

First Glance



PHOTO CREDIT: JEFF LANGE, AKRON BEACON JOURNAL

MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER

A NOTE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This season at First Glance has been filled with **encouragement** as we continue **moving forward** in the work God has called us to.

Students are asking deeper questions about Jesus. Students are requesting Bibles. Conversations about faith are happening more often, and some students are even taking the next step by being baptized at local churches.

Seeing these steps reminds us that **we are getting to live out our mission** every day as students grow in their understanding of who Christ is. We are connecting students to Christ and the Church, and we are both thankful and hopeful as **we witness what God is doing** in their lives.

Looking ahead, we are excited for what is to come. More Come and See events, in person prayer gatherings, the opening of our new outdoor skate park, another season of Launch Kenmore summer camp, and more opportunities for students to **know Jesus**. Thank you for partnering with us as we continue this work together.

JESSICA SWIGER

COME AND SEE RECAP



Recently we hosted our first Come and See gathering at First Glance, and it was a wonderful morning together. **Come and See is a small group event designed to give people a closer look at the heart of our ministry.** Guests hear stories from the work happening here, walk through the building together, and see how students and families are being served each week. It is a simple way to experience First Glance, learn more about the relationships being built, and see the space where so much ministry takes place. If you would like to join us, we would love to have you at the **next Come and See on April 25 at 9am.** RSVP today to reserve your spot or reach out to Lena at lena@firstglance.org for more information.

MIRACLES AT LAUNCH KENMORE

More than after school snacks and homework help, our **Launch Kenmore students are hearing God's truth.** As they learn about the fruit of the Spirit, we are seeing something beautiful happen. Students who often struggle with communication and that have significant learning disabilities are beginning to remember and speak these words together. **Moments like these remind us that God is moving in the lives of our students.** Summer camp will begin in June, and we are looking forward to another season of spending time with students. If you would like to donate a meal or provide snacks for camp this summer, please reach out to Taylor Buchanan at taylorbuchanan@firstglance.org.



○ ○ ○ ○ SUPPORT THIS SPRING

- **Sponsor a Wing Night** for our Student Leaders and help create space for conversation, mentorship, and leadership development.
- Donate **gift cards** that can be used to encourage students or to help meet practical needs. Such as food places, or big box stores.
- Provide Bibles for students who want to learn more about Jesus. Offer to **mentor** or walk alongside one of our students through serving at weekly programming.
- **Become a monthly donor** and help support meals, programs, and **sustainable care** for students and families throughout the year and every month!

EMPOWERING FAMILY.
EMPOWERING COMMUNITY.



PARTNER IN PRAYER

PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYING FOR OUR STUDENTS AND FAMILIES.

- Pray that **students** who are asking questions about faith would continue seeking to know Jesus.
- Pray for our **staff and volunteers** as they build relationships and walk alongside students each week.
- Pray for **follow up conversations** as the gospel message was shared across many of our programs during the Easter season.
- Pray that **students and families** in the Kenmore neighborhood would experience hope, belonging, and the love of Christ.

BEYOND THE PRAYER ROOM

JOIN THE COMMUNITY



We recently hosted our first Beyond the Prayer Room gathering at First Glance.

Beyond the Prayer Room is an in person prayer community where people gather to pray for the students, families, and staff of First Glance.

The group will meet quarterly as we continue lifting this ministry up in prayer.

If you would like to be part of this prayer community, we would love to welcome you. Contact ariana@firstglance.org to join!

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 25 | 9 AM

Come and See

May 2 | 1 to 4 PM

Miller South Art Show

Join us as we host the Miller South Art Show again this year, celebrating the creativity and talent of these students and our ongoing community partnership with Miller South.

June 12 | 7:30 AM

Come and See

June 15 | 11 AM

Beyond the Prayer Room

Join us for our quarterly in person prayer gathering as we come together to pray for First Glance..

November 7

15th Annual Auction

Save the date for the biggest event of the year as our community gathers to celebrate what God is doing through First Glance.

AUCTION SPONSORSHIPS NOW OPEN



FIRST GLANCE IN THE NEWS

We were **recently featured in the Akron Beacon Journal** for the new skate park being built at Prentiss Park in Kenmore. The article highlights Gary Dean, a First Glance staff member who runs our indoor skate park and is helping design and build the new park. Gary grew up skating at First Glance and now continues to invest in students and the Kenmore community through skateboarding.

It is so cool to see the **impact of First Glance recognized in our community** and to celebrate the way Gary continues to care for students. We are excited for another space where students can gather, build relationships, and connect with mentors.



Sponsorships are now open for our 15th Annual Auction on November 7, our biggest event of the year! Each year our community gathers for a special evening to celebrate what God is doing through First Glance. **We invite businesses, churches, and community partners to join us as sponsors and be part of a night that helps make this work possible.** Please help spread the word and consider securing your sponsorship early. To receive a sponsorship letter or learn more, please reach out to Kris at kris@firstglance.org.

WELCOME TO THE TEAM



We're excited to introduce **Jasina Chapman**, who has joined the First Glance leadership team as our **Director of Operations**. Jasina brings years of experience in the nonprofit world along with a huge heart for Jesus and a deep love for serving people. We're so grateful to have her wisdom and leadership as part of the First Glance team. Jasina is eager to build relationships and get to know the First Glance community. If you'd like to connect with her, you can reach her at jasina@firstglance.org.