

CONNECT WITH US

SOCIAL MEDIA

Follow us on social media & make sure you use the hashtags:



#LNFI

TEXT MESSAGING



Text @Infupdates

to 81010

for monthly updates from LNFI!

*standard text message rates apply

Love Never Fails International
5617 Diamond Oaks Drive South
Fort Worth, TX 76117

NONPROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE PAID
FT. WORTH TX
PERMIT NO. 1608

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

January 2016 | Monthly Newsletter of Love Never Fails International

Love Never Fails Newsletter



MENTOR HIGHLIGHT



This month we would like to highlight **Ms. Jessica**, an amazing young woman who mentors at **Van Zandt-Guinn Elementary**.

Jessica is one of our **Junior League of Fort Worth** mentors!

She loves being around children, especially at LNFI!

Jessica is a young mother herself and comes every week to mentor. She is a very positive influence in the lives of our students, and makes them feel important. She believes in the kids and truly loves them! Our staff appreciates Jessica who is always willing to jump alongside them and help teach the lessons, especially Math! Jessica makes it fun for the students and is a blessing to the Specialists! You can always find Ms. Jessica helping a child with homework or just talking to the children. Jessica has a willing heart, and a very sweet spirit. The children respect her and we couldn't thank her enough for volunteering her time to be with the LNFI students each and every week.

IN-KIND NEEDS

AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Play-Doh Super Color 20 Pack (9 sets) | Red and Pink Construction Paper |
| M&M's Large Bag (9) | Large Conversation Hearts (9 bags) |
| Wafer Cookies (3 boxes) | Mini Heart Marshmallows (9 bags) |
| Hershey Kisses (9 bags) | Cinnamon Hearts (9 bags) |
| Reese's Mini Cups (9 bags) | Paper Plates / Napkins / Paper Towels |
| Large Marshmallows (3 bags) | Juice Packs |
| Goldfish (9 small bags or 3 lg. bags) | Lysol Wipes |
| | Gallon sized baggies |

UPCOMING EVENT

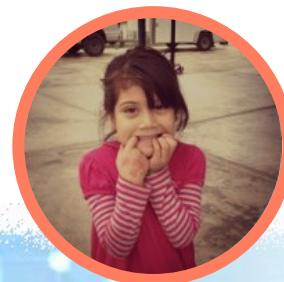
I.M. Terrell Basketball Classic
Saturday February 13 | Tipoff 9 am
I.M. Terrell Elementary School Gym

- VOLUNTEERS
Event Sponsors
Lunchables
Capri Suns
Water
Snacks

If you would like to donate or volunteer, please contact Laura at 817.831.8877 or laura@loveneverfails.com

In This Issue

- Changing Adversity to OpportunityPg 1
- Program Highlight.....Pg 2
- International.....Pg 3
- Events Highlight.....Pg 3
- Special Thanks.....Pg 3
- Mentor Highlight.....Pg 4
- In-Kind Needs.....Pg 4



CHANGING ADVERSITY TO OPPORTUNITY RELATIONAL SUPPORT

According to the 2015 Building Grad Nation report, the national high school graduation rate hit a record high of 81.4 percent, yet low-income students are graduating at a rate 15 percent behind their more affluent peers¹. Today, too many of our youth are struggling to stay in school, let alone graduate. Some factors that contribute to the dropout rate include: suspension, expulsion, giving birth or fathering a child, being part of a peer group in which most friends did not graduate, experiencing a major mental health issue, not feeling academically prepared for school, homelessness, moving homes (mobility).

Love Never Fails International knows that education is a child's access out of poverty and into opportunity. We believe that it is our responsibility to take action and we do this through supportive relationships. Our after-school programs provide a safe and trusting environment for children to connect with loving, caring and supportive adult

Continued on next page...

To see all children, both locally and globally, live a successful and joyful life.



How has LNFI supported you in school?

Jose
6th Grade



“Math is a difficult subject for me. Love Never Fails always explains my homework in a way I understand. They have me complete my work and that is getting me get better grades.”

Ky’Shawn
5th Grade



“The Love Never Fails’ teachers push me to achieve my goals and then to strive even farther—that is what it will take to go to college.”

Diego
4th Grade



“At Love Never Fails I am not afraid to ask questions and that helps me do better in school.”

“Love Never Fails inspires me to go to college. I have learned how to problem solve and work as a team with my peers and that will help me in the future.”

Nicolas
7th Grade



mentors. Every year, we see the effects of when a young person is provided emotional support, they are more successful, even in the face of adversity. Supportive relationships can buffer the effects of difficult life experiences and offer opportunities to overcome those challenges.

Our children live in a world that defines them by their circumstances, but we know that they are more than that. Through daily character enrichment in our after-school programs, children are taught how resilience and perseverance will lead them to thrive in all areas of their lives; these character traits are often strengthened through supportive relationships. LNFI enables our young people to direct their strengths toward academic success.

As caring adults, we need to do more than help our at-risk and impoverished youth beat these odds. We need to change them. LNFI’s after-school programming is helping to close the opportunity gap and to see all children who come from hard places redefine their future.

Source: ¹DePaoli, J. L., Hornig Fox, J., Ingram, E. S., Maushard, M., Bridgeland, J. M., & Balfanz, R. (2015). Building a Grad Nation. Civic Enterprises & Everyone Graduates at the School of Education at Johns Hopkins University.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Love Never Fails is a mentoring program for at-risk and impoverished elementary and middle school students in Tarrant County. LNF follows the idea that building relationships with children will help them exceed social and academic expectations. These programs strive to support schools through parent outreach and community service. The academic and character curricula is relevant, engaging and prepares each student for a successful future. LNFI has five program outcomes: (1) improve academic performance, (2) increase promotion rates, (3) improve school-day attendance, (4) improve behavior and self-esteem, and (5) increase school, family and community involvement.

EVENTS HIGHLIGHT

December was a busy month for the LNF children! Each program hosted their Christmas Socials and partnered with the schools in a variety of family events. The purpose of LNF Family Socials is to bring families and schools together to show support to our wonderful students!

INTERNATIONAL

The LNFI Team made a special visit to the children at the orphanage in **Camargo, Mexico** over the Christmas holiday. The team played games, baked and decorated cookies, made ornaments and sang Christmas carols with the children. The children were especially excited to receive such amazing gifts! They were given new jackets, socks, bicycles, games and a gift bag filled with toys. The joy on their faces was priceless!

The Team also provided the orphanage with boxes filled with food along with a new mattress set, sheets, pillows and bedding for the owners, Pastor Luna and his wife. This will provide them with somewhere to sleep when they need to stay overnight at the orphanage. They were extremely grateful and overwhelmed to receive such generous gifts. Because of your giving, this will be a Christmas the children of Camargo will never forget!



At **Van Zandt-Guinn Elementary**, LNF partnered with the school to put on a magical Christmas program. There was lots of singing and an enchanting dance performance from the LNF Dance Team. Van Zandt-Guinn’s social involved the families participating in holiday themed Activities; these included listening to the story “Legend of the Candy Cane” and making chocolate peppermint marshmallows! **J.P. Elder Middle** hosted an evening with over 9 families playing Christmas Bingo and enjoying fun holiday snacks! Jingles Bells was a hit at **Eastern Hills Elementary**! They hosted over 15 families in an entertaining evening of Christmas music, games and sweet treats. Peace was the theme of the night at **I.M. Terrell Elementary**, as the families enjoyed a poem on PEACE performed by the Voice 2 Youth Poetry Club. The families also participated in making tree ornaments! The following day the IMT Dance Team performed in the I.M. Terrell Talent



Show and placed third! The students were super excited to receive trophies!

SPECIAL THANKS

A special thanks to our consecutive donor **The Rees-Jones Foundation**! Your generous gift makes it possible for our organization to provide quality after-school programming to over 240 children. Their mission is to provide opportunities for disadvantaged, relief for the suffering, and encouragement in the growth and well-being of children and families in the community. Many thanks goes to the **Ken and Martha Bruner Foundation**! We thank you for believing in the power of caring relationships! And a huge thank you to all who gave to our Give In 2015 Campaign! Because of YOU, LNFI is able to expand its’ programs and reach more at-risk children in 2016! Thank you for being a world-changer!

DONATIONS

LNFI IS A NON-FOR-PROFIT,
501(C)(3) ORGANIZATION.
ALL DONATIONS ARE
TAX-DEDUCTIBLE



817.831.8877



WWW.LNFI.ORG



CONTACT@LOVENEVERFAILS.COM

*“A Hand Up,
Not A Hand Out”*