

SERVING URBAN YOUTH

RESTORE MINISTRIES INC.

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The youth of today are
the leaders of tomorrow.

Nelson Mandela



Executive Director's Message

“Start where you are. Use what you have.

Do what you can” —

Tennis star Arthur Ashe (1943-1993)

Restore needs an additional \$770 per month before we can hire support staff. We are looking at our monthly donation drive as the vehicle to sustain the new staff positions and the ministries' daily needs. Will you commit to ongoing monthly support? Monthly support gives me confidence and I can plan accordingly. Once our monthly donations total \$2,200, I can hire new staff and secure these positions as Restore continues to grow.

During my August respite, I read “A Place Call Home: After-School Programs For Urban Youth” by Barton J. Hirsch and “The Promise of a Pencil: How an Ordinary Person Can Create Extraordinary Change” by Adam Braun. The first book was about organizational excellence in urban after-school programs and the second was about an individual who changed the lives of thousands.

Most rewarding time this summer was speaking to several of our alumni who finished their first year as college students. Each faced their own challenges, but they are all making plans to continue. I'm still helping them to connect their dreams and goals with their university

experiences. I'm encouraging them to return to college and rally around their friends and mentors who will help them accomplish success. I am pleased to write that they are asking questions not only about their college careers but also about their spiritual lives. It is exciting to be able to continue to walk along side of them and still be important in their lives.

I'm looking forward to Restore reopening in September. Thanks to you, Restore has had good fundraising months, so I was able to purchase in advance field trips to upcoming places like Papermills Playhouse in Millburn, Sight and Sound Theater in Lancaster, Pa and Disney on Ice at the Prudential Center in Newark, NJ. Our Phillips66 partnership continues with their new hire to help as tutors. During the next two months I'll attend a community breakfast with IKEA, explore the college and high school internship programs with the Port Authority of NY/NJ, schedule the weekly sports clinics with More Than A Sport, distribute backpacks and school supplies with Parents Engaging Parents and meet with local business leaders through the Greater Elizabeth Chambers of Commerce.

Since 1994 our supporters have shown their interest in Restore, by praying, volunteering and giving financially. You became

aware of the enormous benefits Restore offers and see in Restore the chance to address numerous social and educational problems. Funding for Restore has grown substantially as a result of your heightened interest. However, we want to see new funding that will continue development, add staff and major new initiatives to our programs. The keys to our successful student outcomes include strong programs with high expectations; the ability to develop and showcase talents; and long-term relationships with caring adults.

Thank you,



Become a monthly donor. Help by providing Restore with ongoing and sustaining support!



Summer Camp project, made by Junior Leaders staff. A beautiful mosaic of Restore's logo.



We had to cancel the October 16th Banquet. Stay tune for fund raising events during 2020. We are looking for committee members who will serve anywhere from four months to nine (2020 banquet committee) Please get a hold of us if you are interested in helping us.

Visit us on the web!
 Donate!
www.Restorekids.org
 Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/restorekids/>

Program Director's Message

After a busy and rewarding Summer Camp and taking some-time off in August. Restore reopens to a new school year. "It is a start of new challenges to face, new obstacles to overcome and new memories to make".

September 9th was our first meeting. My challenges began, the first week we had 8 children, the second week 15 children and I hope by end of October I can get 25 children attending every day. Other groups are using Second Presbyterian Church facilities which is our site as well, this is another challenge because Restore does not have a steady room structure, I have to set up every day before the program starts. The ideal after-school program would be to have accurate operating rooms for every activity our children need. More technology will help, we only have 3 working laptops. We

face challenges everyday at all aspects of our lives, but these are some of Restore's that I wanted to share with you.

When I think about obstacles I can think of staff. Restore at the moment count with 2 staff members, Mr. Linwood Bagby, Executive Director/ driver/cook when the kitchen is operating and myself Program Director/ home-work center coordinator/office clerk/ youth activities coordinator/ driver when its needed. The point I want to make is that between both of us we cover all the positions to keep Restore going. I have to thank enormously to our Phillips66 volunteers. Our Union County College Federal work study program students and our high school students who are completing their community service hours with us. Without their help I could not run Restore. On the other hand, Mr. Bagby is

reaching out to people to raise more monthly funds. I am sure that this is not the first time you hear this observation. Every beginning of a new school year is hard for us but thank to your kindly help we can overcome and continue with Restore's mission.

The rewarding part is that even though the presence of challenges, obstacles we succeed and we can bring a program where our kids feel safe, loved and supported academically to succeed in their studies. While all this is happening we are treasuring wonderful memories.

Thank your for your continual support.

Ximena Carrasco



RESTORE AT A GLANCE

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Alumni's Message: Erik Manzano

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

My name is Erik Manzano, I'm in my second semester at Union County College in Cranford, I'm majoring in Psychology. I have been a part of Restore for as long as I could remember. I attended the summer and afterschool programs since I was 9 years old. My sophomore year of high school was when I started working at Restore which became was a good opportunity for me to learn and practice leadership. Every summer after that I've worked at Restore. Fast forward to now; I am currently working at the Restore's after school program through Union County College federal work study. It a big one big change for me, going from a student at Restore, gaining knowledge and being helped with all my school work to being someone who works with the new generation of Restore members. I already see the positive impact I am having on the next generation of leaders. It is very heartwarming. Working at Restore also helps me in career path I have chosen, Child Psychology. I'm improving my skills in communication and understanding where the children under my care. I helped them with what they needed to the best of my ability. I have a 6-year-old brother at home whom I babysit all the time so after a while, wanting to work with children just clicked. The transition from student to employee here at Restore gives me a great feeling of accomplishment and satisfaction.

Erik Manzano