

## HISTORY

Neighbors in Ministry, Inc. was incorporated in 1994 to engage in outreach ministries in south-west Brevard, the neighborhood surrounding Bethel "A" Baptist Church. The Board of Directors is made up of members of Bethel "A", partnering with churches, organizations and the community



at large. Neighbors is a 501c3 tax exempt, non-profit organization. Rise & Shine After-School Enrichment Program opened its doors in 1996. Providing 1:1 academic mentoring and support daily, the program serves 50 students. Over 100 volunteers are involved in various roles. The Rise & Shine Parents' Organization meets bi-weekly, helps with fund-raising and supports activities and field trips. In 2004 Rise & Shine affiliated with Children's Defense Fund (CDF) to empower 50 scholars K-12th grade year round.

Since 2000, our Damascus Road Racial Equity Training Process has enabled Neighbors to address racism through educating and organizing. Training is available to any group or organization wishing to analyze and work toward racial equity.

## PARTNERS

American Association of University Women

Bethel "A" Baptist Church

Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church

First United Methodist Church

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

Sacred Heart Catholic Church

St. Philip's Episcopal Church

## MISSION

Neighbors in Ministry, Inc. exists to enrich children, empower parents and encourage community through year-round programs. Our programs enable children and adults to work for equality of opportunity and to build the Beloved Community of racial justice and reconciliation. We are motivated by the Spirit of Christian Faith.

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# Rise & Shine Freedom School



## A Program of Neighbors In Ministry

- Enriching Children
- Empowering Parents
- Encouraging Community

Dr. Dee Whinnery-Executive Director  
Whitney Franklin-Program Director  
Mallory Benjamin-Site Coordinator

*nim, Inc.*



## What Is Rise & Shine Freedom School ?

Rise & Shine Freedom School is a year- round opportunity for children grades kindergarten – 12th grade to benefit from academic mentoring, cultural enrichment, servant-leadership training and youth empowerment.

## Why Rise & Shine?

*The Promising Afterschool Programs Study* found that regular participation in high-quality after-school programs is linked to significant gains in standardized test scores and work habits as well as reductions in behavior problems among disadvantaged students. (University of California at Irvine, 2007).

Afterschool programs have proven to be effective supports in fostering healthy lifestyles, preventing drop-outs, boosting students' academic achievement and self-esteem, and helping young people find and develop their passions. Rise & Shine staff, parents, volunteers, Transylvania County Schools teachers and the community-at-large have joined forces on behalf of children to provide a nurturing, empowering "village" that believes that every child is on the can succeed.

Our program offers an immersion in a literacy-rich curriculum, and our scholars have the opportunity to become future servant-leaders and change agents. Rise & Shine uses a curriculum provided by the Children's Defense Fund (CDF) that integrates history, literature, conflict resolution and social action and fosters servant-leadership. In order for our scholars to stay competitive in the world market place, our scholars follow a Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) path.

## How We Do It!

Our scholars are referred by teachers, families and the community-at-large. Scholars are enrolled as early as Kindergarten in both after-school and summer components and may remain until they graduate from high school. These scholars are surrounded by caring adults and are cultivated to both lead and to serve through ...

- Parent Involvement
- School & Community Partnerships
- 1:1 & 1:5 Academic Mentoring
- Peer Mentoring
- CDF Integrated Reading Curriculum
- Academic Incentives
- Fine Arts
- Performing Arts
- Cultural Enrichment
- Racial Equity Training
- Financial Literacy Education
- Scholarship Savings Plan
- College Goal Planning
- Servant-leadership Training
- Youth Empowerment



## Rise & Shine Works!



### Facts

- 95% of scholars met or exceeded proficiency in Reading & Math
- 94% of all scholars demonstrate good citizenship
- 3.0 overall G.P.A. earned by scholars
- Parents volunteered over 1200 Hours
- Mentors volunteered 6498 hours
- Specialist volunteered 360 hours

## How You Can Help?

Sponsor an educational field trip

Sponsor a program scholarship

Share your career path

Match a scholar's savings for college

Mentor a scholar academically

Give a financial gift to help support our program