APRIL 2025

ISLAND IMPACT

STORIES OF HOPE, FAITH, & TRANSFORMATION



Over fifty teens gathered on a Friday night, for a student-led worship night held at their high school.

YOUTH FOR CHRIST LONG ISLAND®

FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear Friends,

Come and see what God has done!

This has been our rallying cry, and I continue to be amazed by all He has done in the youth of Long Island.

Because of your prayers, time, and generosity, more than 400 students have walked through our doors this school year to hear about Jesus or grow in their faith.

You helped open a new mentoring space in Huntington Station and launched a Saturday mentoring program at the Juvenile Detention Center. Across public schools, City Life after-school programs, and the Juvenile Detention Center, young people are encountering the grace of a loving Savior and gaining tools to navigate life's challenges. In the next few pages, you'll read stories of transformation – of young people whose lives are being changed and of caring adults stepping in to lead this new generation. I pray their stories inspire you to praise God with us and continue walking alongside the mission to reach students on Long Island.

As Psalm 34:8 says,
"Taste and see that the Lord is good. Oh, the joys of those who take refuge in him!"

With gratitude,
Beria



"(Before Christ) ...It felt like something was missing. I would try to fill the void with other things, but when I found Jesus, I realized he was the only thing that wouldn't leave me empty again."
- City Life Student

ANNUAL FUNDRAISING DINNER

May 9, 2025
7 PM

Melville Marriott
Melville, NY

Reserve your complimentary ticket by April 28th
liyfc.org/dinner








STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

"I feel like our generation is really lost."

One afternoon, while sitting with Sally* before her school's Christian Club started, we were catching up as we normally do, when she began sharing about the struggles she noticed she was having when it came to being intentional in spending time with God.

"First off, I had to turn off my phone, and that's the most difficult thing to do right now, because our entire lives are tied to our phone. But beyond that, I had to cut off other things...Anything that's instant gratification is like terrible for the spirit, I realize."

Sally went on to say that she decided to start bringing her bible and journal to school so that she could have quiet time in the library before classes start.





"When they say, 'when you believe in God, your problems don't necessarily go away, but Jesus walks with you through those problems,' I think I understand more and more what that's saying."

*name changed for privacy

"I just left the Christian Club meeting. These kids are amazing and I'm choked up texting this to you. They held hands and prayed. Gabby* from last week's meeting said she wanted to learn to grow in her relationship with God and went home with a pink leather bound, red letter Bible today (we had in our club box). Praise God from whom all blessings flow!" - Text From A Christian Club Advisor

MINISTRY UPDATES

CORE

Syosset HS Christian Club received the sound system they requested since they outgrew their classroom & held a Revival.

After years of praying, Hauppauge HS just had their first Christian Club meeting.

Names Given: 74
Volunteers & Staff: 1



CITY LIFE

60 students & mentors from Central Islip went bowling over Winter Break.

Mentoring rooms in Huntington Station are open.

Central Islip Names Given: 153
Volunteers & Staff: 9
The Station Names Given: 70
Volunteers & Staff: 10



JUVENILE JUSTICE

Saturday mentoring program is moving is forward with volunteer chaplains mentoring young people.

Calming rooms are nearing completion

Names Given: 77
Volunteers & Staff: 5





OVERHEARD AT CLUB

"Before Christ, I was in a bad crowd. I was always sad and I felt empty. I started going to City Life because of my sister. She started driving me there. (City Life) impacted my life because it made me socialize more and get more comfortable at church, Since I got comfortable, I always like going now. It also led me to get to know and get closer to God."



WILL YOU PRAY WITH US?

To view our April & May prayer calendar, go to liyfc.org/pray, or scan the QR code

WHY WE DO THIS

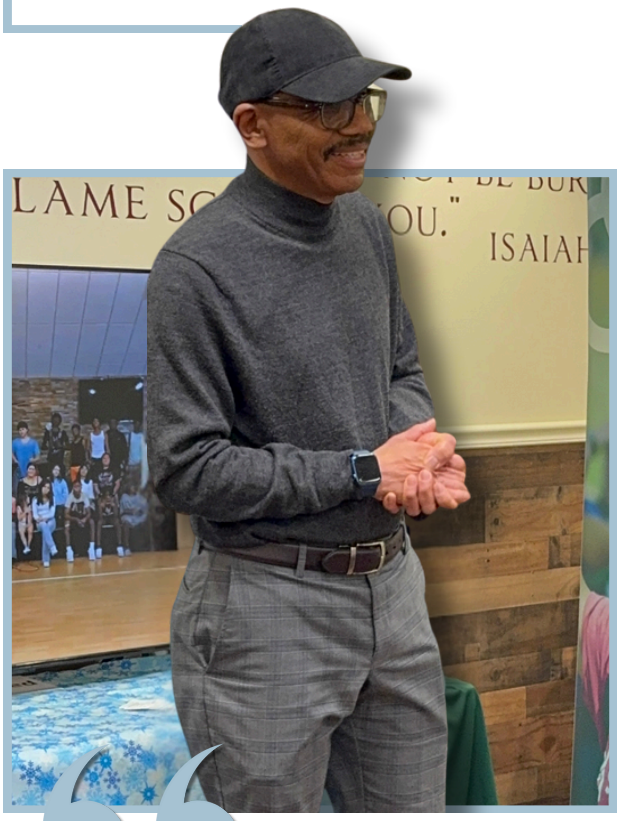
Jake* came from a group home and was one of the quietest kids in our group. Every Monday, I made sure to connect with him, just checking in and letting him know I was there. Over time, he started opening up. I encouraged him, prayed for him, and just listened. Then, one night at our Friendsgiving, he came up to me and said he was finally going home. I was so happy for him, but what he said next hit me even harder. He told me that Monday nights at City Life had given him hope when he needed it most.

As I was serving food that night, I noticed he had a bracelet with the name, "Jesus" on it. So I asked him, "Does that Jesus stand for someone you know, or the Jesus we talk about?" He looked at me and said, "The Jesus we talk about." So I asked him, "Have you given your life to Him?" And without hesitation, he said, "Yes." When I asked him when, he smiled and said, "On a Monday night here at club."

That's what City Life is about. It's about creating a space where young people can encounter Jesus, sometimes for the first time.

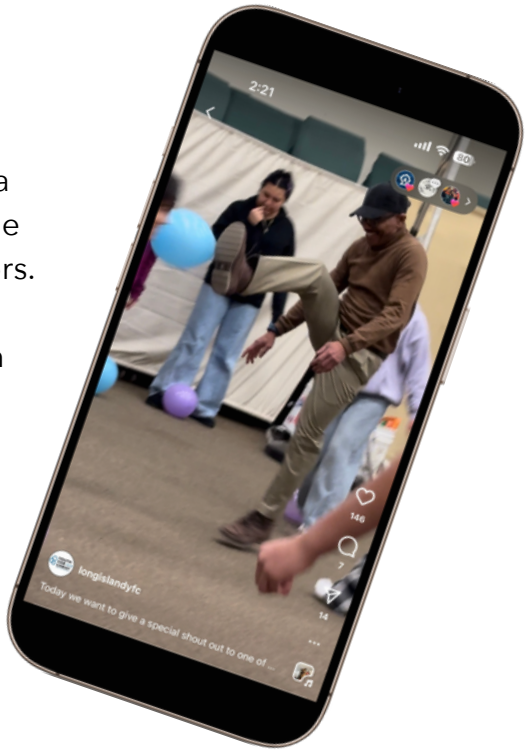
*name changed for privacy

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



Shortly after John became a volunteer with us in 2012, he joined our Board of Directors. Every Monday, he faithfully serves at our City Life site in Central Islip.

For an awesome video of John in action, playing with our students, head to our Instagram page: @longislandyfc



"One thing that attracted me to this place is that we're for the disenfranchised. There's a lot of kids out there that need Christ, but they're not gonna go to church. So we need to go to them. Our job is to open our arms and welcome them. That's what we do here." - John

YOUTH FOR CHRIST LONG ISLAND