

RESTORE MINISTRIES, INC

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“REALIZING INDIVIDUAL POTENTIAL”

STEM AT RESTORE

This is our second year of doing a week of science projects with the Restore children and teenagers. Learning science from an early age helps children understand the world around them. Science week gives our kids a chance outside their schools to learn to think critically, to question, to investigate, to interpret, to solve problems and to begin to understand complex systems. They are seeing how important it is to interact with their world. When Restore kids par-

ticipate in science week and go on to appreciate science in and out of school, we get an educated public with the capacity for critical thinking.

According to the U.S. Department of Labor, more than half of the fastest growing occupations will require substantial mathematics or science preparation. This means that all kids must have opportunities to become scientifically literate. Restore's science week exposed our young people to the chance to have fun and

explore the world around them, and maybe some will continue their interest towards high paying, critically important Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) careers. This can include majors, such as engineering, Integrated Science and Business Technology, IT, and computer software. Some of these majors require further schooling even passed college. The Restore students are those who historically grow up to be underrepresented in

STEM careers, girls, African American, Hispanic students, kids with disabilities and kids who do not perform well academically. Schools are concentrating on teaching to the test and drilling the basics reading, writing and math. More time is spent on basic skills that many children and teenagers rarely go farther and get involved with learning that enhance critical thinking skills that science can offer.

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PARENT'S MESSAGE



While attending Union County College, an advisor called me to offer me a job as a tutor off Campus. I immediately set up an interview with Linwood Bagby at Restore Ministries. When I got to the interview, I was feeling very anxious,

but as soon as I met Linwood he made me feel at ease with his enthusiasm and his warm personality. Linwood not only gave me the job, but also told me that he would like my children to attend the program as well. I started working at Restore, my children started attending the program and we immediately felt like we were part of the Restore family. Soon after, my husband started volunteering at Restore as well. He fixes anything that is not working properly

and will help out with anything that is needed. My whole family is now involved with the program.

Restore has changed the life of my family by giving us the opportunity to bond and create relationships with everyone that works, volunteers and attends the program. Although I do not work at Restore anymore, my husband and I continue to volunteer because we got to see firsthand what Restore does for the children and their

families. Thanks to Mr. Bagby, Ximena, staff, volunteers, and the generosity of donors. Restore opens so many doors for the young men and women that participate in the program. Restore Ministries play a pivotal role in the lives of these children and I am honored to be a part of that. I will be forever grateful for the many blessings Restore has brought to my family's life.

—Carmen Duarte

RESTORE AT A GLANCE



WBGO FM radio sponsored a free jazz concert for kids. Three of our members won prizes.



SCIENCE FAIR
2016



“There is no
exercise
better for the
heart than
reaching down
and lifting
people up.”

— John Holmes

STEM AT RESTORE *Continued from page 1*

The good news is that more than 8.4 million children in the United States participate in afterschool programs, like Restore, for as much as three to four hours a day.

Restore can provide a unique opportunity to engage our kids in hands on, experiential science learning. We want more Restore kids to get excited about science. However, the research I have been doing states that city after school programs are often staffed by people from similar demographic back-

grounds as the youth they serve. Therefore it is difficult to provide quality STEM enrichment. Not so with Restore, because we are blessed and fortunate to have the New Hire Network from Phillips66, who are mostly engineers, as volunteers. We also have students from the local community college and other professionals to share their skills and talents with us. Having highly educated and skilled volunteers makes Restore an excellent place to find role models who demonstrate

interest in science and technology to our members. Two examples that happened this year were our tour and career day at the Phillips66's Bayway Refinery in February and our recent science week in April. Our volunteers were great facilitators as they lead workshops and were our tour guides helping Restore teenagers understand the technical careers involved in operating a refinery. During April, three Phillips66 volunteers and our college and community volunteers were

small group leaders and engaged in co-inquiry through leading students through the inductive progress while they created structures from recyclables.

The adults at Restore share common goals: supporting kids and helping them develop into happy, productive people and resources to our members that will lead to various paths to successful learning, but we all work and build from the common goal of providing children and teenagers with the best opportunities for growth and success.



Field trip to NYC to see the Broadway Musical “Tuck Everlasting.”

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Richard and Tony want to give back to Restore by participating the Generosity Series 5K walk/run. Both came to Restore in the fifth grade. Both are sophomores at St Mary's School of the Assumption High School.

They understand that much of their success in school and in leadership has to do with their commitment and involvement to Restore and their family working with us. Richard and Tony are peer leaders at Restore, honor students at their high school, involved in sports, and regular community service. They are what we hope for as we invest our time and energy into the lives of Restore members.

When they heard about the 5K event, they

jumped at the chance to participate. The Generosity Series 5K walk/run is a fundraiser where 18 people will walk or run with me to help raise money for Restore's programs and activities. There is still room for 8 more to join me. I was introduced to the organization through the Elizabeth Chambers of Commerce, which Restore is a member.

Sunday June 5, 2016 is the day that several nonprofits from New Jersey will be walking for their individual causes. Restore's goal is to raise \$15,000. I expect to meet my personal goal of \$4,500 by the end of April. Richard and Tony set their goals at \$1500 each. They sent out letters to their family, friends and teachers and are speaking to them about giving. Richard has received

\$719 and Tony collected \$626.

I have met my personal funding goal and thank all who helped me. Believe me, I could not have gotten this far if it were not for the generosity of those who were able and willing to give an extra gift to Restore. Now I am asking for people who want to extend their generosity farther, by investing in Richard and Tony. There are many who receive our newsletters and haven't given yet to our mission. This is a very good time to do so, by giving to Richard or Tony towards their walk. Others are regular supporters of Restore. Send an extra gift to let Richard and Tony know that you care.

I am honored and humbled that high school

teenagers are willing to go the extra mile to do something special for the afterschool program that means so much to them. We do make a difference in the lives of so many and to have them show gratitude by joining me in our 5K fundraiser is special.

So thank you in advance, for as always, taking our requests for donations seriously and giving the way that you do. You can give the traditional way by sending a check and in the memo write either Richard or Tony's names. Or you can give online: www.generosityseries.com/restore Scroll down to Our Participants and select either Richard Franklin or Anthony Maldonado and follow the Support Me directions. Let's Invest in our students in meaningful ways,

Linwood Bagby

PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Field Trip to NYC.

To me each program, each activity that I have to plan and direct is a challenge.

On June 5, 2016 Restore is participating in a 5K run/walk, this is the first time we are doing a fundraiser of this type. Linwood and I took the time to do some research. We had to attend a meeting to receive all the information necessary and decide whether or not to be a part of this new project.

We then presented it to the Board for approval and support. Once the contract was signed the process started, we began creating our page on the Generosity Series website and submitted all the required information. Our logo was requested in a special format therefore we asked a few people for help with this and finally our new volunteer, Mr. Henry Perez knew how to convert files and helped us get it done. Then we began looking for participants, right now we have 18, there are 7 open spots. As participants we have Board Members, Donors, Students, Parents, Volunteers, Friends and Staff.

Restore's overall goal is \$15,000.00 however each of the participants have their own goals. I am also running and my goal is \$1,000. Each of us

hope with enthusiasm that we will reach our goal and consequently the overall goal. I'm grateful with the Restore members, their parents, my family and friends who are supporting me to help Restore's After-School Program in order to benefit the children in the long run for a better future.

I have to mention that Linwood is being a great coach for all of us, He motivates us everyday and keeps us updated with the progress of the fundraiser. Besides that he is going to be the first one in achieving his goal.

Asking for donations is a lot easier said than done especially when you haven't done it before. You have to learn how to approach people and to determine when it is

the right time to insist and ask again to donate. This is a challenging experience for all of us. I am completely positive that we will achieve this challenge and together we will increase funds for programs and activities for the children and teenagers who attend Restore.

To donate please go to: www.generosityseries.com/restore scroll down to our participants, select any participant that you wish to support and then follow the Support me directions.

So let's keep preparing for the big day June 5, 2015 at Oak Ridge Park located in Clark, New Jersey. Support us and also come out and cheer us. It would be fun to see you.

Thank you front the bottom of my heart for support an amazing cause.

Ximena Carrasco



Student's profile: *Joahn Martinez*



Hi, my name is Joahn Martinez. I am 14 years old and in the 9th grade. I am attending St. Mary's High School. I have been coming to Restore Ministries for two years. I heard about Restore when my mother told me that she found a job and she explained to me that at Restore you get to do homework, play sports and eat for free. When she asked me how I liked it, I told her that this was the right place for me.

Restore means a lot to me for many different reasons. The kids and staff treat me as a part of their family and they're like my second family. Restore influences my life because they teach everyone to make school their main priority and the program also helps me deal with problems outside of school. I can always rely on Restore to guide me into the right path. I have invited tons of friends to the program, and they still currently attend. They enjoy Restore very much and are satisfied with their choice to be there. Many of my friends refer their friends as well and everyone is always glad that they decided to come.

I will definitely continue to attend Restore throughout high school because I believe it is the right choice and path for me to maintain my academic success. The program helps me to reach goals that I wouldn't ever imagine completing. Restore is the reason why I am achieving so many great things for me and my family.

_Joahn Martinez

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

Congratulations to our student's of Elizabeth Public Schools:

*Julie Auguste - 4th grade * Superintendent's Scholar*
*Adam Abouzied - 2nd grade * Superintendent's Scholar*
*Nicole Ramos - 5th grade * Teacher's Scholar*
*Joshua Fassett - 1st. grade * Honor Roll*
*Isaiah Auguste - 8th grade * Student of the Month
& Achievement Award*

*Nathalie Bazurto - 4th grade
* Superintendent's Scholar &
Selected as a Member of the
National Elementary
Honor Society*



Elmi Ventura - AICUO Award
for Excellence in the Arts—
Cleveland Institute of Art

**Congratulations to
our alumni:** *Trevon, a
sophomore at Lehigh
University, on your selection
for a 12-week paid
internship this summer in
Singapore. This super news
builds on Elmi's graduate
school admission at Temple
University's Tyler School
of Art. To top it off,
Ronnie's promotion to
Marines' Sargent.*

**WE ARE ON THE WEB!!
WWW.RESTOREKIDS.ORG
FACEBOOK!!!
RESTORE MINISTRIES, INC
NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION**

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- * NJ 5K RUN/WALK
June 5, 2016
- * END OF THE YEAR BBQ
June 16, 2016
- * SUMMER PROGRAM
June 27 to July 22, 2016