



23905 Clinton Keith • Suite 114#116 • Wildomar, Ca 92595

PRESS RELEASE

CONTACT INFORMATION

Media Contact: Dr. Mona Davies

Community Outreach Ministry

Telephone: 951-698-7650

Email: daviesmmd1@gmail.com

Website: www.communityoutreachministry.org

Photos: Courtesy of Community Outreach Ministry

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Giving At-Risk Kids A Second Chance

By Lynn K. Loyd

During this season of thanksgiving and disruptive times Community Outreach Ministry (COM) a 501 C3 nonprofit is grateful for teaming with Give Back a Non-governmental organization (NGO) in San Bernardino County that provides mentoring and scholarship programs for high school students who have faced adversity. Community Outreach Ministry and Give Back are making a big difference in the lives of at-risk youth who have been affected by parental incarceration, homelessness, and foster care. In November, the “Welcome to Give Back California’s Scholar Dinner” was held at the Ontario Convention Center to recognize the academic achievements of numerous at-risk teens who have overcome obstacles and hardships. Together with Give Back who hosted the event, 127 scholars and graduates in California were presented with certificates to assist them in their quest for higher education. Give Back provides

academic mentoring, and scholarships covering tuition, room, and board to Universities in Southern California. Click here to see the dinner collage: <https://vimeo.com/653889020>.

Community Outreach Ministry has recommended five teens into Give Back as follows: Jacori Neal, who is attending college at Crafton Hills Community College in Yucaipa; Clarissa Fears, who is a senior at Innovation High School in Lake Elsinore; Jaelin Neal, who is a junior at dual High Schools Ortega and Temescal Canyon in Lake Elsinore; Fayth Ronzello, who is a junior at Mesa High School in Murrieta and Elijah O’Leary, who is a sophomore at Tahquitz High School in Hemet. Students facing hardships in either the eighth or ninth grade who have earned a minimum 2.5 GPA are welcome to fill out an online student interest form at www.giveback.ngo. Once in the Give Back program scholars are paired with a student coach to help students facing economic hardships attain college degrees.

During the dinner while celebrating the scholar’s successes, Bob Carr Founder and CEO of Give Back spoke about how a \$250.00 college scholarship awarded to him by the Woman’s Club in Lockport, Illinois when he was a senior in high school greatly influenced his decisions later in life to become a philanthropist. “I vowed that someday, if I could, I would ‘give back’ to students like me; kids who knew what it was like to grow up without much money.” Carr added the scholarship elevated his sights to earn a college degree and enter the workforce when personal computers were “the newest invention,” he later donated \$5,000 back to the Woman’s Club of Lockport. The Woman’s Club said, “Carr was the first person in fifty-three years who received this scholarship to donate back to the Woman’s Club.” He was invited to speak at the Woman’s Club 100th anniversary celebration. While speaking at the Woman’s Club Carr matched their 100th anniversary with a \$100,000 donation. He invited the Woman’s Club to partner with his ‘cause’ of investing in youth who face economic and other barriers that may

prevent them from earning a college degree. Today Give Back is in seven states and is excited about their programs.

Community Outreach Ministry is grateful to Give Back for choosing us to recommend students into their programs. We welcome eligible candidates to email us at info@communityoutreachministry.org. Community Outreach Ministry is a 501 C3 non-profit helping at-risk and underserved children to break the cycle of crime, incarceration, and self-destruction. The ministry raises donations for scholarships for at-risk youth ages eight-eighteen to participate in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics “Gearing Up for STEM” Mentor Protégé Workshops. We provide resources for comprehensive community support services and referrals giving at-risk kids a second chance to be winners and champions. Ways to donate to our cause: Send a text to: 609-212-0627 Message: DONATE CHAMPIONS, or www.communityoutreachministry.org. To give by mail: address check to Community Outreach Ministry, 23905 Clinton Keith Road Suite 114 #116, Wildomar, CA. 92595, or call 951-698-7650.