



FEELING BLESSED

I feel so blessed to be celebrating seventeen years at Rock House Kids in Rockford! In 1999, I began with \$500.00 given to me by the church I attended. Four hundred dollars went to rent, and one hundred dollars bought tables and chairs. Seventeen years later, we are in the same building. In fact, we own most of the block! In addition, our latest improvement is the wonderful playground built this past summer. Every week, 275–300 children come to our programs. We are all truly blessed!

Last month, on an outing with our Rock House Kids, I talked with Sonya, one our volunteers. Now 27, she was one of the teens who came to Rock House Kids years ago.



Now she volunteers her time to us and she brings her seven year old daughter with her. We continued to reminisce as the kids played. Running in front of me was London, whose mommy was another Rock House Kids teen, now married and

working full time. London joins us, because Mom knew this was a safe place for herself, and she wanted the same safety for her daughter.

As I looked back, I counted three more children who attend, knowing their parents were also Rock House Kids.



According to rstar.com 34 percent of kids in the Rockford public school system are at or below the poverty level. We are now seeing a second generation of kids still in need. But those who are Rock House Kids are being taught some differences: One is someone cares, another is not being in jail but working and trying to get ahead, and they are learning how to be better parents than those they had.

Rock House Kids is making a difference without having to ask the state for funding; no government money is being used. Rock House Kids is here today because of God's calling and the wonderful donors who believe in making a difference in a child's life.

—Dola Gregory, Founder and CEO

“Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it.”

Proverbs 22:6 KJV

COME SEE US AT THESE GREAT UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sunday, September 11th

Rock Valley Mustang Club Annual Car Show
Machesney Park Elementary Field 8-3 pm

Saturday, September 17th

Carz R Us Car Show

Saturday, October 15th

Walk-A-Thon for Rock House Kids
Lutheran High School 8-11 am

Thursday, November 3rd

Special Fundraising Event
More details will follow

See our website for more details at www.rockhousekids.org.

ARE YOU THE MISSING PIECE?



We are still in need of individuals, civic groups, businesses, and church groups interested in providing a hot meal for one of our evening programs. Please contact our office, or email pam@rockhousekids.org for more information. Thank you so much!

GO DIGITAL

Would you like to receive this newsletter by email? Send a message to barb@rockhousekids.org



CURRENT NEEDS

New Gym Shoes-We could use your help! Let's send the Rock House Kids to school with much needed gym shoes! Sizes to fit boys and girls ages six through 18-sizes-four through eleven are helpful! Thank you!





THANK YOU FOR YOUR WONDERFUL SUPPORT.

BECAUSE OF YOU, WE CAN CARRY ON!

Donations received from July 16th – August 15th, 2016

STAFF CORNER

Pam Piper

She volunteered with us years ago and was a former Board Member. She now is our Storeroom Administrator, helping with meal planning, oversees our kid friendly food distribution, keeping our storeroom updated and keeping up with the many other behind the scene activities. We are grateful for her help!



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In memory of Shannon Boothe

MAKE A DIFFERENCE TODAY!

Feel free to tear off the bottom portion and send it along with your next donation: Check here if no recognition is desired []

Individual/Church/Service Group/Organization Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address _____ Phone Number _____

Enclosed is my gift to help continue the work at Rock House Kids: _____

Check the following: Monthly Gift [] One Time Gift [] Special Occasion [] "In Memory/Honor of _____" (Circle One)

Thank you so much for your support! You ARE making a difference in the lives of hurting and hungry children in our community.