

## The ministry of Youth for Christ is surprisingly simple most days...

It is also overwhelmingly effective. Most days it is our hope to show up in a kid's life. To be there, consistently. To be dependable. To be honest. To be real. We cannot express enough how important this is to young people. Especially in the past few years. As we think about what young people are going through and what they need, we have discovered our mission is set up to meet some of their biggest needs.

**We are caring adults who show up, listen, show care, and share God's truth in love. We show up over and over again because of God's great love for them.**

We have made it our goal to show up where kids are. Be that in schools, communities, group homes, or detention centers. We want to give every kid the opportunity to have a caring adult be there to share God's love with them.

Currently, there are two young men in the Juvenile Detention Center in Westbury that have been there for years. Our team has spent countless hours investing in relationships with them. Together, they spend time playing, laughing, talking, studying, and praying. As of today, one has said "yes" to being a follower of Jesus and the other has not. *Not yet.* He is close and open to talking about the things of God.

**And so, we will continue to show up and show him God's love.**

Whether our staff is playing chess with young people in the detention center or helping student leaders prepare for their Christian Club meeting, they are committed to helping support them and their needs, whatever they may be.

Every time **YOU** give, and every time **YOU** pray, you show up in the way God has called **YOU** to. We are so thankful there are people like you who care about young people. You may never be able to hear their voices, but **YOU** show up for them and so many other young people who need you.

This Christmas we hope you continue to **give**, continue to **pray**, and continue to **show you care** about the young people in our immediate world who need God to show up in their lives.

*Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!*

**The Long Island Youth for Christ Board of Directors**





# "I see you."

One thing I've noticed in my years of working with teens is that sometimes they'll say things to shock you to see how you'll respond. They want to know if you'll judge them and treat them like everyone else in their lives.

When I first met Jay at City Life, and he told me how he would steal from people, I saw it as an opportunity to show him God's love and grace.

The young man who entered the building on his first night with an imposing stance is now one of my most helpful student leaders. Since then, we've had honest conversations about life, budgeting, and the Lord's plan for his life.

On one of our most recent appointments, I felt the Lord pressing on me to tell him, **"You are not meant to be like all the others who end up in gangs around here. You're meant for better. God sees you. I see you."**



Jay and so many young people like him grow up thinking and feeling as though they have no hope. **Would you join us in praying for them?**

**Scan the QR code to access our full prayer calendar.**



## OUR MINISTRIES



Campus Life leaders build relationships with young people to introduce them to a loving God. We work to cultivate great moments of connection and community. Leaders guide young people to live a Christ-centered life that is balanced mentally, physically, spiritually, and socially.



City Life actively pursues young people walking through pivotal moments in underserved communities. These young people often feel overlooked, and it's our passion to make them feel seen, heard, and valued. Our aim is to provide practically and spiritually for these young people, their families, and the entire community.



YFC Core empowers, equips and mobilizes students to make a difference in their schools and community for Jesus, through mentoring young leaders to lead Christian Clubs in their public school.



JJM provides a variety of programming and services for juvenile detention centers. We strive to meet the needs of the facility and staff and become a steady presence that helps promote long-term change in the lives of the teens inside.



## Double December Challenge

This year we have two generous donors who have committed to giving us half of our goal!

**Together, we are challenging you to match their generosity.**

Together, with your generous giving, we can meet this God-sized goal.

We can continue to make a difference in the lives of young people.

There are thousands of kids who are looking for more.

They need help and

God has given us an opportunity to show them his great love!

**Will you join our mission by sending our team to where they are? Help us reach our goal. Take the Double December Challenge.**

To donate, visit:

**liyfc.org/give, or scan the QR code**

## Year End Goal = \$125,000



Francisco's Story

**"I invited my friend! And guess what?! She's gonna come to Christian Club!"**



Seventh grader, Francisco loves many things in life. Including, but not limited to Milano cookies, sports, his friends, school, his family, worship music, and **sharing the love of Jesus with his peers.**

Most kids tend to be a little shy when meeting an adult they don't know for the first time, but not Francisco. He greeted me with the warmest welcome when he saw me in the classroom at Roslyn Middle School, where his Christian Club, Lighthouse, meets, and made sure I knew that the advisor brought "the good snacks" that day!

It's been a little over a year since that first meeting, and each week, Francisco is there without fail, with a smile on his face.

**He doesn't just bring a smile to the club, though! He brings friends!** Francisco is constantly inviting his peers, and while they're not always able to attend weekly, many have come because they were personally encouraged by him to do so. More importantly - they came back on their own!

Whenever he knows a friend is going to join him that afternoon, he makes sure to get to the room early to let us know.

**"I invited my friend! And guess what?! She's gonna come to club!"** he'll exclaim.

Francisco is just one of the many young people who are reaching their peers with the gospel right in their schools. There are so many others. Would you pray for them this holiday season?

## Our Christmas Wishlist



Prayer Partners  
Faithful Donors  
Volunteers  
Staff

