



## Prayer Letter

Prayer Team,

2018 was an amazing year for New City Kids: Jersey City. We're so thankful to have experienced a year full of learning, growth, music, and joy. We are grateful for this community and have many praises and prayers to share with you.

- New City Kids Team

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### Praises:

- We are thrilled to welcome two new Leadership Team members, Sarah Carter and Shaun Hopkins. Sarah, as our new Executive Director and Shaun, as our Associate Director. We have been praying for new leadership and we believe God has placed Sarah and Shaun at New City Kids to guide the ministry into what God has intended it to be.

- Thanks to our incredible community of supporters, the Capital Campaign was a great success! We were challenged by the William E. Simon Foundation to raise \$275,000 before December 31st and the goal was exceeded and the foundation will match every dollar raised.

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- We celebrated the 26 seniors who graduated in June and all but one are first-generation college students. They have completed their first semester of college and we are excited to see them finish their first year strong.

- For the 2018-19 school year, we were able to hire our largest cohort of Teen Life Interns in New City Kids history! We currently have 118 high school students leading our After-School Centers as our teachers and tutors.

## **Prayers:**

- Pray for our music department - that community is fostered between all sites in Jersey City and that kids feel supported through their creativity and know that their gifts come from the Lord.

- Last year our Vroom Street site in Jersey City faced great opposition from the state as we sought to apply for a child care license. God has been opening some doors, so please pray that all barriers would be removed that are hindering us from serving the youth in our neighborhood.

- Our Lafayette site in Jersey City has a family with five children in our program. Their mom takes care of all of them as their dad has moved away. They recently overcame homelessness but are still seeking financial stability through government assistance. Please pray that God would lead their family to restoration and stability.

- Pray that the students and teen staff at our Fairmount site can draw closer to God this semester as we further explore our year-long theme, the Upside-down Kingdom (based on 1 Corinthians 1:26-31) and prepare for the Spring Production performances. May there be lifelong fruit that comes out of the seeds we are about to plant.

- Pray that the teens would see New City Kids not just as a job to meet a financial need, but mainly as a community of support as they navigate their lives and the stress of supporting their families.

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- Our Families for Literacy program will start its first Entrepreneurship Training course for our families through partner organization Rising Tide Capital. We pray that many parents take advantage of this opportunity and the course will bring future community businesses and economic sustainability for our participants.

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There are a lot of amazing things happening at New City Kids in Jersey City and it's through your prayers that we are successful in reaching the youth of this community. James 5:16 says, “...*The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.*” and we feel the power of your prayers and are so thankful for your support!

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