

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **The King's Academy Sending 702 to Serve Those in Need Locally and Globally!**

SUNNYVALE, Calif, March 14, 2016— The King's Academy dedicates a school week each year to send students, teachers, and parents to serve others both locally and globally. Service trips are an integral part of the educational and spiritual experience at TKA. These trips expose students to communities in need, challenge them to be representatives of God's love, and become invested in service for life. The King's Academy has been sending students on service trips each year since the inaugural trip to Mexico in 1993!

Julie Jahde, TKA's Service Outreach Coordinator, explains the vision behind the service trips: *"It is through service that our students are challenged to grow in their relationship with God, step out of their comfort zone, and show God's love to others as reflected in our service trip verse for the year 'Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me' (Matthew 25:40)"*

In Sunnyvale, a team of 28 will continue to build upon a 9-year partnership at **San Miguel Elementary School** where students have been tutoring weekly throughout the school year. During the one week service period, team members will help directly in the classrooms, facilitate sports activities, and lead a school assembly. Nearby, a team of 22 will be working to support the efforts of local **Teen Challenge Centers of Silicon Valley**. Teen Challenge helps individuals and families recover from the effects of addiction.

Headed to **Tecate, Mexico**, a team of 435 (308 high school students and 127 parent volunteers and staff) will caravan down in 77 vehicles where they will engage in construction at 16 building sites including 14 individual homes, 1 school classroom, and 1 church building. In addition, three separate TKA teams will host a morning and afternoon "Kid's Club" for neighborhood children, run a soccer camp focused on training youth leaders ages 8-15, and provide a public health program promoting wellness for local women including classes on hygiene, sanitation, nutrition, and body image. The school donates and transports all of the building materials and tools for construction and all of the food to feed the tent city of volunteers for five days.

A team of 26 going to **Costa Rica** will partner with **YWAM** (Youth With A Mission) to visit orphanages and an elderly care facility, minister to the homeless and prostitutes in the streets, distribute Bibles, and participate in Vacation Bible School (VBS) and soccer ministries with children.

In **Ecuador**, 28 students and staff will be venturing to the Amazon basin and working with the organization **Inca Link** to minister in a variety of ways including construction, sports evangelism, worship at local churches, and VBS for children in unreached communities.

In **Guatemala**, a team of 24 students and staff will participate in worship, crafts, skits and teaching with the children in an orphanage as well as go on a two-day field trip with the children. They will also visit a home for children with disabilities and a women's nursing home.

A team of 17 will travel to the **India** to work with an organization called **Good News India** which rescues children out of trafficking and slavery. The team will put on mini-chapel services and facilitate day camp activities. They will also be bringing books to help stock the children's libraries

Forty-two (42) members of the TKA school community will travel to **Kentucky** to work with **Christian Appalachian Project** (CAP), an organization that has a special program designed to meet the most basic housing needs of impoverished families struggling to survive in Appalachia. Past projects included renovating the inside of homes, painting, and building handicap access ramps.

In **Los Angeles**, a team of 49 will partner with **World Impact** to serve the needs of inner-city communities, both materially and spiritually.

Thirty-one (31) members of the team headed to the **Philippines**, in partnership with **YWAM**, will engage in food distribution, children's VBS, women's ministry, light construction, school outreach and worship with believers in more remote areas that cannot come to church.

The mission of The King's Academy is to transform lives through a Christ-centered, college preparatory education. The junior and senior high school of 930 students (grades 6-12) offers a loving, family environment where students are encouraged to grow in their relationship with Jesus, their family, teachers, and others. Please visit our website at [www.tka.org](http://www.tka.org).

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