

A child in a space suit stands on a grassy hill, holding a rope that is attached to a large, glowing, blue-tinted moon in a starry night sky. The child is seen from behind, looking up at the moon. The background is a deep blue and purple starry sky with a prominent white and blue nebula or galaxy structure. The moon is large and bright, with a blue and white glow. The child is wearing a white space suit with a hood and dark pants. The rope is dark and extends from the child's hands to the moon.

Cornerstone Kids Inc.

Our Mission: "To assist at-risk inner-city children in their spiritual, educational and emotional development in a safe, secure and nurturing environment."



About Cornerstone Kids Inc.



Cornerstone Kids, Inc. after-school program started as a club in 1984 at St. James House of Prayer Episcopal Church.

The club was financially supported by the church and successfully operated 3 days a week for many years until the program outgrew the parishioners support.

In October 1998, it began operating 5 days a week as a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization with a Board of Directors and the official name of Cornerstone Kids, Inc. The organization became a *Kids Café* agency of *Feeding America Tampa Bay* and began providing students a hot, well-balanced meal daily.

After 38 years, hot meals are still served daily and Cornerstone Kids, Inc. provides a quality after-school program that serves 35-40 children in grades K-5 in Tampa Heights.

Cornerstone Kids Inc. was founded December 7, 1998 with a few members wanting to provide an afterschool program where children could enhance their academic progress while advancing in social and emotional wellness.



Cornerstone has successfully been in operation for 21 years, with programs catering to the scholastic advancement of students from Kindergarten through 5th grade. The program also has a 6 week summer program that re-enforces and maintains academics so that children do not forget what they've learned throughout the academic year. The summer program is usually about 4 hours which gives tutors and staff more time to engage in activities focused on performance and visual arts.





MEET THE STAFF



Shawna Brown, Executive Director

Shawna Brown joins Cornerstone Kids Inc. as the new Executive Director in June 2022. She is a Communication and Language specialist with over 17 years experience in media broadcasting, journalism and content editing. Brown completed undergraduate studies in Mass Communications at the University of South Florida in Tampa and later pursued and completed her graduate studies in Communication Theory.

She continues to explore avenues of personal growth and development and for the past 13 years have worked with several non-profit organizations hosting and coordinating events towards their fundraising endeavors.

Brown believes in providing children and students a nurturing environment to empower them to learn. She is a fervent humanitarian who prides herself on building relationships and forming alliances through networks of visionary leaders poised on the principles of servitude.



Gina Sanders, **Lead Teacher**

Ms. Gina is one of Cornerstone Kids veteran teacher with over 34 years teaching experience.

She is fluent in four languages and brings her expertise in academic mentoring and tutoring to Cornerstone Kids.

Ms. Gina assists with all grade levels in key competencies, skill-building and academic re-enforcement for student success.



Tajhisha Reese, Program Manager

“Mrs. Tia” is Cornerstone Kids newly appointed Program Manager who brings 18 years of teaching experience to Cornerstone Kids.

She has functioned as a curriculum specialist for the last 12 years and also tutors our fourth grade students.

She brings structure and discipline to Cornerstone’s program instilling values of self-management and accountability.



Mrs. Yvonne Alexander, Tutor

Affectionately known as “Mrs. A” by Cornerstone staff and students, Mrs. Alexander has served 30 years with Hillsborough County Schools as a para-professional and has been with Cornerstone for 17 years.

She tutors our Kindergarten through 2nd grade students and helps to build student reading through identification of sight words, letter formation and vocabulary.



Mr. Tarrie Reese, Student Coach

Mr. Tarrie joins Cornerstone as a graduate of Mercy Hurst and an avid lover of sports and fitness.

His background is in business and administration of hospitality management, bringing principles of servant leadership as he coaches our students on the importance of health and wellness. “Mr. T” tutors our 3rd grade students.



Ms. Jackie Grant, Executive Chef

Cornerstone Kids provides a hot, nutritious meal daily to all children enrolled in the program which is prepared and served by our faithful chef Ms. Jackie Grant.

Ms. Jackie also coordinates Cornerstone's kitchen by purchasing groceries and pantry items and is committed in securing community food donations to sustain our students.



Shelsy Louijean, Tutor

Ms. Shelsy is a Mathematics major who is finalizing her Graduate studies at St. Leo University. She joins Cornerstone Kids to assist students with their coursework in excelling in Math.



MEET OUR VOLUNTEERS



Ruby McAllan, Volunteer Tutor

Mrs. Ruby joins Cornerstone Kids as one of our most passionate tutor volunteers.

She brings over 12 years teaching experience to the Cornerstone Kids program and assists our 5th grade table of students.



Mary Jenkins, Volunteer Tutor

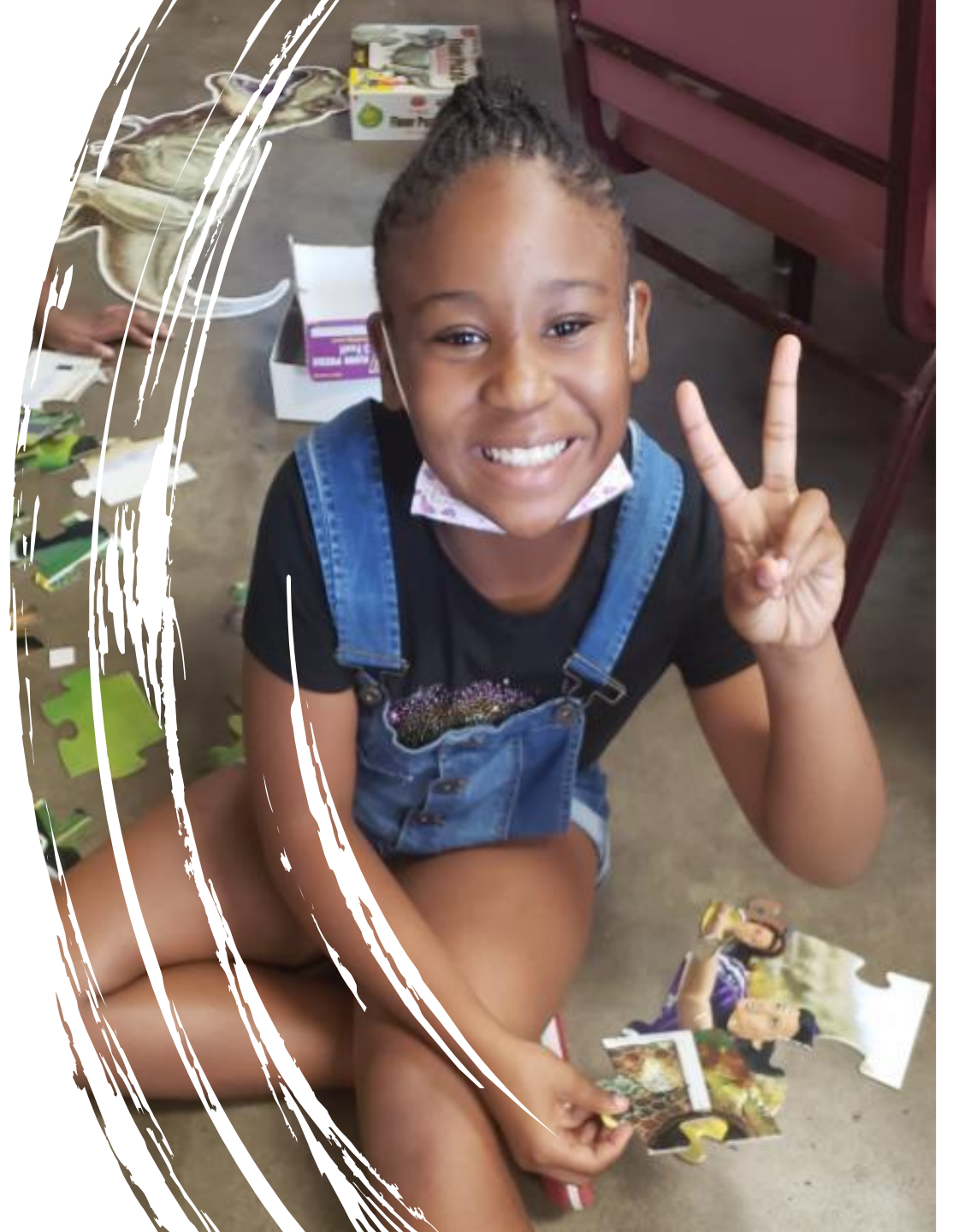
Mrs. Mary Jenkins is a leading community volunteer who has been assisting Cornerstone Kids and tutoring in academics for over 22 years.

An avid member of St. John's Episcopal Church, she passionately coordinates our annual giving tree and plays a pivotal role in Cornerstone's community initiatives.

MEET OUR STUDENTS

The majority of students enrolled in Cornerstone's afterschool program are students from Tampa Heights Magnet Elementary School, which is located approximately 5 minutes across the street in walking distance from the physical location of where Cornerstone Kids is housed in the Parrish Hall of St. James Episcopal House of Prayer.

Tutors pick up the children each day, making the program a convenient option for working parents to safely leave their children in our care.

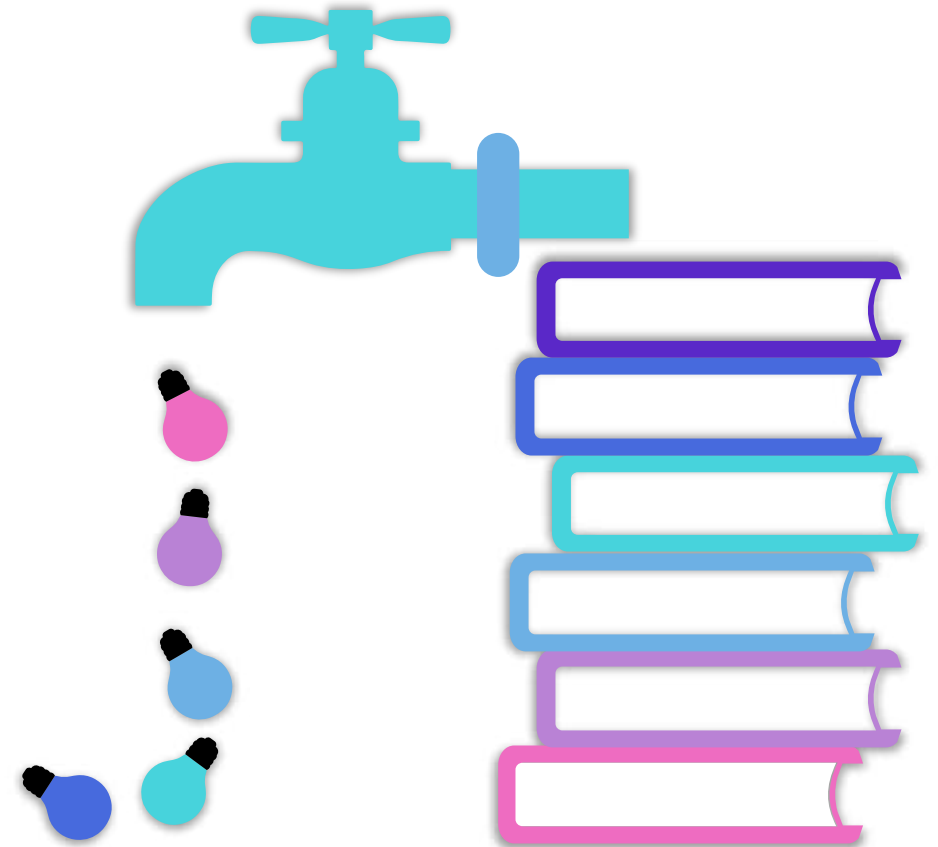


Focus on Academics

Cornerstone Kids' primary focus is assisting students with their school homework assignments while tutors help them to make sure their work gets completed in a satisfactory manner.

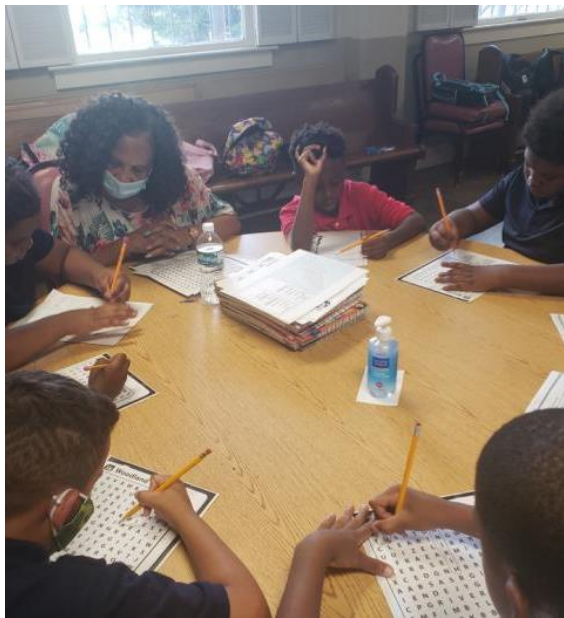
When students homework are completed, they engage in other academic activities such as building vocabulary and spelling through word-search puzzles.

Academic excellence and high scholastic aptitude is our goal.

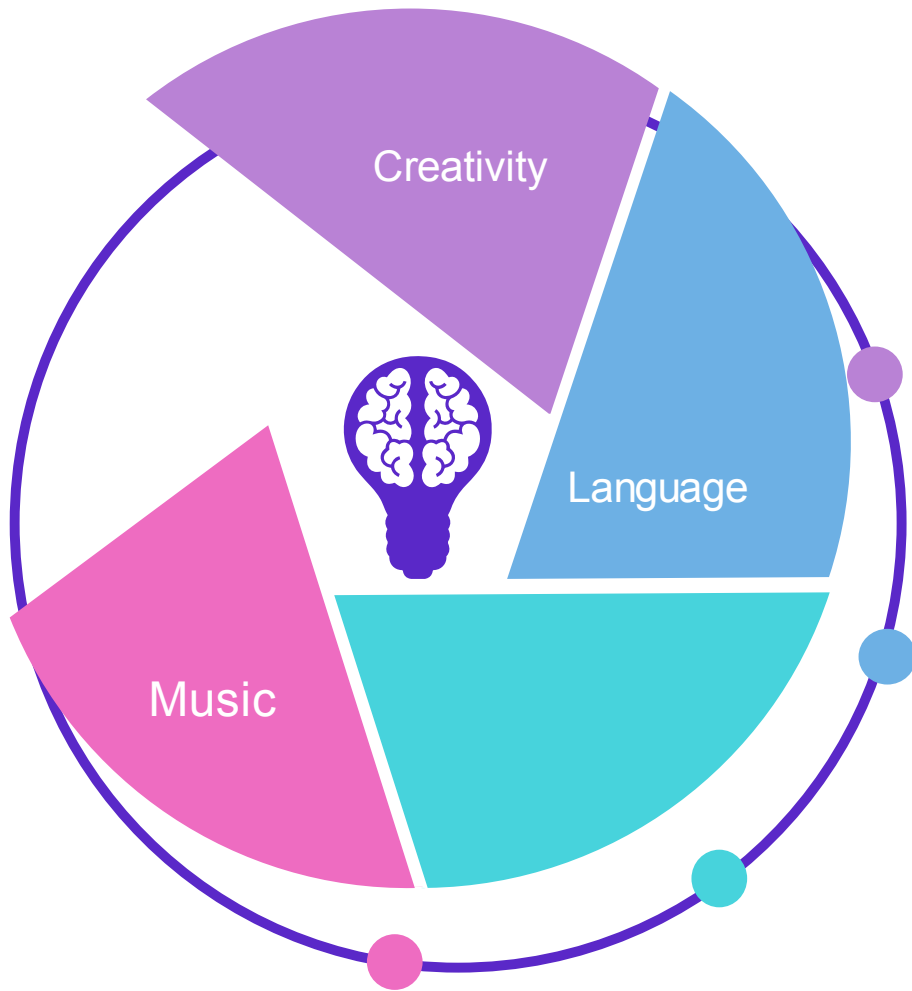




Veteran literacy advocate and volunteer tutor Mrs. Evie Larmond Loudon assesses individual student reading level and comprehension.



Cornerstone Kids Inc, President of the Board, and 35 year Educator and School Principal, Ms. Leila Mizer helps a kindergartner build her alphabet recognition skillset through memory cards.



Learning Through Art

Cornerstone Kids Inc. have partnered with Frameworks ExSel through the Arts program to provide scholastic education through music.

Funded by a grant from the Cornelia T. Bailey Foundation, a series of 8 program sessions was led by award winning music Instructor Miss Maryann “Mar” Harman.



Music with Mar

Maryann Harman is a music educator with a Bachelor's Degree in Music and a Master's in Education, with an emphasis in Early Childhood, and is certified in Level I Orff.

These degrees contribute to her ability to write songs that are musically and educationally sound for children as well as fun and easy to use for teachers and parents.

She is the founder of the internationally-enjoyed *Music with Mar Brain Research Based Program* and has written songs for Dr. Becky Bailey's "I Love You Rituals," Kaplan's LED Program, and has won a John Lennon Songwriter's Award.

Maryann has also done a TEDx Talk titled "Building Brains with Music."



Her 8 week session concluded in a song and dance presentation by the students with an invitation to community visionaries, parents and family.



Program Manager Mrs. Tia, helps students foster creativity and imagination by building trees from waffle cones..



Cornerstone Kids has students enrolled from Tampa Heights Elementary Magnet School, B.C. Graham Elementary School and Walton Academy.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

It truly does take a village to raise good children. Our student peers from Academy of the Holy Names and Jesuit Highschool volunteers every week providing instructional assistance and activities at Cornerstone Kids.





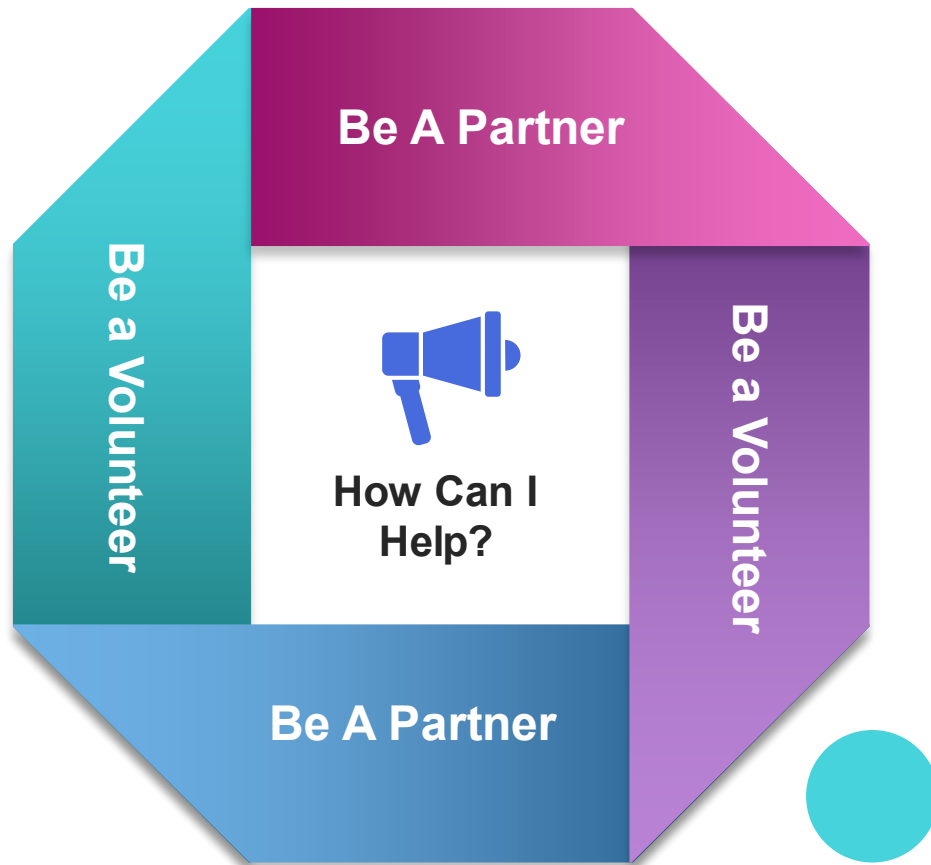
ANNUAL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

St. John's Episcopal Church proudly sponsors Cornerstone Kids' Annual Christmas program. Pictured left to right is Cornerstone's President of the Board, Mrs. Leila Mizer, Father Woods from St. John's, Shawna Brown, Executive Director, and Mr. Harry Hedges, Cornerstone's Board Member and Community Advocate.





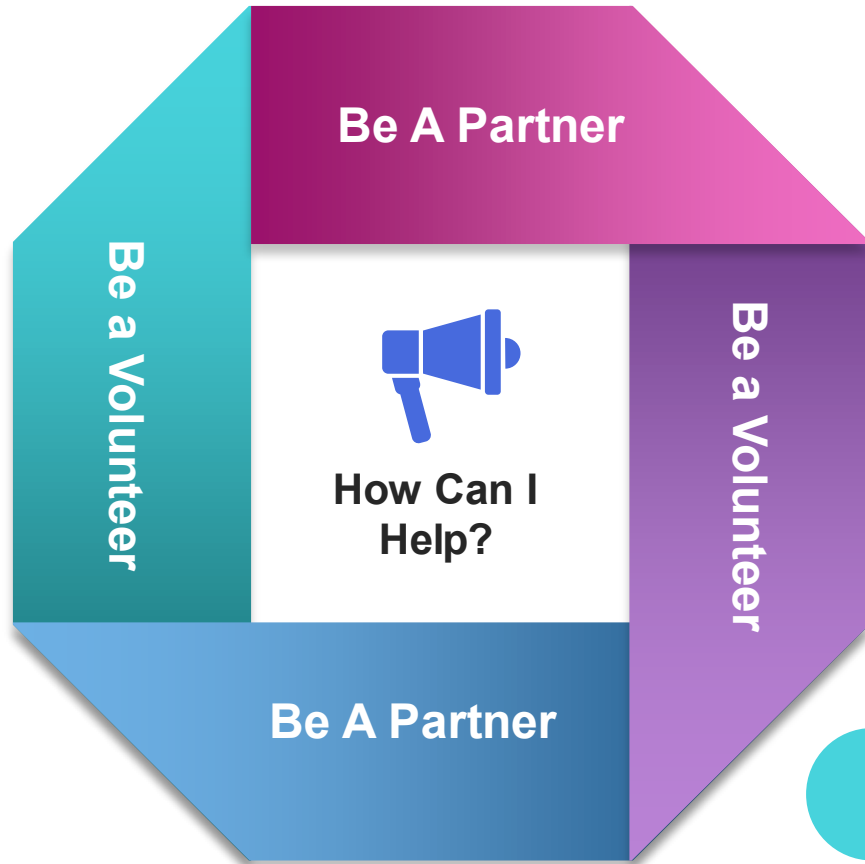




How Can I Help?

Program Highlights:

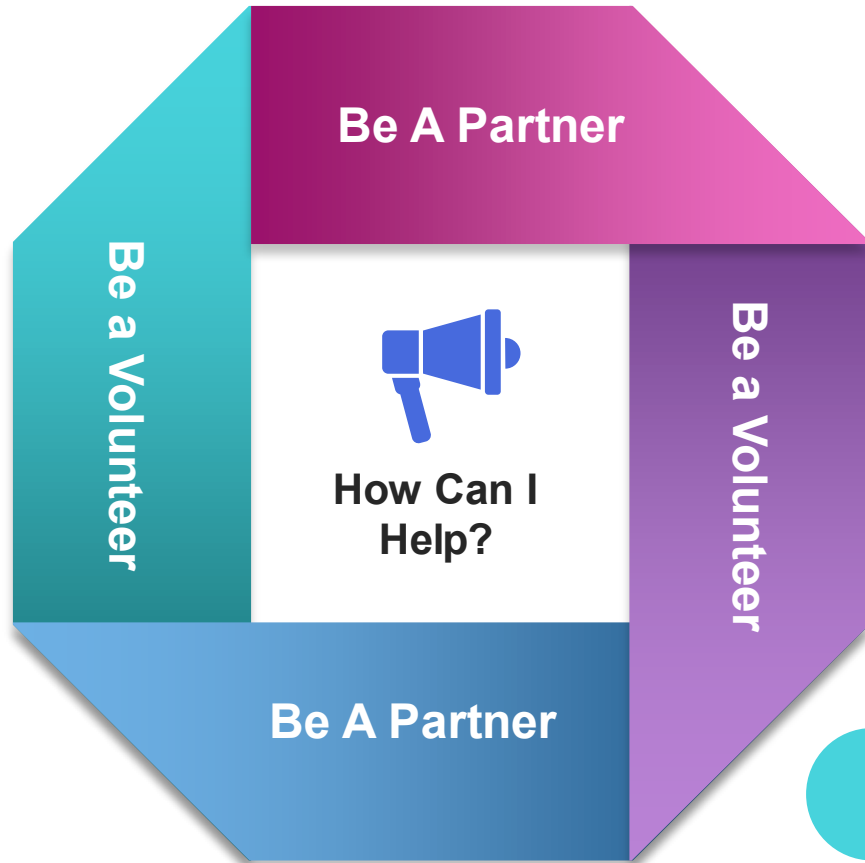
- All programs provided by Cornerstone Kids, Inc. are free of charge.
- Program includes hot meals daily.
- On average, \$3,000 per year is spent to provide after school programming for each child during the school year and \$500 during the Summer.



How Can I Help?

Become a Volunteer:

- Homework Assistance
- One-on-One Tutoring
- Reading and Storytelling



Contact:

Shawna Brown

Executive Director

(813) 734-2538 or (813) 210-3686

Visit us online:

Website: www.cornerstonekidsinc.org

Donations can be made by using various payment options!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Robert Bennett
Brian T. Fitzgerald
David Glicksberg
Jessica Hall
Harry Hedges
Deirdre Joseph
Errol Kirk
Liza Mizel
Leila Mizer
Robert J. Muir

A basketball hoop and net are positioned on the left side of the image, set against a vibrant night sky. The sky is filled with stars and a prominent purple and blue nebula. A large, bright full moon is visible in the upper left quadrant, partially obscured by the hoop's rim. The background has a dark, textured appearance, possibly representing a stone wall or a similar structure.

Save the Date!

Cornerstone Kids Inc.

*Cordially requests the honor of your company,
on Thursday March, 30th, 2023 at 6 p.m.*

for their

Annual Fundraising Gala

to be held at

*The Tampa River Center at Julian B Lane Park,
located at 402 W Laurel St, Tampa, FL 33607*

Stay tuned for more details!

Thank You!