

# **Covenant Youth of Alaska**

A relational outreach, discipleship and leadership ministry for Alaska youth and young adults

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# The Dream for a Food Truck in Bethel — Discipleship employment through the Continuum of Care

It has only been six months since Pastor Adam London of Bethel Covenant Church was in Denver searching for Mexican food during the Covenant Midwinter Conference. The only place that he found open was a food truck serving street tacos - in addition to being a ministry that employs homeless and low-income women. This ministry struck a chord with Pastor Adam and, leaving inspired, he returned to Bethel to present to the church board a similar vision for a food truck in their city.

The vision he shared was born out of what the church is already doing in two areas of ministry: outreach to the homeless population and outreach to unchurched youth. He proposed

that during the summer, the food truck would be a youth program that provides intentional discipleship and

jobs for youth while connecting those youth with church members. During the rest of the year, the food truck would provide employment for low-income individuals, especially those living in the homeless shelter.

The proposed timeline was to begin collecting resources in summer of 2020 and launch in summer of 2021. Within two months of presenting the vision to the church board, a food truck went up for sale in Bethel - one of two fully outfitted food trucks in the whole city. Pastor Adam knew that another opportunity like this would not come up for a long time.

CYAK was invited into partnership and made the decision to help fund the purchase. Pastor Adam recalls, "I immediately thought of how perfect a partnership this would be between

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the local church and CYAK – not only will it reach unchurched youth, all the proceeds will

go directly back into local and regional CYAK ministry." Two years before Pastor Adam thought he would see this vision come to fruition, Bethel has a

Continued on back page...

## Ministry Highlights



**CYAK Staff Retreat** It is a blessing to have such a fantastic team and it is a gift to spend a week together!



Bike Repair Ministry Many youth in Nome have been learning to repair bikes in a discipleship context.



Moriah Hope Thistle!! On 7/23, Karl and Simone welcomed the new addition to their family. Praise God!

ministry food truck set up and selling lunches! It is amazing how the Lord instilled a dream and then provided the tools to make the dream a reality, through the willingness of local church leaders and CYAK's partnership.

This summer, CYAK interns have been working to start up the food truck, in addition to creating a space in the church for youth to come, feel safe and be engaged. The truck has been open a few days a week for 3 or 4 hours at a time. Already the truck has provided employment for one low-income individual and one youth.

CYAK is excited about this partnership opportunity to reach more youth in Western Alaska! It is an incredible chance to connect youth to the body of Christ and bring them into the Continuum of Care. Please be praying that this ministry will connect youth to the Church and that, through this, they may know the love of Christ deeper.





It was a great time being all together at the CYAK Staff and Team Training in Soldotna last month. Please keep this team in your prayers as they prepare for the upcoming year!

#### **CONNECT WITH US!**



Visit our website, like us on Facebook, follow us on Instagram, or find us on YouTube to learn more about CYAK's ministry!

#### PRAYER PRAISES & REQUESTS

#### Sign up to receive monthly prayer updates, visit www.cyak.org.

**Praise:** For the chance for the CYAK team to meet together for a week. For an abundant bike ministry in Nome.

For the CYAK food truck in Bethel that is up and running!

**Prayer Request:** For teachers and volunteers preparing for the school year. For those who are subsisting to get what they need. For those grieving the loss of loved ones.

#### Thank you for your faithful support of CYAK's ministry through prayer.



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#### CURRENT MINISTRY NEEDS Scholarships - Young Adult Retreat

Each fall and spring you, our partners, participate in sending young adults to our young adult retreat in Big Lake. Scholarship dollars make it possible for many students without the financial means to make it there! Consider giving a special scholarship today.

Quyana, thank you.

www.covenantbiblecamp.org/give

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