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Winter Newsletter

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Winter 2019

STORIES

NOTES FROM THE JOURNEY...



**RADICALLY LOVING AND BRINGING HOPE TO
TEENS IN THE FARGO-MOORHEAD AREA.**

MENTORING PARENTING TEENS,
PARTNERING WITH LOCAL SCHOOLS,
REACHING OUT TO TEENS IN THE
JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER,
FEEDING STUDENTS,
CONNECTING WITH LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS,
PARENTING CLASSES,
FORMING LIFE-GIVING RELATIONSHIPS,
BEING A SAFE PLACE TO ASK
TOUGH QUESTIONS



DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Happy New Year! I hope that you had a wonderful Christmas Season with your loved ones.

It always amazes me how many incredible challenges and obstacles that many of our youth face on a regular basis. For some it's figuring out what they are going to do to keep from going back to lock-up. It could be facing life as a teen mom and all the changes that will mean for their life. Believe it or not, for some it's where is their next meal going to come from or how are they going to get the warm clothes they need for school. Even life skills like handling money can be a huge issue because they have never had someone come alongside them and teach them.

Every week it seems that we are seeing and meeting more and more kids who many would say have no hope of getting out of that life. Well, we refuse to accept that. We are committed to these kids because we know that Jesus loves these young people and wants them to know His love for them. No matter

our backgrounds, we believe we are sent to give life to their stories because God has given life to ours, regardless of how different those stories might be.

With that in mind we know that in order to reach as many kids in the FM area as possible we need the most unique people who are willing to give up their time and energy to make a difference. We see a big need to expand our staff and volunteer base to walk through the doors that keep opening to us. A diverse, powerful, fun, passionate and gifted team of people that Jesus has died for and called to be part of His Kingdom work through the movement of YFC.

So how can you help? First, please be praying for us and our current ministry to kids. You'll read some of those ministry stories inside. Second, if you have a passion to see kids experience the love of Jesus, give us a call and let's talk about how you can get involved. Third, become one of our financial partners and let me tell you about

an exciting opportunity coming up on February 14th, 2019. That day is Giving Hearts Day and the first \$12,000 of all money donated online that day will be matched by friends of YFC. Our goal for that day is \$40,000. That's a big number but I know that with your help it is more than doable. What will that money do for YFC? It will begin a seed account for future staff. We have a young man right now who is praying about joining us but he will have to raise his support and this will help give him a jump-start. It will provide us the opportunity to expand our ministry and provide programming to more kids.

We are excited about what God is going to do in 2019 and so thankful to each one of you for your partnership.

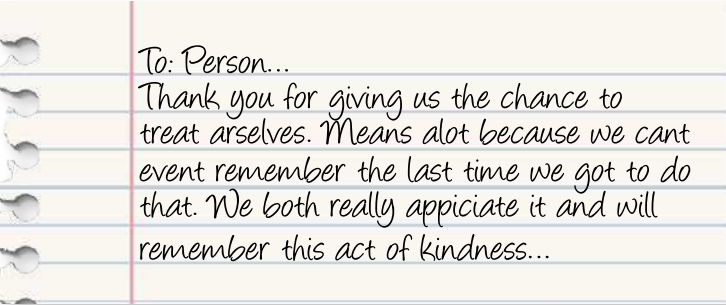


Greg Everett
Executive Director



Juvenile Justice Ministry

This year we have build a relationship with a couple of sisters who have been in both shelter care (the non-secure part of the detention center), and attend RRALC. These two young ladies have really touched our hearts. We've gotten to know the story very well and God laid on our hearts to try to anonymously do something special for them for Christmas. We worked with the amazing staff at RRALC and arranged for them to be able to purchase some clothing. Through the staff, we received an anonymous thank you letter in return.



What a blessing it was to make a couple of teens Christmas special by providing where there was a need. ~Mike King

#countme

Feb.14 GivingHeartsDay.org

Can We Count You to share your heart and support Red River Youth for Christ on Giving Hearts Day, **Thursday, February 14th?**

To share your heart with the teens we work with, go online to **givingheartsday.org** on February 14th. Choose Red River Youth for Christ and make your secure online donation. Checks dated and delivered by noon on February 14th will also be accepted. The most exciting part, **friends of RRYFC will match the first \$12,000 of your donation of \$10 or more!**

Thank you for sharing your heart and partnering with us on this journey to radically love and bring hope to teens in the Fargo-Moorhead community.

Juvenile Justice Ministry

We talk a lot about how ministry sites cross over into each other. An example of this is one young man and young lady who are pretty close friends have both been in and out of the detention center and Red River Alternative Learning Center. Last year while doing our program at RRALC they got into trouble and we used this as a teaching opportunity and extended some grace. A couple weeks ago at the detention center, I was talking to the kids. I asked if they knew anybody who had helped them by giving them a do over or a second chance. This particular young man immediately looked at me and with a smirk said that we had. He was referring to the previous year. Interesting that was what came to mind. ~Mike King



There is a new staff member at West Central Regional Juvenile Center who came up and introduced himself after program one Sunday evening. He then proceeded to ask if he could pray for us. The last couple of weeks this has become the routine, he takes the kids back to their pods, and then comes back and prays for us before do programing with third floor (the secure floor). What a blessing it is to have such a positive relationships with the staff. ~Danielle Hill



Parent Life

One Muslim mom was sixteen when her baby was born and needed support, encouragement, and baby supplies. Her father allowed her to meet with me with the understanding that I would not try to convert her. I have enjoyed getting to know her religious beliefs/customs, and family traditions. She has shared with me her beliefs about God and I have shared my beliefs about God and His son Jesus. I have not tried to “convert” her, but I always share Christ, not always with words but with actions too. I know she is very interested in knowing Jesus, yet she is very dedicated to her family and her religion. She does not want or dare to betray them. I can see her fear and understand the loss she would suffer; yet, I know the loss she will suffer without Christ. I will continue to love her, share Christ with her, and pray for her. She is beginning to know who Christ is, and my prayer is that someday she will no longer be fearful of following Christ. ~Linda Bass

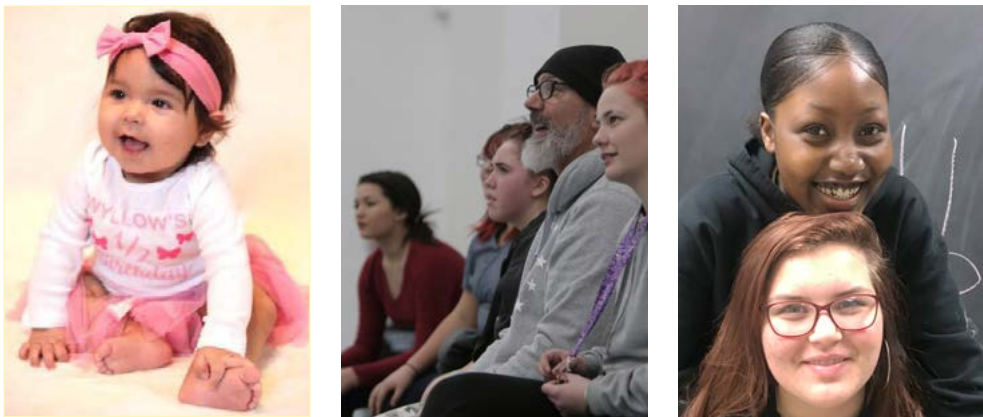
Like to Cook?

Would you be interested in making a meal for hungry teens? We have several openings in our spring schedule and would love to partner with you to feed hungry teens in our community. Contact our office for more info.



Just within the last few weeks, we have had staff at both the WCRJC and RRALC reach out to us about individual students they would like us to come in and meet with one-on-one. Exciting to have not only the support of the staff but also such solid partnerships. ~Danielle Hill

We have built an amazing relationship with one young lady from WCRJC. She has recently moved into a new foster home and started attending RRALC. We have contacted her case worker and communicated that we want to be a part of her team moving forward. This young lady really wants our help and that is a beautiful thing. We hope to help her find a Church and help her with some life skills. ~Mike King



Just this week I had a young woman from our RRALC Friday program added me on Facebook. As soon as I confirmed the request, she began messaging me. She would like to start attending church on Sundays and requested to come with me. Of course I said yes, and I couldn't be more excited to pick her up on Sunday! ~Danielle Hill

Our Mission

YFC radically loves and brings hope to teens by working together with the local church and other like-minded partners to raise up lifelong followers of Jesus who lead by their Godliness in lifestyle, devotion to the Word of God and prayer, passion for sharing the love of Christ and commitment to social involvement. YFC provides a safe and friendly place to learn leadership skills, to think about important issues and to develop quality relationships with peers and with caring adults.

YFC's 5 Ministry Essentials:

- WIDESPREAD PRAYER
- FAITHFUL BIBLE TEACHING
- LOVING RELATIONSHIPS
- ADULTS WHO EMPOWER
- COLLABORATIVE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

RRYFC Staff

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