



the encouragement project

May 2019

ISSUE 22

the STORY BOARD

MEET THE BOARD

Since The Encouragement Project began in 2016, we have been so very blessed with incredible board members each year who have been able to see the big picture of this effort. Our current board is particularly dynamic, and God is moving through this group and in TEP in powerful ways. So, I thought it would be a good idea to introduce them to you, so you can know those who are working together to help this ministry grow.

SARAH GRAVES

An avid knitter (among other fun interests), Sarah first became involved with TEP a few years ago when she joined her mom at our very first knitting circle. Sarah has seen the benefits of TEP from both sides of things now — as her mom has become involved and encouraged, and as a board member/volunteer herself. As our newest board member, Sarah has jumped right in and picked up so much responsibility, and that has been an answer to many prayers!

GAYE WASHBURNE

Gaye is currently in her third year as a board member, and we are so blessed by her enthusiasm and involvement. She serves as vice-chairman for the board, and brings creative ideas to our discussions. For her birthday this year, Gaye invited her friends to donate books to TEP instead of giving gifts to her...and they were incredibly generous. Gaye has a way of sharing and bringing others along with her in her passion for doing things for others and for the Lord.



DIANNE NJIE

We are so grateful to have had Dianne join the board last fall. She has been involved with TEP for several years already as liaison between her church knitting group and our Hugs and Kisses branch. Dianne has recently helped to start a new knitting group at a retirement home nearby, and (as a retired teacher) she is also a great advocate for The Book Drop. In addition to her insights and encouragement, we also appreciate her service on the board as secretary/treasurer.

STEPHANIE CERVANTES

As director of TEP (and therefore chairman of the board), I am so blessed to have such gifted and encouraging people to work with. They help refine (and sometimes expand) my dreams for all that can be done through TEP, and spur good thoughts and ideas...in addition to the wonderful things they just see to do where they are. God is so good to bring kindred souls to walk with as He grows this Project to help and encourage those He brings our way, and takes us to beautiful places we never imagined.

HUGS AND KISSES

Since the beginning of the year, we have started two new knitting/crochet circles in retirement homes around the neighborhood! I am so grateful that two of our fantastic board members (Dianne and Sarah) have been so willing to begin and lead these new groups.

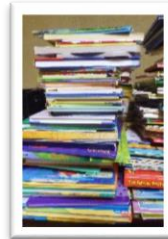
These new friends have already completed a number of projects for us to give away when the weather turns colder once again.



THE BOOK DROP

We have been so grateful to see a large number of books donated in the past few months. One of our very generous volunteers has been working to process these books (making sure they're in good shape, and putting a label in the front cover saying it's a gift for the recipient).

We have processed over 1,500 books so far this year, and are boxing them up to give to a few different organizations who will get them into the hands of kids from low income families who wouldn't otherwise have access to books and the learning and adventures they hold. For those of you who have given books, or money for us to buy books, thank you so very much!



A BUILDING and a NEW CAMPAIGN

As God continues to grow this ministry, we are excited to be feeling the need to look for more space and a building to serve as home base for The Encouragement Project. There are a few we have our eye on at the moment, but before we can jump in to the process of purchasing a place, we first need to have the funds on hand.

Therefore, we are beginning a campaign to raise the amount needed for the place that God has planned for us. Not knowing exactly where that is, or what the cost will actually be, we have set an initial goal of **\$350,000**. In the effort to search out all options, we are also looking for the possibility of a donation of land or a building (a complete gift, or in part). We're on the edge of our seats to see where God sets us.

If you are able and feel so led to help with this new adventure in any way, please let us know. You are invited!



*And God is able to bless you abundantly,
so that in all things at all times, having all that you need,
you will abound in every good work.*

2 Corinthians 9:8

THE ENCOURAGEMENT PROJECT is run solely with financial gifts and donations. We greatly appreciate your willingness to be a part of this team. The Encouragement Project is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All gifts are tax deductible.

www.theencouragementproject.org
678 360-1592

stephanie@theencouragementproject.org
PO Box 452 ~ Alpharetta, GA ~ 30009