

A Letter to Our Neighbors



North Richmond Edition

Vol. 1

Mission Week 2016

Mission Week 2016 was AWESOME this year! We had over 300 participants coming together to participate in different activities, laughing and learning together. There were also over 200 volunteers who were so excited to share their time with these kids, sharing the light of Christ with them!

At Kids Camp, 1st-5th graders got to make crafts, dance, sing, and learn about their role in God's plan. They had an awesome time playing games every day with their peers, enjoying dinner together and leaving with a sense of excitement for the next day's events.

Our Basketball, Soccer, and Dance camps were excellent for the older kids attending Mission Week. Participants worked together on teams to work towards a common goal, while also building great friendships and relationships with each other and with God along the way. It truly is amazing how activities like sports and dance can truly bring together our youth!

We cannot wait for Mission Week 2017! We loved getting to know the community members, especially on Family Day on Friday, where we had over 50 families and the Richmond Fire and Police Departments join us for sports, food, music, and prayer! We hope to see you there next year!



A Community Joined Together:

Children and adults gather for prayer at the Mission Week Basketball Camp





Home Repairs

This year, home repairs were done on 9 different homes in North Richmond during Mission Week! That's 9 families who can now feel safer and more comfortable in their homes! Our home repair teams work year round as well, so there are always opportunities available to get your home fixed! Applications are available at the North Richmond Neighborhood Resource Center at 1305 Clay St.



A Neighbor's Story

As part of Mission Week, Friends of North Richmond (FNR) volunteers walk the streets of the community, looking to reach out to families and connect with them through Jesus. Scott Blazek, an FNR Street Ministry volunteer, reached out to Daniel and Ofelia Martinez. While their house was undergoing Home Repairs from other FNR volunteers, Scott sat down with Daniel to hear his story.

Through multiple meetings with our volunteers during the week, Daniel shared that he had grown up knowing religion, but did not feel he knew Christ. Our Street Ministry team presented the gospel to Daniel and introduced him to a rela-

tionship with Jesus. Christ then took over in Daniel's life, and our volunteers taught him to present the Gospel to others. Scott met Daniel several times during Mission Week to discuss God's perfect design, get to know Daniel, and to pray for Daniel and his family.

Our volunteers are so excited to have been part of this Daniel's experience. We believe that God calls us to love our neighbors and share in our relationship with Christ, and we're so glad that God preformed His will for Daniel through our Mission Week.

Volunteer
Joey
Gregory
and
Resident
Daniel
Martinez



"If you declare with your mouth 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." – Romans 10:9, NIV



Adult Education



All of our classes are free of charge and are located at the North Richmond Neighborhood Resource Center on 1305 Clay St. Our GED classes are structured to help individuals pass the GED exams necessary to receive their GED Certificate. A pre and post-test is given for students to determine their readiness for the actual exam. Students attend 6 classroom hours per week. Our English as a Second Language (ESL) course teaches students English in a supportive and relaxed environment. Jobs for Life provides unique job readiness training and support strategies that empower individuals to be successful at work and in life. Our Faith and Finance courses teach concrete money management skills, such as budgeting, managing debt, and setting savings goals. We also offer a basic computer skills course. Students can sign up for any of our courses at the North Richmond Neighborhood Resource Center.

You Can Academy

The **You Can Academy** (YCA) is an after school program provided by Friends of North Richmond. A full program is in place for the children, including daily prayer, a meal, a twice weekly Bible Lesson, homework assistance, tutorials, and outside activities.

You Can Academy has two locations in North Richmond. At The North Richmond Neighborhood Resource Center the children walk over from Pink Elementary daily and their parents pick them up. At Brazos Bend Villas they attend Tuesday and Thursday. Both programs run from 3-5 PM.

YCA believes families should have access to quality care while boosting their learning ability. Through our tuition-free program, all students have access to sincere care, guidance, nutritious food, and memorable learning experiences.

A qualified staff is in charge at both locations and they are supported by volunteers who assist with grade level homework and tutorial activities. ***In order to develop mentoring relationships, volunteers work with the same age group each time.*** Not only does this develop a per-

sonal relationship, but it also helps us to focus on each child's academic needs so additional small group assistance can be given. The staff is also in contact with the children's teachers to insure all of their academic needs are being met.

Because of the individual attention given to each child, success rates on the STAAR test for You Can Academy children are more than 85%.





friends of
north richmond
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The Neighborhood Resource Center



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