

NOTES TO PARENTS OF YOUNG LEADERS

Thank you for allowing your child to be a part of spreading Contagious Joy! As they go to Care Facilities to perform for the residents, they'll find so much more than the fun of performing. They'll get to see Jesus in action—both in them and in the lives of the precious residents they encounter. Our prayer is that this is a life-changing experience for your children.

Contagious Joy programs are designed to work for anyone who wants to serve, from a small group doing a skit to a larger group putting on a play. Whether your group has something big or small planned, there are a few simple ways you can support your children in their mission to spread joy.



How to Help Your Leader

Contagious Joy plays are so fun to be a part of! The leader orchestrates the experience, from assigning kids their parts and helping them develop skills in drama, to being the ringleader on the big day.

Your children will learn to interact with people of all ages and from all different walks of life. They will practice critical thinking and problem-solving as they plan, practice, and perform for the residents.

This experience will also increase social interaction and a sense of purpose. The more your children interact with older adults now the more they will be able to handle the transition into adulthood later.

Here are some ways you can get involved:

- Volunteer as a Co-leader and assist with practices.
- Help with songs in between scenes (Technician)

- Order/Pick up flowers (to give to the residents)
- Make “Invitation Flyers” to give to neighbors
- Help create: Backdrops, costumes or props.
- Offer to help during one or two practices.
- Follow up with youth on their experience after the play asking:
 1. Were you able to connect with any of the residents?
 2. How do you see God moving in your life?
 3. Would you like to visit with a resident one on one?



Parents Part:

Help your kids with their roles. They'll have lines to memorize (so please help them practice at home) and a character to get into, so they may need your help putting together a costume or planning character details.

Get Them to Rehearsal. Youth leaders usually schedule 7 practices or so. If at all possible, have them attend each one. With everyone's busy schedules, there are often children who need a ride to rehearsal, so if you can pick up and drop off kids, please let your leader know. They'll appreciate your help!

Attend the Show. Parents are more than welcome at Care Facilities, and your kids will be so excited to see you there!

How Your Youth Leader Helps You?

It takes a team of people to raise children today. Consider your Youth Leader as someone on your team.

Your leader will read “The King’s Love for His People” to your children during practice. Before each practice, they will read a portion of the story followed by a question. The questions help children think about the love Jesus has for them and allow them to ask questions. This promotes an environment that allows the children to explore in their search for truth.

Children, especially teens, get so caught up in the do's and don'ts that they can rebel and resent the rules their parents make. "The King's Love for His People" story teaches children that God's love is not about rules, it is about relationship. Kids resent rules when they don't understand love. But when they see God's love for them, they want to keep His commands (obey) because they love Him—because Jesus first loved them.

In turn, they will want to love, honor, respect, and obey their parents too.

The most important thing is they will be able to put that love into action by sharing the truth about Jesus with others.

Our Prayer for Families:

Lord, thank you for entrusting children to us. You know everything about us, and You know the challenges we face as parents. The challenges in the world are many, and the frustration and defeat felt by parents are sometimes overwhelming.

God, give parents strength, wisdom, and protection.

May we stand firm and hold fast to your righteousness. Strengthen us with integrity. Cover us with a hedge of protection, as Your coat of armor.

Cover us with truth from Your word that we may discern what is good and seek it.

May every Bible in every home be open! Help us to stand firm and bold on the side of truth-seeking guidance from our Father who knows us, loves us, and is always there for us.

Grant these parent's favor, and blessing as they instruct their

children in Your ways. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Jeff and Leica, Founders of Contagious Joy