

YFC Top 10 Prayer Needs

Please pray for God's blessing, timing and provision in these needs:

Wisdom, direction and revelation in establishing our 5 year strategic plan for ministry health and growth

Kingdom-minded churches and individuals to step forward to resource and fully fund our growing ministry sites

Churches, youth pastors and leaders to step forward to volunteer and partner in reaching unchurched teens in our public schools, neighborhoods and juvenile facilities

Volunteer Prayer Coordinator/Communicator

Volunteer Website Coordinator to build web page content and make updates

Volunteer Event Coordinator to build and coordinate event teams

Board Members for 2 current positions - 3 year term

Full or part-time MS Campus Life staff position

Full or part-time Ministry Director of Campus Life staff position

Full or part-time Resource Development Director staff position

HELP US BRIDGE THE DIVIDE

YOUTH FOR CHRIST PLYMOUTH CO
SPRING BANQUET

YOU'RE INVITED MARCH 27TH
LE MARS CONVENTION CENTER

UPCOMING ISSUE

YFC Camp Update: Impacting Teens Year after Year

Ministry Updates: The Importance of Volunteers in YFC Ministry

Strategic Plan Update: YFC has a Big Vision to Save Lost Teens

Event Updates: YFC Comedy Cafe and Ply Co Spring Banquet

Upcoming Event: YFC Golf Classic Update / June 12th at Whispering Creek

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 **YOUTH FOR CHRIST**
SIOUXLAND
GIVE LIFE TO YOUR STORY

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YFC Staff

Executive Director

Karl Van Cura

Tri-City Area Director/Ministry Director of Juvenile Justice Ministry

Jim Cole

Plymouth County Area Director/Interim Ministry Director of Campus Life

Jim Rahn

Sioux County Area Director

Tom Cook

Ministry Director of City Life/Plymouth County City Life Director

Roxie Rahn

HS Campus Life Director/Plymouth County

Dan Goodman

MS Campus Life Director/Plymouth County

Maria Goodman

JJM Aftercare Program Director

Jason Jackson

City Life Coordinator/Tri-City

Adam Alfredson

City Life Underground Manager/Tri-City

Chris Jones

Donor Care Specialist/Office Manager

Julie Cole

Bookkeeper/Compliance Coordinator

Emma Curry

Siouxland YFC Board

Sue Erickson Kent Claus
Jay Greathouse Dan Krause
David McFarland Judy VandeZandschulp
Craig Bryan (coming on board in May 2017)



Winter 2017

siouxlandyfc.org

From the Director

God has created us for purpose. He created us for his enjoyment. To glorify him. He created us to marry, multiply and steward the earth. But mostly he created us for relationship. Relationship with him and relationship with others. The result... relationships full of servanthood, love and forgiveness that glorify God.

But what happens when relationships go bad for teens? When parents fight and divorce? When promises are broken? When verbal, physical and sexual abuse happens? When gangs rule the neighborhood? The result... young people developing at-risk to critically at-risk behaviors, living dysfunctionally, harming themselves, others and often society.

YFC is all about entering into authentic relationships with teens pointing towards a restorative relationship with Jesus. I am privileged to hear stories from YFC ministry teams building relationships with lost teens; young people yearning for someone to show up. To listen and just hangout. They are all around us. We just have to be available and ready.

It's impossible to share all the stories and changes taking place. **We move forward humbly leaning into Proverbs 16:3, committing whatever we do to the Lord, knowing He will establish our plans.** Committing the invested hours, strategic planning and organizational efficiency happening within Youth for Christ to the Lord, knowing He will establish and revolutionize the effectiveness of our mission to bear more fruit - to reach, serve and impact 1 million lost teens nationally! It is my hope you join us in the fruit of the harvest awaiting as we reach, serve and impact the 17,000 11-19 year olds of Siouxland with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

God planned this ministry for faithful partnerships, where we work together in order to give life to your story, their story and our story.

Karl Van Cura, Executive Director

Ken Davis Live at Comedy Cafe



Sioux City Convention Center

On Monday, March 13th

Doors Open: 6:30 p.m.

Program: 7-8:30 p.m.

Five years ago, YFC introduced an event called the Comedy Cafe. The vision-Comedy for a Cause. We wanted folks to have a great time with good, clean fun; inviting the church out for a night of comedy with heartwarming stories from teens involved in our ministries. A great environment to get an overview about this mission, while providing opportunities to partner together to continue reaching, serving and impacting 11-19 year olds in Siouxland with the redemptive message of new life in Christ.

The Comedy Cafe is fast becoming Sioux City's premiere good, clean, fun evening out, growing from 325 to over 550 attending last year. We are thrilled to team up with Mercy Medical for our 5th anniversary event, announcing our guest speaker and comedian Ken Davis! Ken is a best-selling author of "Fully Alive", frequent radio and television guest, and one of the country's most sought after inspirational and motivational speakers. Ken's mixture of sidesplitting humor and inspiration delights and enriches audiences of all ages.

If you haven't attended the YFC Comedy Cafe in the past, or missed a year, we want you to join or support us in our largest annual fundraiser of the year.

The Comedy Cafe will feature sweet and salty desserts, our popular "build-your-own" sundaes and great coffee with special music from Jill Miller and teen band "After the Flood". Event sponsors will be treated to warm, light appetizers and soft drinks and a meet and greet reception with Ken before the event. All table sponsors can meet Ken after the event. Tickets are available to the general public for \$25 per person.

To learn more, reserve your sponsorship or tickets, visit siouxlandyfc.org or call us at 712-255-9599. Whether you plan to sponsor a table or purchase tickets, reservations are required online or by calling the office at 712-255-9599. Make plans now to join us, support us and bring your friends!

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS



Juvenile Justice Ministry: Helping Incarcerated Youth Reach their God-given Potential

WE ARE EXCITED AS PRAYERS OF WALKING THROUGH OPEN DOORS TO REACH MORE INCARCERATED YOUTH ARE BEING ANSWERED.

Juvenile Justice Ministry is an outreach to youth who find themselves unsupported in the community, making poor life-choices and incarcerated in juvenile facilities.

Our JJM team includes ministry volunteer teams in Sioux City and Le Mars, and Jim Cole, Ministry Director of Juvenile Justice. In early January we added Jason Jackson as JJM Aftercare Program Director to our team. Jason comes to YFC from a long church calling in youth pastor and mentoring roles.

Jason has been focusing on certification training with Iowa Juvenile Courts and Department of Human Services. These certifications offer Jason the ability to screen and train mentors from our community, giving us increased access to match and screen incarcerated youth within the Northwest Iowa Juvenile Court system. This is a unique opportunity to implement Northwest Iowa's first Aftercare Mentoring program by an outside faith-based provider. For two decades Jim Cole faithfully opened doors by developing, serving

and connecting with local youth service providers and NW IA Juvenile Courts. God is now giving YFC unprecedented favor as Jason walks through these doors into a world of incarcerated, troubled youth.

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It breaks my heart as I see the fear in their eyes...This is why I am here...to raise up a team of advocates for these youth.

—Jason Jackson

“In my first few weeks in Juvenile Detention and Alternative School, we have led a few Bible studies and character building sessions. I have seen the hunger and thirst in some of the youth in the facility. It breaks my heart as I see the fear in their eyes, as they face the reality of going back to where there is no support. This is why I am here at YFC; to raise up a team of advocates for these youth.” Jason Jackson, JJM Aftercare Program Director.

As we implement the Aftercare program in the NW IA Juvenile Courts system, our 2017 goal is to match 20 critically at-risk youth with mentors who love God and desire to profoundly impact the lives of these youth with the message of Christ. As ambassadors for Christ, we will be there advocates, helping them reach their God-given potential.



City Life: Reaching Teens in a Defined Neighborhood

AS THE NEEDS OF NEIGHBORHOOD 11-19 YEAR OLDS INCREASE, OUR CITY LIFE MINISTRY MUST GROW TO FILL THIS NEED BY ADDING NEW STAFF AND DEVELOPING BROADER VOLUNTEER MINISTRY TEAMS TO EFFECTIVELY REACH MORE TEENS FOR CHRIST.

We are in the midst of developing a 5 year strategic plan to meet the needs of lost and hurting teens. Exciting changes are happening to increase our missional effectiveness across 3 counties and beyond!

Roxanne Rahn is now our Ministry Director of City Life charged to bring continuity to our 3 teen centers across 3 communities. Our desire is to have all volunteers brought on and equipped to serve at our centers operating with continuity throughout all 3 communities. We share resources and meet regularly as a City Life team. We will work to get Economis (financial literacy program and store) functioning at full capacity and fully funded at each site. We are also working on physical updates at each site.

- In Sioux County (Hawarden), Tom Cook is developing a new and growing teen center to include Family Meal Time and Tutoring.

- In Plymouth County (Le Mars), Roxanne Rahn oversees a growing teen center, which is in the process of raising ministry funds to bring on a part-time assistant to develop Economis and start a cooking class for teens.

- In Sioux City, our newest staff additions, Adam Alfredson, will oversee this teen center ministry and Chris Jones will focus on meal planning for Family Meal Time and manage our evolving Economis program and store. Both Adam and Chris are in the process of raising ministry funds.

Campus Life: Bringing Youth Ministry to our Public School Campuses

We are excited to change our Campus Life ministry from a county area approach to an overall chapter Campus Life team approach. Campus Life is ministry outreach bringing the Gospel of Christ to high school and middle school students on their campuses.

Jim Rahn is filling the interim role of Ministry Director of Campus Life to bring continuity to the 5 public school campuses in Hawarden, Le Mars and Sioux City we serve. We are currently conducting ministry site evaluations, developing ministry health and growth strategy and entering beginning stages of developing start up resources for a permanent ministry director to train and develop our future Campus Life program.

Our current Campus Life leadership team consists of Maria Goodman (Le Mars Middle School), Dan Goodman (Le Mars High School), Tom Cook (West Sioux Schools / Hawarden), Jim Cole (North Middle and

recently added East Middle School / Sioux City) and Jim Rahn.

As our leadership team meets, we are focusing our energies on assessing our current clubs, small groups, development of student leaders, volunteer needs and relationship building opportunities. Assessing and identifying opportunities for health in our existing sites and growth into new schools and communities is very important as we look to reach more lost teens. Lastly we are looking at developing best practice systems to:

- develop a stream-lined process to interview and identify volunteer candidates

- on-board and train volunteers in a more timely basis through chapter-wide training

- equip and empower adult leaders to bring more impact and ministry depth to our ministry sites

We ask for your continued prayers and thank you for your support as we embark on an aggressive strategic health and growth plan within Campus Life ministry in Siouxland.