



NEWSLETTER

www.straightstreet.org • 540.342.4971 • P.O. Box 11411; Roanoke, VA 24022-1411

Being a Father to the Fatherless

So many of the youth that we have the privilege of serving at Straight Street do not have a solid view of what a father figure looks like. Many come from broken homes where the father is not present and some have never even met their father. How thankful we are that our God is a Father to the fatherless! We are committed to sharing and showing the love that God has for us with the youth.



Consider these facts:

- 8 out of 10 teen dads don't marry the mother of their child.
- Teen dads are less likely to finish high school than their peers.
- Children who don't live with their fathers are 5 times more likely to be poverty-stricken than children with both parents at home.
- Teen fathers face a lack of teen parent programs to help them.
- Young fathers are more likely to have economic and employment challenges and are more often economically disadvantaged than adult fathers.
- Most of the people who become teenage fathers actually grew up in a single parent household. Despite



knowing what it's like to not have a father at home, they too leave and so, the cycle continues.

- Fatherless children are at a dramatically greater risk of drug and alcohol abuse, mental illness, suicide, poor educational performance, teen pregnancy, and criminality, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Center for Health Statistics.
- 63% of youth suicides are from fatherless homes according to the U.S. Bureau of the Census.
- 71% of all high school dropouts come from fatherless homes according to the National Principals Association Report on the State of High Schools.

These statistics are heartbreaking. Please pray with us as we strive to instill in teens that God loves them. He is a Father that will not leave them and that He created them with a purpose and plan.

Right now, one of our greatest needs is for more men to volunteer on the weekends to hang out and be an example to the youth. We also have a need for men to help mentor teen dads as we have new opportunities to minister in the community. Would you be willing to help out in this area? Contact Keith at keith@straightstreet.org for more information.

Coyner Springs

We have the wonderful opportunity to provide Chaplain Services for Coyner Springs Juvenile Detention Center in Roanoke. We are able to minister to youth at a time when they are most desperate and one of the ways is by asking for prayer requests and committing to pray for them. Would you join us in praying for the incarcerated youth at Coyner Springs? Below are some of the most common requests we receive:

- Pray for the teens' next steps with family members after they are released.
- Pray as some may be transferred upstate for the remainder of their time.
- Pray for the teens' family. Ask God to provide them comfort.
- Pray for a real life-change for the youth that will last.

PARTNER WITH STRAIGHT STREET:

Give on-line:

Visit www.straightstreet.org or scan the QR code at right with your phone to go straight to our donations page.



Mail donations:

Straight Street; PO Box 11411
Roanoke, VA 24022-1411



UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, March 11

Youth Night at Straight Street
6 pm - 9 pm

Sunday, March 12

Daylight Savings Time Starts -
Move your clocks forward 1 hour

Monday, March 13

Teen MOPS at Straight Street
6:30 pm - 9 pm

Wednesday, March 15

Roanoke Valley Gives

Saturday, March 18

No Youth Night at Straight Street
Guys will be attending the Ignite
Conference

Monday, March 20

Teen MOPS at Straight Street
6:30 pm - 9 pm

Saturday, March 25

Youth Night at Straight Street
6 pm - 9 pm

Monday, March 27

Teen MOPS at Straight Street
6:30 pm - 9 pm

Saturday, April 1

Youth Night at Straight Street
6 pm - 9 pm

Monday, April 3

Teen MOPS at Straight Street
6:30 pm - 9 pm

Thursday, April 6

Monthly Downtown Prayer
Lunch at Straight Street
12 - 1 pm

Commit to Pray for Straight Street

We believe that at Straight Street, nothing happens apart from prayer. We covet your prayers as we continue to reach out to hurting youth in the Roanoke Valley.

- Pray that **more men** would volunteer at Straight Street on Saturday nights.
- Pray that more men would want to **mentor children** who have one or both parents in prison.
- Pray that the boys we see would desire to **break generations of fatherless homes**.
- Pray for **God's continued provision** of the financial needs for Straight Street.
- Pray for the work on **the new**

addition at Straight Street.

- Pray for **more volunteers** to join us in the work at Straight Street.
- Pray for the teens who are involved at Straight Street, that they would be able to see God's great love for them.
- Pray for **partnerships** with area schools, churches, law enforcement agencies and social service agencies.
- Pray for **wisdom** for the Straight Street leadership.
- Pray for the teens we minister to at the **Roanoke Valley Juvenile Detention Center** and through our **Teen MOPS program**.

Roanoke Valley Gives - March 15

Roanoke Valley Gives is an initiative of Foundation for Roanoke Valley. The goal is to raise funding for participating Roanoke Valley nonprofits in a 24-hour period while bringing attention to the work and worth of each participating organization. Straight Street is blessed to be a part of this day of giving once again this year. Would you help spread the word about this event? Visit their website at rvgives.givebig.org and click on the social media links to share on Facebook and Twitter. All donations are tax-deductible.



Support Straight Street Roanoke by making your donation on March 15! Visit rvgives.givebig.org to visit their website. You can also help spread the word on social media!

New Addition

The new addition to Straight Street is moving along nicely. We are working with contractors to complete the drywall and ceilings. Once completed, the addition will allow us to minister to even more youth that are hurting and give them a safe place to hang out.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS!