

RESILIENT



Happy Fall to all of you! The school year is back in session and Resilient is buzzing with activity!

Resilient continues to be busy providing opportunities for the youth in the nearby challenged community to help them rise above and out of adverse conditions. This is the MISSION that God has placed on our hearts and the reason that Resilient was created.

This fall our Kids Hope program will be serving 18 students. This is a 20% increase! The volunteers that serve weekly throughout the school year walk alongside the students and mentor them in many ways. Conversations with school administrators and teachers in the building have impressed upon us that more one-to-one assistance for students is necessary.

Resilient's priority is to identify the broken, the unseen, those just below the fray, and then to provide programs to them to help them flourish. We recently met with a group of dedicated community servants that helped us identify the community's greatest needs, and also the greatest ways to help those we serve see God at work in their lives.

We are preparing to launch our first sports ministry program. With this program we can bring the Gospel to young children weekly while also teaching them how to collaborate, participate, be there for one another and accept gains and losses. The age range for the program participants will be 1st – 8th grade. Our intent is to bring the children's families together, encourage them with the Word and have fun while doing so. Just as exciting is how we are partnering alongside other organizations in the area to accomplish this goal! We will be hosting a 6 week skills and training camp in basketball. The Willowbrook Junior Warriors is a group that feeds into Willowbrook High School and we hope to work with young athletes that may aspire to be part of this program the future.

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**Please visit our website at ResilientStrong.com
To donate, go to ResilientStrong.com/Donate or call 630-903-6010**

To Donate via Stock transfer: Resilient NFP's account is Z40144644 at Fidelity.
Routing code is DTC 0226. Process takes 2-3 days.
Resilient's NFP Fed ID is 32-0542637, a 501c3 organization.

Our Community Meal Ministry continues to provide hot meals and fellowship to approximately 30 families monthly. In September, we had Jordan Heinzl-Nelson from Christ Church of Oak Brook provide a brief Word from God's Word.

Resilient has a VISION of a community where all children gain self-worth and thrive despite challenging circumstances. One of our programs, Upstart, continues to accomplish this. We walk alongside students assisting them to move toward a career in the construction trades or manufacturing jobs while also developing faith and building a positive character. To date we have had 139 students exposed to Upstart. Of the 33 who have participated in the program, ALL have been offered a career opportunity. Not all of the students have yet chosen to accept the opportunities that were presented, but four of our students have passed the apprenticeship exam and are currently on their journey toward a long, successful career. Additionally, three students will soon be taking their apprenticeship entrance exams into the Electrical Union and two others are exploring entering Local 150, the Heavy Equipment Operators Union!

As we prepare for our Fall session in Upstart, we are excited to have valued speakers every week to further expose the students to the various trades and to engage in conversations together. We are also looking forward to partnering with the Project Hire-Ed program at College of DuPage for manufacturing apprenticeship programs.

In addition to our Sports Ministry, Work Readiness Ministry and providing mentoring through Kids Hope, we are looking to improve the emotional health of our youth. We are having conversations with NAMI DuPage (National Alliance on Mental Illness) about how to strengthen mental well-being. Resilient is being led toward helping the middle school aged youth and their families with programs to address mental illness and emotional challenges.

At the end of the summer, Resilient held its annual fundraiser and gratitude event. We were blessed with being able to share the news of our ministry and to have an Upstart student provide his testimony of how Resilient has changed his life. We also were fortunate to have a partnering contractor discuss the importance of the work Resilient is doing to help them enlarge their workforce. Pastor Dan Meyer, the Lead Pastor at Christ Church of Oak Brook, provided guidance toward the importance of supporting the community and ministries like Resilient!

If you are so led and inspired, your donation to Resilient's mission would be greatly appreciated and would help change lives for countless youth in the challenged surrounding areas.

Have a blessed and flourishing Fall!

Gratefully,

Dagmar Porcelli, Executive Director

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