

A Family on the Go

by Ty Williams
Principal

There are many who desire to serve on the mission field abroad, but very few are able to fulfill it. At Restoration Academy, the seed of serving on the mission field has been planted in the hearts of the students and staff. It has now been nearly five years consecutively that RA has sent students and or staff to serve abroad. This is amazing since statistics state that less than 5% of Americans that serve in missions are African American.

What is even more so amazing is the fact that RA has been able over the years to send two generations in a family of African Americans to serve on 3 different mission trips. LaJuana Griffin and her sons, Jerime and Stephen (both RA graduates) have had the opportunity to serve. It all started with Jerime serving on the first ever RA Mission team to Peru five years ago. Jerime went with members of the RA varsity basketball team and members of Mountain Brook Community Church to conduct a sports camp in one of the remote areas of Peru. The next year, Stephen was able to join a team from Dawson Memorial Church on a church building project in Ecuador. And this past summer, their mother, Miss Cookie, went to Bolivia to work with a children's orphanage.

"Serving on a mission trip made both of us appreciate how blessed we are here in America. It opened my eyes it made me not want to complain as much about what I do and don't have," replied Jerimie. "For me it is an experience that I will always cherish," commented Stephen. "I am just thankful to be a part of a place that would allow me to feel like I am walking out God's plan. I wish that more students and parents had this opportunity to work alongside others who love God and love people in such a way as to go and serve." We thank our donors who agree that the "Great Commission" is meant for all of us.