

City Ministries

Quarterly Newsletter

Spring 2017

City Kids School— Where fun Happens!

As you enter a classroom at City Kids School you will notice a variety of learning styles. The goal for each day is to foster a “joy” for learning that will benefit children in their developing years. Letters and numbers come alive with songs, dance, repetition, cheers, and creative activities!

We believe children’s early years play a significant role in the development of their self-image, outlook toward school, and eagerness to learn. Each year of early education is another opportunity to layer the learning and foundation for future years. Success at City Kids School is measured by children feeling the accomplishment of educational progress, experiencing the love of Jesus, and knowing they are an invaluable part of their class community.

City Kids School. . . where play meets learning, planting seeds and cultivating the soil of each child’s heart so they can grow in God!

-Sheryl Nelson, School Director

Psalm 1:4. “And he shall be like a tree planted by the river that brings forth good fruit.”



An art project (pink pigs) in process in our Pre-K Classroom—Teacher Beth Call

*Northwest Ministries
Conference
March 23-25, 2017*

*City Ministries
Workshops:*

- ⇒ *Building a Foster Care Program from Scratch*
- ⇒ *Effective Church & State Partnerships*

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CM Gets Social Media Savvy!

Social media has become a prominent tool used as an outlet for sharing information. City Ministries is jumping on this trend to provide more ways to connect with our mission and vision and drive more views to our brand new website: www.citymin.org

This year we plan to optimize this to promote the foster care agency, recruit foster parents, provide resources and referrals, share updates, news about conferences and events as well as informative articles that may be of interest to foster parents.

We want to help families by providing loving, stable homes for foster children in crisis. There is a high demand for more foster families in Washington state and we want to bring to the forefront the needs of foster children in our community as well as raise awareness to the ways that families can make a difference in the life of a foster child by partnering with our agency in becoming licensed full-time foster parents or part-time respite care providers, volunteering time and professional skills, an agency volunteer, or giving financially.

Currently we are using our Facebook page to highlight our parents, agency and school activities. City Kids School has an active Facebook page, Instagram and twitter accounts. City Ministries Child Placement Agency also has a twitter account.

Please share any of our content from the website or Facebook page on your own social media outlets to help spread the word to people you know about how they can make a difference in the life of children in need.



Need more social media information? Please contact anna@citymin.org

Quilts for Kids

CM Child Placement Agency gives handmade quilts to each child in care. The making of the quilts began with a small group of women from The City Church Alderwood. This group of women made over 70 quilts. We of course gave all of those away and had a few more donated over the past few years.

We ran completely out and then the Pacific Northwest African American Quilters stepped in and chose us as one of their charity projects for 2016-2017. They delivered a stack in November last year and more are expected in April and May 2017. The children and their families love the quilts and it is a way to spread love and comfort. Thank you to all the quilters!



Members of PNWAAQ showing quilts at group meeting

A Little Bit of History

In 2007, with much prayer we ventured into foster care. It began with the construction of 22 homes and a community center on the east side of Seattle. We now have a thriving foster care program and child placing agency.

The Rose Hill Cottages & Aaron Haskins Community Center stand as a testament to the faith, love and heart of service of many people. City Ministries Child Placement Agency is doing case management, recruitment and training of foster parents, and maintains partnerships with DSHS and other community organizations to help provide a safety net for the rescue and protection of children.

Today we continue to adapt to community needs, but our mission to serve remains the same. We look forward to adding more full and part-time foster families, visitation volunteers, and child-care helpers. As we move forward, your generosity in giving, your prayers and volunteerism are welcome. Check our website for continuing updates and to learn more about our beginnings.



Annual Children's Christmas Party (December 2016)

More Foster Families Needed

As we settle into 2017, CMCPA continues to push towards one of its primary goals of the next two years: licensing 12 families within 18 months. At the beginning of March, we had 4 families in the process of being licensed—well on our way towards our goal! This big undertaking will help our agency to grow towards scaling our mission to give foster children a home.



On any given day, 10,000 children need a foster home, a number that unfortunately outpaces the current number of foster families to provide for their care. To meet our goal, CMCPA has been working on various methods of marketing, including a complete redesign of our [website](#) and the creation of new marketing materials to help us stand out more in the public eye. We will look to attend church conferences and orphan-care related conferences throughout this year to set up informational booths about our agency to further our exposure to potential foster parents. In addition, we will work to continue fostering relationships between other child placing agencies and orphan care ministries, such as Safe Families, to see how we can serve others in our community who share our mission to care orphans.

Interested in learning more about foster care? Please feel free to contact me directly at: joshua@citymin.org, 425.739.1237 (O)

From The Executive Director



We are very excited about the first issue of a quarterly newsletter. We hope to keep you, our foster parents, school families, volunteers, staff, donors, and interested community members up to date and inspired with our activities and news. CM has a long history of serving the community, starting originally as a social service outreach of The City Church in 1993. We are proud of our roots and connection to the faith basis of our ministry and work.

2017 started with a bang! Record enrollment for the 17-18 school year, 5 new families in process of becoming foster parents, Northwest Ministries Conference participation. launch of our website & social media campaign, online giving children's activities and much more. Please check our website at least once per month for additional news, events and calendar updates.

In December 2016, I started hosting an ED Round Table once each month to provide a forum for foster parents to voice ideas/concerns. I look forward to this each time and hope to glean new ideas and ways we can continue to support them in the important work that they do.

Until next time, all my best!

Cheryl Haslins cheryl@citymin.org

City Ministries is helping children, families and our community.

Contact Us

Give us a call for more information about our school, agency or Rose Hill Cottages

City Ministries
9051 132nd AVE NE
Kirkland, WA 98033
(425) 739-1185

info@citymin.org

Visit us on the web at
www.citymin.org

Spring Calendar & Events

March 2017

- 2-3 Refresh Conference
www.occ.org/refresh
- 8 Executive Director Round Table 6:00PM
Aaron Haskins Community Center
- 17 Children's Activities & City Kids School
Snow Day—make up
- 23-25 Northwest Ministries Conference
www.northwestmin.org

April 2017

- 11-12 Children's Justice Conference
Bellevue, WA
- 19 Executive Director Round Table 6:00PM
Aaron Haskins Community Center
- 21 Children's Activities & City Kids School
Snow Day—make up

May 2017

National Foster Care Awareness Month

- 6 Foster Parent Meeting & Training
Aaron Haskins Community Center
- 7 We are Family Day at the Mariners
For Foster Parents & Staff
- 18 Children's Activities
- 18-21 Nights of Generosity

