

LOVING YOURSELF AND YOUR NEIGHBOR



Middle School Members on a Winter Retreat

What does it mean to love somebody? Is it what we see in the movies or the popular music videos? Let's talk about what real love means. Love is not only expressed in words but by our deeds. By that I mean, you can tell your par-

ents, siblings, friends, and relatives that you love them, but the true test of your love for them is demonstrated by the way you act toward them, the manner and tone in which you address them when you speak to them,

and the attitude in which you approach them. You must also have love for yourself. You might say, "I do love myself!" Well, when you love yourself, you'll respect yourself and not do or say anything negative to yourself like cursing or using profanity or doing things that will harm you such as: taking drugs, drinking alcohol, or smoking. All of these activities will bring harm and destruction to your body. You will eat properly and exercise so that your body is healthy and strong. By taking good care of your body, your mind will be healthy as well because you will think positive thoughts and live of life of

service to others by helping people in need like senior citizens, people with disabilities, or even being there for a friend who needs someone to listen to when they're going through a difficult time.

You also show love by being kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving one another whenever you do each other wrong. Saying I'm sorry, lets the other person know that you care about his/her feelings. You won't talk badly about them or allow anyone else to talk badly about them either. Here are the ways that you

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Executive Director's Message



Mr. Bagby and Restore Kids at the Cooking Class

Sometimes I forget how damaged some of the kids are when they come to Restore. Heart aches from broken homes, wounded by bullies at school, while others

struggle daily with self-doubt seem all too often Caesar is being picked on in school. Jason's family abandoned him three years ago. Bruno moved out of his home

to seek a better life with another family. They and others enter Restore with hurts that they cannot explain and do not know how to deal with them. Some are so confused that they do not remain because respect doesn't feel right. Most, once they come for the first time, cling to Restore and find love, courage and hope. We build community at Restore. We accept one another for who we are and we make room for

one another and recognize that each person has something important to add to the Restore community. Roberto has been kicked out of many other programs. His family was frustrated and dismayed in their efforts to find an after school program that would be helpful to Roberto. They heard about Restore and contacted me. After the first day with us, some of the guys came to me and

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Ximena Carrasco, Anwar Hargrove at the Restore kids at the Movies



A Day at the Movies

**IF YOU MUST
LOVE YOUR
NEIGHBOR AS
YOURSELF, IT
IS AT LEAST AS
FAIR TO LOVE
YOURSELF AS
YOUR NEIGH-
BOR**

**- NICOLAS
CHAMFORT**

demonstrate love: “Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast; it is not proud. It is not rude; it is not self-seeking (selfish), or it is easily angered. It keeps no record of wrong. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. Love always protects, trusts, hopes, and perseveres. Finally, love never fails because it is the greatest gift of all.” (1 Cor. 13: 4-8,13 NIV).

Love and a smile are great gifts that go together. When you show respect to others, you’re letting them know that you love them. Love, laugh, and live your life to the fullest by being the best person you can be.

**- Mr. Clinton Miller, Jr.
Retired Educator**

**HOW PEOPLE
TREAT OTHER
PEOPLE IS A DI-
RECT REFLEC-
TION OF HOW
THEY FEEL
ABOUT THEM-
SELVES**

**- PAULO
COELHO**



Restore Kids at the Movies

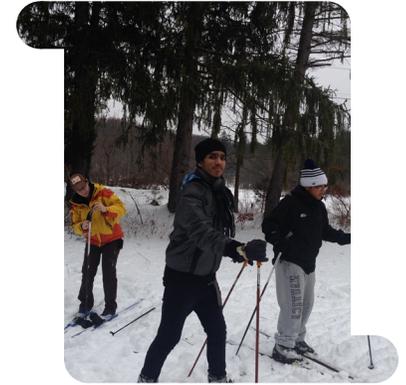
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said Roberto is a handful and will need a lot of attention. They also said they think he is in the right place. Sometimes I must be honest and I see the boys putting up with Roberto, but there are times when I see them including him in the games, putting their arms around him and showing genuine acceptance. Family" is used by our members when describing Restore to others. They come to be with friends, eat, play and do their homework. They smile and laugh. They relax

and even fight like family. They learn how to share, work together, communicate and most importantly forgive one another. Important lessons are learned. Lessons that will be with a person when they leave us and enter into the adult world. This "Family" atmosphere becomes transformational in many of our members' lives. It is a freeing feeling and experience when young people are placed in an environment where the adults (parents, Restore adults and our supporters) working to-

gether in their best interest and provide resources and programs to support them. Even those children and young people who come from families who are not able to give full support, can find people to fill in the gaps and encouragement from the adults they have chosen to align themselves. As one member recently quoted: "It really takes a village."

- Mr. Linwood Bagby



Restore Kids at the Weekend Retreat

Interim Program Coordinator:

"BE KIND TO ONE ANOTHER" Very often we hear this expression, but do we actually know the meaning. At times, we may not realize how important for yourself and for someone around you to receive a genuine act of kindness. Kindness by definition is, "the quality of being friendly, generous, and considerate." Kindness should begin with ourselves. An excellent example of being kind to yourself is exercising daily to revitalize your body such as going for a walk or a jog. Exercising can be a fantastic way to clear your mind of anything negative that may be going on around you. A sincere smile is also a very caring and meaningful way to make a positive difference in yourself and in someone's day. Without using words, a smile to someone says, "Hi, I hope you have a great day."

At Restore Ministries, we

encourage and see acts of kindness every day. I am very pleased to a part of an atmosphere where compassionate, generous and warm hearted individuals share community together. For example, I have a group of high school youth who have chosen to complete their community service hours at Restore as part of their academic course. Once a week they come and pick up trash outside of our host church. These young people's acts of kindness enhances the church surroundings and create a caring space for our members and the all who enter the building. I have another group of Restore youth who leave ten minutes before the end of open gym to setup the Homework Center. That same group have taken on the responsibility of dismantling the Homework Center at the end of the week so the church can use

the space for Sunday. A group of high school girls who come in to update and maintain the Bulletin Boards once a month. Together we talk about the theme for the month and they come up and put together interesting, informative and artful displays.

We have an amazing group of adult volunteers who come and share their **KINDNESS** and endless efforts in helping out in any way they can. They come each day we are open to help in areas such as: tutoring, sport activities and office assistance. Not only do they bring their special skills and talents to share with us, they also bring their warmth, smiles and personalities that enhances and brightens the Restore atmosphere. At the end of every Restore meeting every Restore youth participates in the nightly chores like

cleaning the dining room, taking out the trash, washing the dishes, and putting everything back where it belongs. I would like to share my personal experiences of the kindness I receive everyday from my Restore children. If they see me coming in with bags they always hurry to help me. This to me is amazing because I work hard to build acts of love for the children and in return I am finding that Restore is full of kindhearted people.

- Ximena Carrasco
Program Coordinator



High School Volunteers

RESTORE AT A GLANCE

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Visit us on the
web!!!
Donate!!!
www.RESTOREKIDS.org



STUDENT PROFILE: NASIR WHITE



Hi my name is Nasir white and I am seventeen years old. I am a junior in high school, and I attend Admiral Halsey high school. I am here today to talk about Restore Ministries. Restore is a very special place to me because it keeps me out of trouble and also it keeps me active. I was introduced to Restore by close friends of mine. I learned that Restore was an outstanding place to be. When I first arrived here it was a little awkward to me. I didn't know any-

one except the few friends that also attended Restore. As the days progressed and the more I came I started to meet and interact with the other kids and the staff. The staff here are very helpful. Restore has volunteers that are there to help everyone with their homework. This is very important to me because the places I've been in the teachers or mentors would basically give up. Restore inspires me because it has taught me that there are people who will NEVER GIVE UP on you. Restore also gives you community service hours for our academic class when we

need them. They give you certain activities to accomplish, so the community service hours are not given they are earned and you really have to work hard for it. This shows me responsibility and that is something that I would definitely need when I get older. Restore has affected my life tremendously. I say this because before I started attending Restore I was getting into a lot of trouble and doing nothing with my life. Now I'm getting involved with more activities. For example I started

playing basketball and football. Not only that, but I recently got a job and started working. So I would refer kids to attend Restore because it gives kids something to do with their life. Restore also shows them responsibility, is an amazing experience and a great opportunity.

