

# FREEDOM FOR YOUTH MINISTRIES

# NEWSLETTER 2/24

## Program Teaches Practical Discipleship

The new Freedom for Youth Journey Development Program nurtures (high school juniors and seniors) students who have decided to give their lives to Jesus with a year of intentional discipleship. The program includes Bible study, prayer, leadership development, service, and mentor support.

Additional instruction in practical subjects include acquiring a passport, graduation preparation, college visits, employment training, and raising support for an international mission trip.

“These students form a separate small group led by program facilitator, Dashawna Edwards,” says Jess Evans, Freedom for Youth Director of Programs. “They meet an hour each week, in addition to their regular skills classes, to work through a curriculum that begins with vision casting and an assessment to determine where they are in their faith journey and where they need greater support and development.”

Discipleship topics include personal

values, prayer and evangelism, quiet time and music, compassion and mercy, community service, anger and fear, purity and relationships, fighting spiritual warfare, and the Great Commission.



*After a year in the program, students may go on an international mission trip to the Dominican Republic.*

At the end of their year of training, students may participate in a week-long mission trip to the Dominican Republic, organized by Time Ministries, the Iowa-based organization that connects short-term mission teams with local churches in the Dominican Republic, Mexico, and Haiti. The students plan and prepare for the summer mission trip—including practical preparation like obtaining passports and raising financial support—alongside their discipleship.

“We look forward to them returning from the mission trip excited about the experience and motivated to apply their new mission mindset to everyday life in their community, within their church, and at Freedom for Youth,” says Evans.

## Pancakes, anyone?

Freedom for Youth is partnering with Time Ministries on a summer 2024 mission trip to the Dominican Republic. The organization is teaching our students about

fundraising, helping develop a scholarship program, is sponsoring the ground costs of our trip, and has donated \$1500. We must raise \$3,200 to cover the airfare for three students and an adult chaperone.

A pancake fundraiser for the

mission trip is scheduled for 8:30am - 1:30 pm, Saturday, March 16th, at Freedom Blend Coffee, 2329 Hickman Road, Des Moines.

You may also support the program with an online donation at [freedomforyouth.org/donate](https://freedomforyouth.org/donate).



# Children's Center Phase 1 Funding Deadline Nears

Phase 1 on the Children's Center is well underway thanks to warmer than normal weather. The parking lot, footings, and the floor slab have been poured. Interior and exterior walls have been erected. Next steps include adding the roof and windows to seal the building up for interior work.

While total contributions have surpassed \$1 million, we're facing a \$500,000 bill at the end of February

to complete Phase 1 tasks.

We believe that God supplies all our needs, and that He works through supporters like you to fund the Kingdom work done every day at Freedom for Youth Ministries.

We ask for your continued prayers and additional financial support to meet these impending financial milestones.



**18th Annual Freedom for Youth Golf Tournament**  
Monday, May 20, 2024 | Beaver Creek Golf Course

## Ready for Golf?

We're in "false spring" here in Iowa so it's not too early to start thinking about golf!

Mark your calendars for Monday, May 20, for the 18th Annual Freedom for Youth Golf Tournament at Beaver Creek Golf Course.

Online registration is now open on our web page so you can sign your foursome up NOW!

If you want support to the empowering Kingdom work we're doing at Freedom, you may also purchase a sponsorship using the online form.

Have questions about sponsoring? Contact Mark Taylor via email at [mtaylor@freedomforyouth.org](mailto:mtaylor@freedomforyouth.org).

We hope to see you on Monday, May 20th, at Beaver Creek!



## Calling All Servants

If you're called to serve God by impacting lives of the next generation, consider lending your time and talents as a volunteer at our after-school and summer programs at our Hickman Road campus. Please visit our website at [freedomforyouth.org/volunteer](http://freedomforyouth.org/volunteer), or contact Troy Vande Lune at [tvandelune@freedomforyouth.org](mailto:tvandelune@freedomforyouth.org).