



Dear Side by Side Kids family,

It is with heavy, yet peaceful hearts that we come to you with an important update. After much prayer and consideration, we have made the decision to permanently close operations at Side by Side Kids at the end of this school year.

For 30 years, Side by Side Kids has been sustained by the generosity of gracious donors and partners, along with a faithful team of believers who have dedicated their time and resources to support our mission. Because of you, this ministry has served children and families across Austin in meaningful and lasting ways. As the needs of the communities we serve have continued to grow, sustaining the program has become an increasing challenge.

Over decades of free after-school programming, we have had the privilege of inspiring more than 5,000 children across over 10 campuses in Austin to be excellent students, make wise choices, and follow Christ. This impact was made possible by your generosity and belief in this mission.

Each day, students experienced a safe and structured environment during the most critical hours after school. They received warm meals, academic support, and encouragement to grow in their faith, character, and confidence. Because of you, children had a place where they were cared for, known, and supported.

Through everyday moments of learning, play, and connection, we have witnessed children grow in confidence, character, friendships, and academics. We have faith they will carry these experiences into their bright futures.

This work has been deeply meaningful, shaped by moments of joy, trust, and shared purpose. We are grateful for the families who entrusted us with their children, and for the partners, donors, staff, and volunteers who made this program possible.

As this chapter comes to a close, we remain confident that God will continue His work in the lives of the children and families we have had the privilege to know and love. The seeds planted through your generosity will continue to grow.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Tollie Bernard, SBSK Board President, at tollieb@me.com, or to Sarah Ribeiro at sarah.ribeiro@sidebysidekids.org.

It has been a sincere honor to walk side by side with our students during these essential and formative years. Thank you for walking alongside us and making this lasting impact possible.

With gratitude,
Side by Side Kids Staff & Board of Directors

