



STREETS MINISTRIES

Volunteer Packet

What

Every day, STREETS serves hundreds of kids in some form. Without the help of volunteers, it would be impossible for STREETS to reach as many kids as we do. By volunteering with STREETS, you are committing to make a difference. Whether you are tutoring a high school student, reading to an elementary student once a week, or serving food at Middle School Club each Thursday, you are making a difference by investing in the lives of at-risk children.

Where

STREETS has two locations. Our downtown facility is located at 430 Vance Avenue, between the Medical District and the heart of Downtown Memphis. From East Memphis, take Walnut Grove to Union Avenue. After passing through Midtown, take a left on Danny Thomas, pass through Linden, and at the next stoplight take a right on Vance. The Streets facility will be on your right. Our Highland Heights facility is located at 3384 Faxon Avenue, across the street from the Collegiate School. From east Memphis, take Walnut Grove and make a right on Perkins. From Perkins, take Sam Cooper Blvd. West and get off at Exit 7 for Highland St. Turn right onto Highland and turn left onto Faxon.

When

Whatever your gifts may be, we probably have something that fits you and your schedule. We have programs running almost every afternoon, so please reference the list of volunteer opportunities, or contact STREETS to find out what would work best with your schedule and talents.

Why...the background checks?

Over the last few years, things have changed...a lot. Although we do apologize for any inconvenience caused by this requirement, we hope you'll understand that it is impossible for us to maintain insurance as a youth agency without processing an application, personal reference checks, and a background check for all our volunteers.

How

If you are interested in applying to be a volunteer, please return the enclosed application to us at STREETS, *including a photocopy of your driver's license and auto insurance*. You can send this via mail at P.O. Box 42181, Memphis, TN 38174 or fax it to us at 525-9628. We'll contact you shortly after receiving your information.

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General Information about STREETS

Mission Statement

The mission of Streets Ministries is to serve impoverished youth in the Memphis metropolitan area by unconditionally representing the Good News of Jesus Christ in word and deed in such a way that underserved adolescents have the opportunity to see, hear, and respond to the Good News of the Gospel, and to be empowered to live a life of obedience to God.

History

In 1987, God called Ken Bennett to a life of service in the most desperate neighborhoods of Memphis, with the firm conviction that the only path to true and enduring change for this area was through the hope found in Jesus Christ. What began with a van, a basketball and a heart to trust God on a daily basis is now a thriving, dynamic outreach to hundreds of kids who deserve the same chance to succeed as those born to more fortunate circumstances.

Overview

Streets is a Christian ministry dedicated to serving the youth of Memphis. Streets has been serving the students of the 38126 zip code since 1987 and in 2009, Streets launched an expansion site in the Highland Heights community. For the youth of these neighborhoods, there is easy access to drugs, high rates of teen pregnancies, an overwhelming high-school drop-out rate, and very little relational and family stability. Therefore, our goals reflect the needs of the youth that we serve. Streets provides a place for students to come and hang out after school, ensuring that they will have a safe haven with resources and support. In the afternoons, we have an open facility during which any student is welcomed into the Streets facility and is able to play games, basketball, meet friends, and have a safe place to enjoy.

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Programs

All students are invited, not required, to take advantage of our extensive and helpful programming. In this, Streets' goals include meeting the physical needs of the youth and their families, tutoring the students in order to better their education, teaching values and morals through mentoring, developing deeper relationships, and providing discipleship in order to point towards their greatest hope, God. Listed below are some of our programs which include volunteer opportunities.

WEEKLY COMMITMENT

Pathways Tutoring

Pathways is our educational mentoring program and is the most relationally involved of all our programs. Student and mentor work through Streets' own curriculum, which focuses on specific educational objectives. Tutoring lasts one hour a week, but the goal of Pathways is that a deeper relationship between the mentor and student is formed through more extensive involvement with each other. This can include anything from meeting for dinner to attending sporting events together to visiting colleges. We encourage our mentors to push their students spiritually, relationally, and academically. We have hours available between 3:00 and 6:00, Monday through Thursday, unless an alternate time can be established.

Ready Readers

Ready Readers takes place on the campus of Georgia Avenue Elementary School during school hours. Here, adults are paired with students who are below proficient in skills such as reading and math. The results of this program are astounding, and the children and teachers highly appreciate the help. Each volunteer is asked to spend at least thirty minutes to an hour, once a week, with the children. This is an ideal program for moms with children in school during the day or anyone working with a lunch break to spare. We have hours available between 9:00 and 2:00, Monday through Thursday.

PERIODIC OPPORTUNITIES

Snacks and Drinks

"Club" is one of our primary programs for sharing the Gospel with our students. High School Club is on Monday nights at 7:00 p.m., Middle School Club meets Thursdays at 6:00 p.m., and Elementary Club is on Fridays at 3:30 p.m. After setting up, the students usually sing, watch skits, hear the gospel, and have snacks. During the summer, we have movie nights for the students. Please consider providing snacks one night a semester / year for these clubs. You can arrive about 15 minutes early to unload. If you can stick around for "club," then we would love to have you serve snacks at the end. This is a great opportunity for both individuals and groups and can be a lot of fun!

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StreetSmarts

StreetSmarts is our elementary after-school program which takes place in our facilities. Students are able to come in the afternoons to work on homework, play games, watch movies, work on reading skills, and hang out. Volunteers are needed to assist with crowd control, homework, and build relationships with the students. This commitment can be once a week, once a month, or as you can come.

Room Adopters

Join with a friend, a spouse, or a stranger to adopt a classroom at a Georgia Avenue Elementary School and help celebrate fun events and holidays about once a month. Volunteers are paired up and introduced to a teacher who needs help. The teachers and volunteers communicate in order to set up times and plan events together. This is a really enjoyable opportunity for the teachers, students, and volunteers.

Newsletter Team

The primary way we communicate with our supporters is through our printed newsletter, which we print six times each year. This is a very important aspect of our ministry, because it helps us to promote Streets and ultimately raise support. With over 1,400 addresses on our mailing list, we have a lot of newsletters to fold! Let us know if you're interested in helping with this, so you can join us for our morning "folding parties" at Streets every other month.

Tutoring at Vance Middle School

Mission Graduation, our incentive based program on the campus of Vance Middle School, strives to help students set and reach academic and life goals. This program offers a tutoring component and volunteers are invited to tutor in the afternoons on the Vance Middle School campus. Volunteers can come as little or as often as they like between the hours of 2:30 and 4:30, Monday through Thursdays.

Recreation

Each afternoon from 2:00-6:00 during the school year and from 1:00-5:00 during the summer, Streets provides a safe place for students to come and hang out, play games, basketball, meet friends, and hang out with staff and volunteers. Volunteers are needed to coach basketball, baseball, and other teams in intramural leagues as well as to help monitor open gym and participate in community sports events.

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Volunteer Application:

(Dr Mr Rev)

(Mrs Miss)

(First)

(Middle)

(Last)

(What name do you go by?)

(Street)

(City)

(State)

(Zip)

(Work Phone)

(Home Phone)

(Cell Phone)

(Email)

(Best Way to Reach You)

(Church Membership)

(Driver's License Number)

(DOB)

(Employer)

(Job Title)

(Years with Current Employer)

(Employer Address)

(City)

(State)

(Zip)

M

F



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Volunteer Application

1. How did you find out about Streets Ministries?

2. Which program(s) are you interested in volunteering for?

Pathways Mentor/Tutor* 1 hr. each week

Ready Readers* 30 minute or 1 hr. increments

Room Adopters (once a month, time determined by volunteer)

STREETSMARTS Volunteer (Monday-Thursday 3:30-5:30)

Provide snacks for Club once per semester (Does not require a background check)

Help fold newsletters (Does not require a background check)

Tutor with Mission Graduation* at Vance Middle School

*For Pathways and Ready Readers: Please write, in the space below, a few one-hour tutoring/reading times that are best suited for your schedule each week.

*All Ready Readers, Room Adopters, and Mission Graduation Tutors must also fill out the attached Memphis City Schools Volunteer Registration form.

3. Why are you interested in volunteering at STREETS MINISTRIES?

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4. Please include a detailed personal statement of faith.

5. Please list two personal references. It is preferred that one of these be a pastor, minister or another staff member from your church who knows you well.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Email</u>	<u>Relationship</u>
1. _____			
2. _____			

6. Have you ever been convicted of a crime (other than a misdemeanor), including any sex-related or child-abuse related offenses? If yes, please describe.

7. May we conduct a criminal background check to verify this, as well as a driving record check?

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Background Check Authorization

I authorize Streets Ministries to obtain a background check, including criminal background information, driving record, etc., about me from the State of Tennessee and/or other sources in accordance with the policies of insurance underwriters, grant rewards and other sources. Results of the completed report will be sent to Streets Ministries and will remain personal and confidential.

Signature

Date

Social Security Number



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Statement of Faith

- I. The Bible is the Word of God, without error, and the supreme authority in all areas of life.
- II. The God of the Bible is the only true and living God. There are no others. God exists as a Trinity – God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.
- III. All people are created in the image of God, and as a result are worthy of dignity and respect. At creation, the first man and woman were without sin, in perfect Relationship with God. However, the first man and woman were separated from a right relationship with God by their disobedience (sin). All people are now born sinful, and no one is acceptable to God by themselves. Because all men and women are sinful, all deserve the penalty for sin, which is death.
- IV. Jesus Christ is the Son of God and is the Mediator between God and His people, making it possible for them to know God and to renew their relationship with Him.
- V. Jesus Christ, although God, became a man and lived a life of perfect obedience. Through his death, Christ became our substitute receiving the punishment we deserved. As a result, our sins are forgiven and our relationship with God is restored.
- VI. Jesus Christ was raised from the dead, appeared to his disciples, and ascended into heaven. He lives and reigns over the world today as the King of Kings and shall return to judge all men at the end of the world. Through his resurrection, all believers have assurance of life in heaven after death.
- VII. Through the teaching and preaching of God's Word, the Holy Spirit calls people to renewed relationship with their heavenly Father. He does this by enabling them to recognize their need for forgiveness because of their sinful ways, to be sorrowful, to repent and to trust in Christ as their Savior. Salvation is possible by God's gift alone, and not by any effort on our part to please God, because we cannot please God apart from God
- VIII. Those who enter into a relationship with God become His children and are given the gifts of the Holy Spirit and receive as their inheritance eternal life in the Kingdom of God. As children of God, our primary purpose in this life is to glorify God in all parts of life by representing Him and His Trust to the rest of the world while enjoying the blessings of His creation.

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I agree with the Streets Ministries Statement of Faith as outlined above, and pledge to work with students in a manner consistent with the Streets Ministries Statement of Faith.

Signature

Date

Name