ahmed, Rim, Malak and six others are honor students at their schools. Ahmed Eveneser and Rim play instruments in their school band. After homework, Nicholas practice his basketball skills.

Restore is blessed with a diversity of members, Muslims, Catholics, Protestants, Evangelicals, and those without any religious beliefs. We have kids who love reading, drawing and sports. Our academic range are kids in public and parochial schools, to students in gifted and talented programs to special education. Restore is inclusive and welcoming community and open to all. When you put all this diversity together you get a wealth of creativity both real and emerging.

The question has always been,

how do you and I help maintain and facilitate an after-school community where young people are free to explore, learn, develop and be transformed? It means continuing what works, and creating and implementing new programs, experiences and partnerships with professionals in business, leadership, church, civics, education, the arts and sports that will give insight into the world of work, recreation and leisure.

Every year you decide and come on board to continue praying and supporting Restore. Consider becoming a recurring monthly donor. Good news! A challenge match was given to Restore to encourage you to give monthly or quarterly to Restore. A detailed letter is included. If this is your first time as a donor your monthly or quarterly donation will be matched. If you increase their monthly or quarterly donation the increased will be matched. You have an incredible opportunity to help us uphold and develop programs and services that will cultivate creativity in all our members. The total matched amount for 2019

*Mr. Linwood Bagby*

## Program Director's Message

### Throughout the years!

Actually this was the theme of one of our Annual banquets. This edition is remembrance of our students, volunteers and staff's creativity, passion and motivation in each activity and events during these 25 years of Restore as a safe haven for our children and youth.

Obviously this would not be possible with out your support. Please enjoy this throw back edition prepared for all of you, our kind supporters.

Each of the pictures has its own caption with the year. You will see our children in action on: our Summer Video Club, interviewing important people, and participating in summer group projects as the community quilt, first aid trainings, banking & financial trainings, Annual Science Fairs partner



**2018 \* Junior Staff  
Future Leaders Training**

with our Phillips66 volunteers who every year kindly and enthusiastically coordinate successful science week. In addition you will see cooking class, one of our alumni Elmi Ventura's artistic work sharing and giving our High School leaders a tour at the Temple

University in Philadelphia.

I would love to mention every single activity and event in all these years but it would take forever. I selected a few so we all can look at the extraordinary work we have all done to change our children and youth's lives.

Personally I have to say that it is gratifying and it is an honor to have done a bit to help a child have a better future. When you do things with passion, creativity, knowledge and best effort you know you have done the right way.

I look forward to continue doing great things for Restore and having you on our side cooperating to continue with this great cause. Good Bless you all,

*Ms. Ximena Carrasco*

# THROW BACK



Elmi Ventura 2016 (Restore ' Alumni) giving a tour at Temple University in Philadelphia to our Restore High



Summer group projects Quilt,(2008) students' silhouettes,(2015) & our diversity (2016)



Elmi in competition



## SCIENCE FAIR



2018 Chain Reaction



For the past 5 years Phillips 66 New hired employees have been cooperating with Restore in successful annual Science Fairs.



2017 Egg Drop



2016 Recyclables



The Big Melt Down \* 2013

