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STAFF

Rolando Zeledon, *Executive Director*
Cassie Arnold, *Director of Ministries*
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Waniya Bryant, *Middle School Academic Program Manager*
Marcus Givens, *Development Officer*
Diana Liggs, *KidSmart Manager*
Roberto Mendoza, Jr.,
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Holly Meyer, *Operations Manager*
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Kim Shimazaki, *Volunteer Coordinator*
Leslie Tuakalau, *Bible Club Manager*
Ariana Yee,
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Dyimah Ansah, *Development Associate*
Jeremy McCants, *Middle School Spiritual Program Manager*
Carlos Barrios, *Receptionist*

EPA Fellows
Jordan Dennen, Jose Talavera

KidSmart Interns
Lorena Bucio, Roland Chan, Ed King

Summer Staff
Violeta Alvarado, Leticia Cardiel, Kimberly Duke, Alexandra Ham, Sol Martinez, Janette Ochoa, Rochelle Raquel

PROGRAM PARTNER

EPACENTER ARTS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lance Bloomquist, Stefie Dominguez, Kwame Eason, Cassandra Jackson, Ron Sanders, Alexander Sideropoulos, Munglen Tsai, Kathy Welsh



VOLUNTEERS AND STAFF



WAYS TO PRAY

- For new volunteers to join our team so that program growth can continue
- For each student and family that comes to BCM to know the depth of God’s love for them
- For new donors to feel connected to BCM’s work
- For our growing High School program (LiT) to continue to meet student’s needs as they work toward high school graduation
- For BCM and our efforts to revamp current programs and add new programs

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

- After-school tutor (Elementary or Middle School)
- Bible Club Co-Leader (Elementary)
- Middle School Mentor
- High School Mentor
- Summer program volunteer
- Provide a meal
- Photographer
- Videographer
- Graphic designer
- Admin/Mailing support (seasonal)
- Event planning team member (seasonal)
- Join BCM’s Board or Special Committee



BAYSHORE CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT 2018

LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It is a privilege to serve our Lord by loving and equipping the youth and families of East Palo Alto and Belle Haven. This year, Bayshore Christian Ministries (BCM) served over 300 children and youth. It was a year of both growth and contraction. We expanded our Vacation Bible School (VBS), grew our Create Studios programs and saw the number of youth engaged in spiritual programs more than double in the past four years. But in preparation for the coming season, we also sunset the EPA Fellows Program and the O’Keefe tutoring outreach.

During the earlier part of the year, we took a step back to complete a strategic planning process to better understand the current needs of our evolving community. The effects of gentrification were prominent and housing insecurity topped the list of concerns our families are experiencing. In this season of transition, BCM is committed to offering a holistic program centered in helping our youth experience God’s love, mercy and grace; a program that provides our students with academic support and enrichment to strengthen their educational foundation; a program where they discover their many God-given gifts and where they can apply these to grow their leadership skills. We want our students and alumni to be a source of hope in our city.

In the coming year, we are excited to continue the momentum God has been building at BCM. As directed by our strategic priorities, we are looking to incorporate mental health education in our programs as well as expand our elementary spiritual program. We are also looking to find new ways to better serve our older teens and local college students.

This impact report is a brief glimpse into how God is at work in our ministry. Your prayers, gifts and time make the scope of this work possible. Thank you for supporting BCM.

Blessings,
Rolando Zeledon,
Executive Director



OUR MISSION is to equip East-of-Bayshore youth to *grow spiritually, gain life skills, and develop as leaders* so they have hope and a future.



GROW SPIRITUALLY

PROGRAMS

Bible Club, Vacation Bible School, StreetWorkz, LiT (Leaders in Training)

THIS YEAR...

205 
Students served

55 
decisions for Christ

30 
Students went on spiritual retreats

"Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen."

Ephesians 3:20-21 NIV

A STUDENT PERSPECTIVE

I grew up in East Palo Alto and started attending Bible Club and tutoring in 4th grade. When I was in middle-school I began attending StreetWorkz where we learned about God and were able to build new relationships with friends and mentors. Now I am in LiT (Leaders in Training) which helped me become more mature and strengthened my relationship with God.

When I first became a part of StreetWorkz, I was dealing with my father leaving, my sister going to jail, and other serious situations which led me feeling sad and guilty. I was really overwhelmed and started self-harming. God was at work during this time through the adults at BCM who were there to support, listen, and get me out of the house when I was overwhelmed and sad. I also learned that God has different ways to show his presence even when it seems like he isn't doing anything. I slowly started to meet new people, grow to care for others and value my life again. Being involved with BCM also took me away from other influences and friends who became involved with drugs, smoking, gangs and violence. I learned that with God, I can forgive my sister for hurting me just like God can forgive others who have done things far worse. My current goal is to eventually forgive my father for all the hurt he caused my family.

I hope to one day become a lawyer because my sister didn't have access to a good lawyer. I want to help people who can't afford legal services or have a difficult time getting support. I believe our criminal justice system is broken, because the system punishes people who make mistakes instead of helping them change or learn from their mistakes. This needs to change and I hope to be a part of creating a fairer system. I am so grateful for what God has done in my life as well as for all the support, encouragement and confidence I receive at BCM.

—Kimberly, LiT Student

CELEBRATING EAST PALO ALTO FELLOWS

It was a bittersweet decision to end our EPA Fellows program this year, but we are grateful for the incredible faithfulness, abundant love for our students and deep personal growth exhibited by each of our Fellows. Please thank God with us for all that He has done through the duration of the program and for each of these individuals!

- 2012 – Briana Bennett, Shanae Green, Michael Wei
- 2013 – Daniel Gilham, Natasha White
- 2014 – Briana Carter, Stefie Dominguez
- 2015 – Sydney Brown, Briana Carter, Stefie Dominguez, Margaret Kazibwe, Amnoni Myers
- 2016 – Alyssa Lorenzo, Kris Smiley
- 2017 – Jordan Dennen, Alyssa Lorenzo, Jose Talavera
- 2018 – Jordan Dennen, Jose Talavera

"The Fellows program educated me in ways that made me aware of the world around me and helped me think critically about societal problems, not just from a sociological perspective, but also a spiritual one."

"I am grateful for the love, care, wise coaching and prayers over the course of my EPA Fellowship. I can't express how formative that time was for my relationship with God and people. Thanks for being such an amazing model of what it looks like to seek the Kingdom of God and live out faith in the Bay."

"I honestly don't know what I would be doing with my life right now, if God hadn't led me to the EPA Fellows. I am amazed by the way He has shaped my life, my ministry, my passions and my community through BCM and the Fellows."

DEVELOP AS LEADERS

PROGRAMS

EPA Fellows, Summer Interns, KidSmart Interns, Scholarships

THIS YEAR...

5 
scholarships given

7 interns and fellows served

Over 3,000 
hours served by interns

5 current college students supported

"He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" Micah 6:8 ESV



GAIN LIFE SKILLS

KIDSMART SUCCESS

At the beginning of the year Susanna*, a third-grade student in KidSmart, did not put much effort into completing her homework. She is very feisty, strong-willed and hard to work with at times. Although Susanna is smart, she had a hard time focusing on her homework and wanted the volunteers to do the work for her. "While working on her homework she would just stop if the work got harder," said one of her tutors as he described how when Susanna became frustrated with homework she would simply give up. We had a talk with her mother and it was decided that if Susanna's attitude did not improve, her mother would take away the privilege of playing sports. She is athletic and plays all sports well- basketball being her favorite.

Since January, Susanna has put much more effort into working independently and recently received a ribbon at KidSmart for learning all her multiplication facts. She was very excited to receive that recognition! I was not sure she would accomplish that this year; however, she has been making steady progress and showing improvement in reading skills, math and spelling. "She has improved a lot; her behavior has gotten better," said one of her tutors about the changes to Susanna's attitude. Another tutor pointed out her academic growth stating, "She is getting her math homework done a lot quicker." When asked what he thinks caused this positive change in Susanna her tutor said, "Maybe it is that we have learned to work with her better." Susanna wrote this about her experience at KidSmart: "I have improved in writing, reading and math because I come to KidSmart." With Susanna doing her part and with continued prayer and patience on the part of those working with Susanna, we look forward to further growth.

—Diana Liggs, KidSmart Manager
*Name changed for privacy

PROGRAMS

KidSmart, CREATE Studios,
CREATE Academy

THIS YEAR...

123 
Students were served

92% of KidSmart students ended the school year reading at grade level or improved reading by at least 4 reading levels (A-Z).

87% of CREATE Academy students showed mastery of basic math operations, up from 62% at the beginning of the four week program.

“When I ask Waniya [BCM’s Middle School Academic Manager] to help with math, she explains it better than my teacher would; it’s not that my teacher isn’t good, it’s just that Waniya explains it so I can understand better.”



CREATE ACADEMY IMPACT

Over thirty 5th-8th grade students took part in BCM’s CREATE Academy, our four-week STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) summer program, and 100% of our students finished the program with increased confidence in math. With the partnership of community youth organizations, local musicians and EPACenter Arts, our full-day program included workshops in visual art, dance, music, tech, business, science and film in addition to daily math classes. On Fridays, students enjoyed outings to places like the Exploratorium, Natural Bridges State Beach and San Francisco’s Mission District murals and street art. Upon completion of the program, our students demonstrated a 25% increase in mastery of basic math operations and over 2/3 left with an eagerness to work in the fields of natural sciences, engineering and art, some even expressing a desire to combine technical and artistic fields in ways they had not previously imagined. As the demand for 21st century skills increase, our students have the foundation and growing skillset for careers in STEAM.