



FALL 2021 NEWSLETTER

Autumn is arriving. The air is crisp and the upcoming Holidays are upon us. As the season changes, all of us at Resilient are filled with hope. We have hope for positive changes in our world as we witness the growth of our ministry, the increasing number of volunteers and the lives that will be touched by many new opportunities for those in need.

In July, Resilient was approached by a very generous donor who challenged us to conduct a campaign to raise \$30,000 by September 10th from new donors; and if we could achieve this, the donations would be matched. By the Grace of God, and the generosity of many, the challenge was met! Resilient substantially increased its circle of passionate givers and caring families who support the ministry! We are immensely blessed.

Our UPSTART program has officially launched and our first class of students graduated on October 6th. The participants all had the opportunity to connect with partnering contractors. One young man, who was sponsored by Executive Construction Inc, passed all his exams at the apprenticeship hall for Carpentry. He is on his way to becoming a journeyman and being employed by ECI! The other students have been presented with the opportunity to be Helpers for the flooring union. They too will soon be on their way to gainful employment.

Our contracting partners, including ECI, Flooring Resources, MTH Industries, Pinnacle Decorating, Standard Roofing and Repair as well as Masonry Subcontractors will continue to partner with us as we prepare for our next class in January. Presently we are recruiting new students at Willowbrook High School and Addison Trail High School. We have held interviews and informational days resulting in approximately 18 students who are interested in participating in UPSTART. The future is bright for all these young students as they make choices that will move them toward their career pathways!

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Resilient's goal is to provide these young men and women with an ability to have a sustainable career which will allow them a flourishing and thriving life. We want to thank our UPSTART partners for their gracious welcome to our students.

We are anxiously awaiting the green light to enter back into the schools for the programs that Resilient supports including The Mentors, Empower Hour, Kids Hope and our new Bible based after-school program called the Good News Club! We anticipate this to occur in January.

Resilient continues to provide Thursday Night Community Dinners. We've had a picnic style offering and a drive thru model. We have distributed Bibles and also added a worship time led by Pastor Jim from Calvary when he is available. On average we serve about 35 people. Over the course of the past year, we began offering one-on-one prayers as well as taking prayer requests from our patrons. Our Resilient volunteers have been dedicated in lifting them up in prayer.

As we prepare for the Holiday season, we are dedicating our time and faith resources to surrounding churches such as Calvary, New Life, New Hope and Christ Covenant to aid in the expansion of our mission. One of Resilient's goals is to inclusively enrich our community through Faith. Resilient plans on being part of the Christmas Shoe Box delivery and a resource for the young men, women and children who we mentor. Our involvement with the community has proven to bear witness to the good that God is doing through our ministries. Several wrap-around service providers are routinely reaching out to Resilient to offer their community in need the spiritual strength we provide.

As you can read, Resilient continues to make strides despite the challenges presented by Covid-19 and the slow return to normalcy. We have witnessed guidance from the Lord and embraced the opportunity to provide enrichment to help the youth in our neighboring communities flourish.

We thank all of you who have supported Resilient through your generous volunteering, financial support, prayers and interest in witnessing the work of this ministry that impacts our surrounding neighborhoods.

Gratefully,

Dagmar Porcelli, Executive Director

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