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Summer 2018

Sustaining Grace (By: Scott Mitchell)

Casino Road Kids Ministries (CRKM) is 10 years old! As the newest board member, it is such an honor to come into the board at a time of great celebration. One of the reasons I joined the board is I wanted to be a part of something that has had great influence on the kids in our community. I also wanted to be a part of something that has been making an impact for a significant amount of time. In the course of ten years, I know CRKM has influenced and impacted thousands of children in this community I care deeply for. I send my own kids to CRKM Monday club and it has blessed my family and grown my kids love for Jesus and others.

CRKM would not exist except by the grace of Jesus. Ten years for a small non-profit is no small achievement. This is something worth celebrating and giving God the credit for. It is God's grace that has sustained CRKM and we are trusting Him for many more. We are looking to kick off our 10th year in strong fashion and celebrate His grace all year. CRKM is not just maintaining, we are growing and using our influence to share hope and purpose to children by sharing the love of Christ through serving and mentoring.

This previous school year, we were able to add a mentoring group at Horizon Elementary to our already existing ministries of Homework and Bible Clubs. This intense small group with some of the more troubled boys in the school was created at the request of the school. We are looking forward to another year of this mentor program. We are hoping and praying that this ministry will continue to empower and change each boy attending in this next school year. Please keep this in prayer as we are able to speak directly into each boy's life.

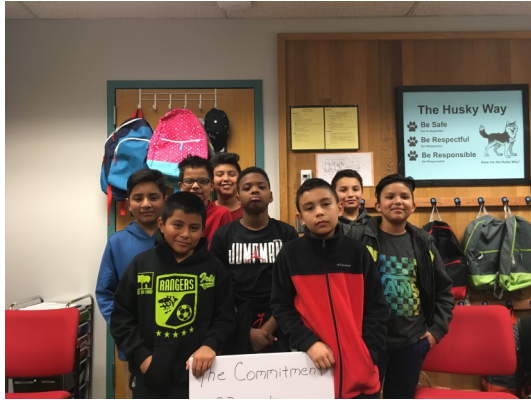
We are also seeking ways to increase our influence and deepen the existing relationships we have. We are hoping to be able to expand into at least one new apartment complex to reach more kids. We are keeping steady at The Bluffs and praying that we will be able to start working with more apartment complexes. We have also been invited to Challenger Elementary School to share information about our programs and hand out backpacks.

This ministry is sustained by God's grace and by God's grace He has used many of you to be the main support. Many of you have played such vital roles in reaching one of the most vulnerable populations in our City. Your countless volunteer hours and donations are deeply appreciated. No matter how big or small, all of them are needed and being put to good use to be a blessing. Thank you for all that you've done!

This last year we finished in the black by a little more than \$2,000. As we look to increase our influence and plan ahead, we are seeking new volunteers and new donors who see what God is doing here and want to be a part of it. We pray that you may think about being that person. Inspire kids to reach their full potential by providing ongoing support to Casino Road Kids Ministries. Go to www.crmkids.org/your-money to give an amount you desire to contribute to our mission.

10 years is a start. With God's sustaining grace we will be here for 10+ more to reach 1,000's more kids and make a positive impact in their life & our community.

From Our Executive Director



Time surely flies by. CRKM has turned ten! When we began operating as a non-profit in 2008, I couldn't have dreamed of what great opportunities God would bring. All I can say is thank you to my Lord for allowing me to share His hope and love with children for 10 years.

For a few weeks, I've been reflecting on a passage from Luke 17 which describes an encounter ten lepers had with Jesus. In this account, Jesus heals these ten lepers, and only one of the men healed came by to say 'thank you' to Jesus. This man recognized Jesus was the one who healed him, and made it possible for him to be whole again. He showed gratitude for what God had done for him.

This true story causes me to pause to thank Jesus for being faithful to me and CRKM. I'm grateful Jesus opened the door for CRKM to begin a brand new mentoring program at Horizon Elementary. The principal asked me to consider starting a group to work with 8 boys who needed mentoring support. The program focused on empowering eight boys to respect women, relate with peers in a productive manner, and communicate their feelings. Several of the boys made tremendous changes in their respect towards teachers and peers. Each boy described how the group was a 'family' for them because they could share their feelings, eat together, and knew the adults in the group valued them. I thank God for presenting this life changing opportunity to CRKM, and working in the boys hearts.

I'm grateful for amazing volunteers Jesus has sent to serve our kids in club. They bring their best each night at club in many ways - singing, dancing, teaching, correcting, serving kids, giving kids a car ride to club, and more. All of our volunteers freely give of their time, talents, and treasure to encourage and empower our CRKM kids to be our community leaders.

I'm especially thankful to God for all our donors, dinner teams, and board members. You all have faithfully giving to our mission to bring to children. We wouldn't be able to provide Bible Club, Homework Club, Start Out Right, dinner, summer camp scholarships, and more without your financial generosity. I praise God for all you individuals, churches, Rotarians, Kiwanis members, and groups for giving to CRKM for 10years.

Jesus Peace,

Tyrone McMorris
Casino Road Kids Ministries



Upcoming Events

Start Out Right: Saturday, August 11, from 10:00 am to 11:30 am CRKM and partners will giving away backpacks (with school supplies) to 350 children to help them start the school year out with the materials they need.

Volunteer Orientation: Come join our team for this next year of ministries. Our orientation meeting is on Saturday, September 8th, from 9:30 am – 12:00 pm. To RSVP, email Tyrone at tyrone@crmkids.org.

Weekly Programs: all clubs begin on September 17!! Please keep us in your prayers as we prepare for our 10th year of ministry.