



“Unlikely partners taking shared risks to renew our community for Christ’s sake.”

### SPRING & SUMMER SERVICE

by Jocelyn Grant, South Street Ministries’ Education and Volunteer Director

Hello! I hope this newsletter finds you doing well. We have come to the close of the spring semester of RICH Kids EnRICHment Program; the season close of #AdjustTheCrown. The momentum of our kids’ and our girls’ programs began and finished full and strong. As we pace toward our Summer Programs with prayer and planning, I am excited to work with our current volunteers, and look forward to the joy of meeting and serving with new volunteers, interns and youth employees.

Here at South Street Ministries, our volunteers and interns are the lifeblood to what we do. Our strength is in the variety of backgrounds of the people who help us. Their individual and collective expertise enrich our endeavors.

Our volunteers range from teens to our “seasoned” fellow servants - all excited and committed to serve in the area(s) of their choosing. Some of our interns and volunteers are young adults navigating education, growing careers and beginning families - those individuals bring fresh perspective, new dreams, and strategy to how we strengthen and move our programs further into this millennium. Those of our volunteers who are retired professionals have brought their insight, focus and wisdom to our programs. They have been able to recognize learning challenges that some of our students face, and are daily equipping our team to help the students work beyond those challenges.

Our volunteers are an irreplaceable part of the South Street family, and make the happy burden of our work much lighter. We appreciate their support and sacrifices.

I extend a hearty invitation to serve with us as a volunteer for all of our programs during the coming summer and fall seasons. We’d love to have you here!

#### Current Service Opportunities to Consider:

**Bike Shop** - Monday evenings from 5 to 8 running June through August

**RICH Kids EnRICHment Program** - Monday through Thursday from 1:30 to 4:30 running June 17th through August 8th.

*E-Mail Jocelyn Grant at [jgrant@southstreetministries.org](mailto:jgrant@southstreetministries.org) to serve this summer!*



## OPEN GYM

by David Shahata

We have just come to the end of another season of Open Gym. Before I continue, I will give a quick rundown of Open Gym. Open Gym is a basketball program for middle and high schoolers; it starts with us having a meal altogether, then we move to a time of sharing (this year based on our theme of *Running the Race*), and finally end with basketball. As I am writing this I have a big smile on my face simply thinking about the journey we went on alongside our Open Gym Youth. Although Open Gym is a basketball program, there are definitely nights when the basketball is not the prettiest, but even so, each week our youth continue to come back. It was a beautiful realization as one of our youth said, "We started coming for the basketball, but we keep coming for much more than just the basketball!"

Again, our theme was *Running the Race*, and we chose to emphasize the importance of the race itself. Although finishing the race is key, if we miss the journey of the race, we miss out on the abundant life that Christ calls us to now! As we run the race every

step counts, so we must take every step with intention. These were deep roots we hoped and prayed we could instill into our youth.

Our final night of Open Gym was truly a celebration of our youth, their commitment to Open Gym, their commitment to their own personal growth as young men and women, and their commitment to following Jesus. It was a special end as we had the privilege of highlighting our youth by sharing a few special words about each and presenting our youth with new basketball shoes for this commitment of theirs. We started with four young men who had stepped up as leaders within Open Gym, and after sharing about each of them had them join us as the leaders, highlighting the remainder of our youth altogether. This was a special moment and just one picture that I can share that reveals a snippet of what Open Gym is about. I know leadership development is enacted in many different ways, but I have a peace about how this was done here at Open Gym in 2019.

Thank you for your support!



### SAVE THE DATE FOR TRAILS N RAILS 2019!

Saturday, September 14th, 2019 at 8 am.  
We are presently accepting Sponsorships  
at ALL levels.

E-mail Erin Irwin at  
[erin@southstreetministries.org](mailto:erin@southstreetministries.org)  
to sponsor Trails N Rails.

### Want to Give Back?

Contact us at:  
South Street Ministries  
130 W. South Street  
Akron, OH 44311

phone - 330.761.1992

website - [www.southstreetministries.org](http://www.southstreetministries.org)  
email - [lcrabbs@southstreetministries.org](mailto:lcrabbs@southstreetministries.org)

### Cafe Hours

In addition to Tuesday through Friday 7-2,  
Cafe will be open on Saturdays starting  
March 2nd 8am-4pm.

Kids under 10 eat pancakes for free!  
The Café is available for catering at any time;  
email [lcrabbs@southstreetministries.org](mailto:lcrabbs@southstreetministries.org)  
to place a catering order.