



COMMUNITY

4:12

2019 - 2020

Community 4:12: *The Mission*

Uniting people to restore communities by mobilizing individuals to be agents of compassion, justice, and love.

We strive to fulfill our mission through long-term commitments to communities with a focus on meeting immediate needs, building relationships, developing people, and addressing systemic issues that contribute to poverty and inequity. Our name comes from Ecclesiastes 4:12:

“Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.”

By uniting with others across cultural, racial and economic divides, we learn and grow together and better reflect the heart of Jesus.

Financial Support

Support Community 4:12 when you shop Amazon! You can purchase all the same things at the same prices by going through smile.amazon.com. When you use the site for the first time, just select Community 4:12 as your preferred charity. **Amazon Smile will then donate .5% of your purchase every time you shop through the site.** Your Smile account will connect right to your current Amazon account. It's as simple as that.

Support the Community 4:12 Mission by making a one time or recurring donation. Visit community412.org and follow the online link to set up your contribution to the ongoing programming in Aurora, Joliet and Chicago.

Community 4:12: *History*

Founded on the core belief that a zip code should not determine the educational and extracurricular opportunities available to a child, Community 4:12 facilitates partnerships between churches and under-resourced schools. Community 4:12 seeks to build on the strengths and assets of the community to address challenges and opportunities identified by our partner schools. We mobilize volunteers, build partnerships with other non-profits, and create funding opportunities to sustain programs, experiences and events that support children and families impacted by poverty.

In 2003, Community 4:12 first partnered with Brady Elementary School in East Aurora. In 2008 we added a partnership in Joliet with AO Marshall Elementary School and in 2017, we partnered with Palmer Elementary School in Chicago. Today we partner with 12 schools in the Chicagoland area.

We believe that children's zip codes should not determine the educational and extracurricular opportunities available to them.

In an effort to offer holistic support to individuals and families, we support tutoring and mentoring programs, homeless shelters, immigrant and refugee services, and programs for those impacted by incarceration. We foster relationship building across race, culture, and class and place a strong emphasis on educating our community about justice issues impacting our city, country and the world.

Contact Us

- **Community 4:12 - Director**
Amy Plummer | amyplummer@communitychristian.org
- **Community 4:12 - East Aurora**
Eric Dorsey | ericdorsey@communitychristian.org
- **Community 4:12 - Joliet**
Loyd Bowman | loydbowman@communitychristian.org
Dave Snyder | davesnyder@communitychristian.org
- **Community 4:12 - Chicago**
Stef Coleman | stefcoleman@communitychristian.org
- **General Questions**
volunteer@community412.org

For more information, to submit a volunteer application, or make a donation, visit **community412.org**

 **@community412**

Response Levels for Community Restoration

LEVEL 1: RELIEF	LEVEL 2: PEOPLE DEVELOPMENT	LEVEL 3: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
Response		
Offer assistance through donations of time, money or supplies	Train, equip and empower individuals to alleviate poverty or suffering in their own lives	Advocate and work for long-term systemic change to restore entire neighborhoods or communities
Commitment		
Can be done from a distance with no long-term relational investment	Requires building relationships and a long-term investment of time	Requires a focus on the “big picture” and a long-term commitment of time and resources
Impact		
Provides immediate, short term results with no significant long-term impact	Results take longer to achieve but are longer lasting. Impact is focused on individuals, one person at a time	Results are incremental and often slow in coming. Impact is focused on an entire community, not just individuals
Examples		
<p>Donate Christmas gifts, school supplies or food</p> <p>Serve at soup kitchens or shelters</p> <p>Provide disaster relief</p>	<p>Tutor or mentor a student</p> <p>Teach ESL or job skills</p> <p>Be a foster parent</p> <p>Be a friendship partner to a refugee, senior citizen, or someone overcoming personal or medical challenges</p>	<p>Move to an under-resourced community or open a business there</p> <p>Serve on a non-profit board</p> <p>Advocate for marginalized, oppressed, or forgotten people</p>

Giftmart - December 21, 2019

East Aurora, Joliet, Naperville & Chicago



Giftmart partners with businesses, clubs and faith-based organizations harnessing our community's generosity to do more than put presents under the tree at Christmas time. Since 2003, we've collected over **100,000 new toys** to be sold at our Giftmart sites where parents are allowed to choose gifts for their children at a discounted price of \$2 per toy. Over the past decade, Giftmart has helped low-income families **reinvest more than \$200k into their local schools** resulting in the purchase of much needed library books, computers, musical instruments and other supplies. Our mission is to use toys to restore dignity, increase educational funding, encourage parental involvement in local schools and highlight the needs of communities.

How to Get Involved:

Join one of the planning or lead teams.

Serve at the event on December 21 and/or during set up the day before. Sign ups will begin in November at communitychristian.org/giftmart.

Help deliver collection boxes, pick up toy drives or box and sort toys in November and December.

Host a toy drive: Businesses, clubs, schools and other toy drive partners are essential. Involve your friends, neighbors or co-workers to help us fill five trailers of toys.

Donate toys with a value of \$10–\$20 at Community Christian Church locations the first two weekends in December or at the Yellow Box December 1–19.

Make a financial donation to Giftmart at communitygiftmart.org/community412 and let us do the toy shopping for you.

Contact Info:

communitychristian.org/giftmart

info@communitygiftmart.org

 [@communitygiftmart](https://www.facebook.com/communitygiftmart)

Summer Serve

June & July 2020

Summer Serve at COMMUNITY is a way for us to serve those in our neighborhoods. During two weekends in June and July, we plan to engage 500+ volunteers at more than 40 different locations in the Chicagoland area.

There are serving opportunities for all ages and schedules throughout the three days with some of our partner organizations listed below. Registration begins May 2020.

Northern IL Foodbank

Loaves and Fishes

Aurora Interfaith & Kendall
County Food Pantries

New Life for Old Bags

Reclaim 13

Partner Schools in Aurora

Wayside Cross Urban
Youth Ministry

The Neighbor Project

Feed My Starving Children

World Relief

The Forgotten Initiative

Daybreak Center

Hesed House

Caring Hands Thrift Shop

Downers Grove District 58
Schools

Watts of Love

Lifespring

Hope & Friendship
Foundation

Kids Hope Mentoring

Kids Hope builds life-changing relationships one at a time by partnering churches and schools to provide one-on-one mentoring for at-risk youth. Mentors meet with a child for one hour/week during the day throughout the school year. Ideally, the mentoring relationship will continue for several years to see the child through elementary school and possibly beyond.

There are three key roles COMMUNITY attendees can play:

1. **Mentor** | meet with a child for one hour/week
2. **Prayer Partner** | provide prayer support and encouragement for a mentor
3. **Scholarship Provider** | provide monthly support for a child to participate

Kids Hope Mentoring programs:

- **East Aurora** | Brady Elementary
- **Joliet** | Isaac Singleton & AO Marshall Elementary
- **Chicago** | Palmer Elementary
- **Yorkville** | Autumn Creek Elementary
- **Montgomery** | Nicholson Elementary

Submit a volunteer application at community412.org to get involved.

Safe Families

Safe Families for Children is a volunteer not-for-profit movement that gives hope and support to families in distress.

Safe Families (safe-families.org) was founded in Chicago in 2003 in an effort to provide safe temporary housing for children while their parents manage challenging circumstances and seasons. *Safe Families* is located in 80 cities in the United States, as well as in the UK, Canada, Kenya, and other countries. Safe Families works through local churches to recruit volunteers.

There are several ways to get involved including hosting children, supporting host families (family friend), mentoring kids aging out of foster care, and by becoming a resource friend.

Submit a volunteer application at community412.org to get involved.

Community Freedom

The vision of Community Freedom is restoration. Through the mission of helping people find their way back to God, we hope to see hundreds of thousands of people leave incarceration and successfully transition back into society with their families and communities.

This is accomplished through three key relationships:

Celebrate - our relationship with God through weekly celebration services

Connect - our relationship with others through small groups addressing essential themes for successful re-entry

Contribute - our relationship with the world through discovering and using our gifts

There are four key roles COMMUNITY attendees can play:

1. **Correctional Facility Team** - participate in weekly Celebration Services, lead small groups or mentor individuals
 2. **Give Hope Team** - Mentor individuals as they return to the community, or support families who are affected by incarceration
 3. **Prayer Team** - commit to praying for local, national and global Community Freedom efforts
 4. **Administration Team** - help with data entry, facebook presence and other coordination
-

Submit a volunteer application at community412.org to get involved.

 @communityfreedom

Justice Series

Join us throughout the year as we explore a variety of modern-day justice issues through films, books, speakers, and panel discussions.

Justice Series Panel

Evening events previewing documentary films with local panel of experts to follow.

Justice Series Conversations

Group discussion format reviewing book and feature film media addressing current justice issues.

Justice Series Course

Multi-week small group format following justice oriented curriculum.

For more information and a current schedule of upcoming events, visit justiceseries.org.

Opportunities to Contribute

OPPORTUNITY

REGION / DATE / TIME

World Relief Citizenship Tutoring Center

Help immigrants and refugees prepare for the test to become a U.S. Citizen.

AURORA

Tuesdays | 7 - 8:30 PM

Hesed House Early Childhood Program

Help provide an early childhood learning experience for homeless children age 2-5.

AURORA

Tuesdays and/or Thursdays
6:15 - 8 PM | September-May

Hesed House, PADS

Prepare and serve meals to approximately 200 guests in Hesed House's shelter program.

AURORA

Dinner, overnight and breakfast shifts. Dates vary

Dominoes Club

Help elementary students learn to play the game of chess to enhance academic development.

AURORA

Tuesdays | 3 - 4:30 PM
10-week sessions (fall & spring)

Chess Club

Help elementary students learn to play the game of chess to enhance academic development.

AURORA

Saturdays | 9:30 - 11 AM
September - December

Submit a volunteer application at community412.org to get involved.

Opportunities to Contribute

OPPORTUNITY

REGION / DATE / TIME

Aurora Interfaith Food Pantry Distribution

Staff monthly food distribution at the Aurora Interfaith Food Pantry in Aurora.

AURORA

3rd Tuesday of the month
5:30 - 7:30 PM

Saturday Stars

Mentor 3rd - 5th graders who need extra positive adult attention.

AURORA & JOLIET

Saturdays | 10 AM - 12 PM
October - April

Project Share Food Collection

Donate non-perishable food, toiletries, and baby care items to help stock the shelves of local food pantries.

VARIOUS LOCATIONS

1st Sunday of the month

Hammer Heads

Utilize your handyman skills and or skilled labor experience to provide minor home repairs.

AURORA & JOLIET

Monthly

Kid Pal

Provide enrichment experiences such as sewing, carpentry, music and knitting.

JOLIET

Lunchtime & after school
October - May

Submit a volunteer application at community412.org to get involved.

Opportunities to Contribute

OPPORTUNITY

REGION / DATE / TIME

Vacation Bible School

Provide a week long VBS program at a Giftmart partner school in Joliet.

JOLIET
July 2020

Daybreak Center

Meal services, cleaning projects and donation drives coordinated through Daybreak Angels.

JOLIET
Dates vary

The Big Serve

Join the Village of Plainfield and other area community organizations for a weekend of service opportunities.

JOLIET
May 2020. Register at thebigserve.info in April

Friendship Center

Provide a hot meal for the community in Lincoln Square.

CHICAGO
2nd Thursdays | 5-9 pm

Lincoln Square Chamber Events

Support COMMUNITY events in Lincoln Square.

CHICAGO
Dates vary

Compassion Letter Writing

Write letters every month in Lincoln Square.

CHICAGO
2nd Sunday of every month

Submit a volunteer application at community412.org to get involved.

Community 4:12

The Jesus Mission

Community 4:12 is a ministry of
Community Christian Church whose mission is

HELPING PEOPLE FIND THEIR WAY BACK TO GOD.

We do this through the Jesus Mission of
Reaching people who are far from God,
Restoring God's dream for the world, and
Reproducing the mission in others

Community 4:12 embraces the Jesus Mission by
Uniting People to Restore Communities.

CONTACT

Web: community412.org

Email: C412@communitychristian.org

Facebook: facebook.com/community412



**COMMUNITY
CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

communitychristian.org