

Hello brothers and sisters!

Crisis and opportunity have collided and that has presented us with an open door to make an impact as the capital C Church, as true servants, shining the light of Jesus in our communities, schools, homes and most importantly, in the lives of children that are on a precipice. Will you step up and be that light as a volunteer by investing a few hours a week on a consistent basis in a community learning center (CLC)?

As you know, we are all in the throws of the evolving world of Covid19 which has created events that continually shift and affect us daily in how we live, work and play. But, in the midst of this health crisis is also great opportunity. Opportunity and need have created a much prayed for bridge between schools, families, kids and the Church. Our big God is doing big things and we are uniquely positioned to build lasting relationships that can put God back in schools and also in hearts. To serve without asking for anything. To serve in the moment like we are called to do and let the Holy Spirit shine with a lasting light. To move kids back from the precipice. To set a table with seats open to include school administrators, church leaders, single mothers, at risk youth, struggling families, teachers, homeless people and Jesus. Isn't that quite something?

Many of you don't know this but the Toledo Public Schools serves 3,000 homeless students and provides meals to students who would otherwise go hungry while also providing a safe, monitored, engaging environment that nurtures a student's mind. Not having in-person school is a crisis for many of our neighbors. This is a moment that we have to project the love of Christ to some that may never step through our doors and we need YOU to extend that hand of grace as a much valued volunteer.

Volunteers in CLCs do not need any special experience; just a willingness to serve kids. They will target TPS students and siblings in k-6th grade to start. Volunteers will have to pass a standard background check and will receive some training to get things started with a level of consistency. The primary goal is to assist kids with logging on to the remote instruction during the times set by their teachers. CLCs will be setup to divide kids into clusters based on grade levels and will need to have a volunteer in place for every 10 students. Beyond assistance in making that connection to the remote learning and helping the kids to stay focused on an task, volunteers can also lend their talents and expertise to engage students in other activities that help them develop beyond the book learning the teachers are responsible for providing. These can include things like games and physical activity, art and music, general organized play and social activities.

If you have a few hours to commit to serve as a volunteer at a CLC, please email Christine Sweeney (chsweeney34@gmail.com) or Kendra Kec (kendrakec1@gmail.com) with your availability, home church, and a list of any other talents you would be willing to put to use as a CLC Volunteer. We will then reach out to coordinate background checks and set up training. We truly believe this is a God-sized opportunity and now that the harvest is plenty we are praying that the workers will be too.

Thank you for considering how you might step up and stand side-by-side with fellow Christians to bridge the gap in the crisis. This is not a forever commitment and we are willing to be flexible where we can while still providing compassionate, quality, lasting care to TPS students and families that are in desperate need at this moment.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

General Info

Goals of Community Learning Centers:

- to create a safe environment where students have access to food, internet, and safe and positive social interactions under the supervision of caring adults;
- to connect students and families to wraparound supports and services to meet the needs of the whole child and whole family

The Tabernacle will:

- Provide program support and volunteer training. Program support includes connections to academic, mental health, and other programming partners. Volunteer training will be provided to ensure that all volunteers and staff are familiar with the remote learning and curriculum materials utilized by Toledo Public Schools.
- Provide financial resources for technology support, cleaning supplies, school supplies, PPE, and other needed supplies.
- Monitor attendance trends and provide referrals for wraparound supports needed for student success.
- Act as a liaison between CLC partner sites and Toledo Public Schools.

Volunteers:

Minimum Requirements:

- Volunteers must be 18 years of age or older.
- Volunteers must pass a background check.
- Ideally able to make a commitment to somewhat regular hours of service at the learning pod.

Suggested Volunteer Roles and Responsibilities

- Site leader
 - provide oversight for partner site
 - communicate data requested to coordinating partner site director
 - recruit and schedule volunteers
- Check In volunteer
 - Take temperature of students and/or family members entering the site
 - Conduct initial health screening daily
 - Record students names and contact information daily for attendance and contact tracing purposes
- Food Service Volunteer
 - Coordinate food delivery or pick up with Connecting Meals to Kids

- Work with other volunteers to safely provide breakfast, lunch and snacks to students following Safe Serve protocols
 - Record and report number of meals served daily
- Tutoring Volunteer
 - Record attendance in remote learning classes
 - Provide academic assistance with other tutors as needed
 - Report academic progress or problems to site leader
- Tech volunteer
 - Provide tech support and troubleshoot in house issues
 - Record and report any issues that arise with chrome books provided by the district

Sites:

- Must have adequate space to serve students in a socially distanced fashion, following all safety and health protocols established by CDC and ODJFS
- Must have or be in pursuit of special school age day care license (given 30- to 60 days to finalize)
- Designate hours of operation and number of students able to be served.
- Must have adequate WIFI – there is TPS funding available to provide or upgrade to be a CLC
- Have adequate space to store and serve meals
- Be geographically near a TPS elementary school