



Mentoring Helps Prevent "At-risk" Behaviors

There are MANY REASONS to have a relationship with an "at-risk" child. Here are a few reasons and results... http://www.mentoring.org/about_mentor/value_of_mentoring



Rajabu's 1st and 20th

When he turned 20 years old on in January he said it was the FIRST time anyone had ever thrown a birthday party for him. His landlords/friends made him a cake, invited some of his friends, and put that amazing smile on his face! For those of you who were praying for him to find a good place to live, the Lord answered your prayers BIG-TIME!

Rajabu started his college education this month at the same community college where our Kyle went (and Cody for a year). Rajabu was the first person in his family to ever graduate from high school and the first to ever start college. Between his schooling and work, and my schedule, it is very difficult to find time to see him these days. Please continue to pray for him, as the Lord leads.



"H" Has a Heart for the Homeless

Through Trillium's Family of Friends mentoring program (<https://www.trilliumfamily.org/trillium-news/family-style-mentoring-links-families-in-a-big-way/>), Scott has the honor of mentoring an energetic tender-hearted 10-year-old. One day I asked him what he would do if he won \$10 million dollars. His answer: "Give it to the homeless. I have everything I need." So now, once every month or two we go to the dollar store and buy items to put in a "survival sack" to pass out to the homeless. We do other fun things too, like hang out at our house and play games, go out to eat, play laser tag and arcade games, and have conversations about important things. He is my buddy and I am thankful to God for bringing him into my life.



What is mentoring?

Mentoring, at its core, guarantees young people that there is someone who cares about them, assures them they are not alone in dealing with day-to-day challenges, and makes them feel like they matter.

Research confirms that quality mentoring relationships have powerful positive effects on young people in a variety of personal, academic, and professional situations. Ultimately, mentoring connects a young person to personal growth and development, and social and economic opportunity. Yet one in three young people will grow up without this critical asset.



Prayer Requests

- * Child Sex Trafficking Awareness Presentations we will do in schools in February (including Will's school)
- * Planning committee for the Rockwood corporate worship event we are working on for April 10th
- * We are also working on a collaborative church fellowship in Rockwood in March
- * We need a new Community Transformation Director for our team, as Scott will be stepping down from his INTERIM role in September
- * Thank you for praying for UNITY among the churches in Rockwood; true transformation will never happen unless there is an active powerful unified Church, through whom the Holy Spirit is working



Young Adults Who Were At-Risk for Falling Off Track But Had a Mentor Are:

55% more likely to enroll in college

78% more likely to volunteer regularly

90% are interested in becoming a mentor

130% more likely to hold leadership positions.



Kids Update

Ellie--sweet Ellie is her normal happy self, enjoying school and progressing incrementally

William--has become very active in drama productions and the AntiTrafficking Club during his final year of high school; doing well in studies and active in youth group; plans to go to the one-year program at the Greek Bible College outside of Athens this fall.

Kyle--doing well in his second year at the Greek Bible College; planning for a third

Cody--doing well in his final semester of



Update on Vicki's Dad (from her mom)

Scott has been home for two months now. He is improving incrementally every day. His speech is coming back. His muscles in his right side are waking up. He has a long way to go, but we are encouraged and the therapists have affirmed six more weeks home treatments. Because of your generosity, care, concern and prayers, we have been able to have him home with wonderful caregivers. So far, we been able to pay the medical bills as they come in. God bless everyone of you.

nursing school at George Fox University; hopes to get a job in Portland after graduating

Kendra--along with Steve, being great parents of our favorite granddaughter! Kendra will go back to her nursing job on April 1st after a year of maternity leave

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Our mailing address is:

Scott and Vicki McCracken
2225 SE 157th Ave
Portland, Oregon 97233

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- * * Team Ministry site: (www.freeway418.org)
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