

# April Newsletter

#### A SEASON OF GROWTH...

It is officially Spring, a season of growth, harvest and new beginnings. For The SoulFisher Ministries' (TSM) AGAPE Reentry Program, this has certainly been a season of growth. The agency recently received a \$68,500 grant from the Lutheran Foundation. This grant will help support 10 women reentering the St. Louis community in the Post-release Supportive Housing Program.

"I'm excited to see the growth of the AGAPE Reentry Program and look forward to seeing the success of the women in the program"

- Tiffany Brooks, AGAPE Reentry program Coordinator

### **ENAL SUMMER INITIATIVE**

The ENAL Summer Initiative Program is right around the corner and volunteers are needed! The program is held at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church from June 3 until July 26. It provides daily tutoring for the students, trips to the library. swim lessons, and weekly field trips. Last year's field trips included skating, bowling and water parks, as well as trips to The St. Louis Zoo, The City Museum, The St. Louis Science Center, and The Magic House.

If you are interested in volunteering, please email your resume, availability, and what type of experience you are looking for to thesoulfisherministries@yahoo.com.

#### **JOB OPENINGS**

TSM believes in doing everything with a spirit of excellence. In order to continue reaching greater heights this organization needs a full team of like-minded, driven individuals. Some of the positions include:

#### **Facility Director (Full-time)**

Facility Director will ensure that all program activities are functioning to full capacity in working to meet all program goals and outcomes. He or she will also be in charge of managing all partnerships, facilitating all professional development, and meeting all the filing requirements of this grant. Furthermore, he or she will attend all school Board meetings, collect necessary data for baseline indicators for



The Capital Improvement Campaign is still in full swing! TSM is raising money to renovate the office building so that it can be used to benefit other small businesses, and to further serve the St. Louis Community. Over \$1400 has been raised already, but there is still a while to go before renovations can begin. Get on board and make your pledge today!

academic performance, maintain and update curriculum to ensure that it remains in line with ensuring the best-practices that work towards students' achievement according to Missouri Learning Standards.

MAKE A PLEDGE

Click here to view the full list open positions.

### HABITAT FOR HUMANITY EVENT RECAP







Attendees of the The Habitat for Humanity Family Engagement night had a phenomenal time! Almost 40 students and parents came out to fellowship. Parents learned about first time home ownership with **Habitat for Humanity St. Louis** while their children engaged in fun and interactive activities. Dinner was delicious and several people won exciting prizes during the raffle drawing! Thank you to everyone who attended and to 21st Century Learning Community Centers for funding the event!

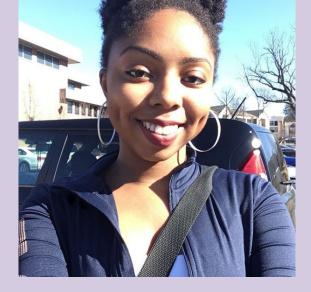


## **VISTA HIGHLIGHT**

Meet Jelisa Bembry, our Grants, Funding, & Outreach VISTA. Jelisa has been serving with TSM since August 2018, a few months after graduating from Webster University with a Bachelor of Arts in Interactive Digital Media. Since beginning her service, she has redesigned TSM's website, designed the promotional materials for events, created monthly newsletters and helped write several press releases.

"I've had a positive experience here and have gained valuable skills, work experience, and confidence. It's been amazing to see how many lives have been impacted by The SoulFisher Ministries through the ENAL Program and the AGAPE Reentry Program. I'm honored to contribute to even a small portion of that."

After her service term ends, Jelisa plans to continue with TSM as a member of the staff until she can fully launch her freelance career as a digital media designer.



Jelisa Bembry on campus at Webster University

### FEATURED PRACTICUM STUDENTS

MEET VERA AND FANTALLE SULI



Vera at her undergraduate graduation ceremony.

Menghan Xiao (Vera) is a Social Work Practicum student at The Brown School at Washington University. She began her service with TSM in January of this year.

"I am really appreciated this opportunity to work with TSM because of the experiences I have here. The services they provide are somewhat challenging but meaningful, not only to the clients, but also to staff members working at TSM, to practicum students like me, and to the rest of the society. I am proud to be part of TSM and looking forward to see the growth and success of TSM."



Fantalle Suli posing outside of TSM's office building.

Fantalle Suli is a Practicum Student from The Brown School of Social Work at Washington University in St. Louis. Working with TSM has had an enormous influence on how he came to see identity

"I thought the organization was small, having very limited resources and working with few direct clients when I came to The SoulFisher Ministries for practicum opportunity. But I realized that, the size and the resources you have don't matter, your mission and your kind heart matter to bring a change. Truly, 'Restoration is Possible, Success is Real!"

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

