

# Resilient

Domestic Mission Partner  
Villa Park, Illinois



**Resilient** is a Christian community development organization that provides opportunities for youth and families in pockets of suburban poverty just minutes from Christ Church's two campuses.

Resilient envisions a community where all children gain self-worth and thrive despite challenging circumstances. Their in-school mentoring programs come alongside and support elementary and high school students. And their new "Upstart" program connects non-college-bound students with professional mentors, helping them learn the skills required to seek a rewarding, lucrative career in the construction trades — with unique opportunities to enter a trade apprenticeship program. Resilient also supports adults with computer and literacy classes and offers free "Thursday Night Family Meals" for community members in need.

## Read:

[Luke 10:25-37](#)

## Watch:

<https://vimeo.com/541692343>

## Reflect and Discuss:

Resilient's programs were developed in response to a season of patient listening. Before implementing solutions, the team worked to build relationships with the community and understand their needs. Do you see this approach at play (or not) in other areas of life? What happens when we "offer a fix" before truly knowing people and understanding their needs?

Read the parable of the Good Samaritan in Luke 10. When Jesus explains who our neighbor is, does he talk about others' geographical location ... or our own mindset? How can we be better neighbors to our neighbors in need — both those a few minutes away and those around the world?

## Resilient: Growth and Hope

Those who took part in Christ Church's Take Root initiative are familiar with Resilient, though they may know it by another name. Initially referred to as the "Brandywine" or "Roosevelt Road" initiative, Resilient was born from the Domestic Missions ministry of Christ Church and was first funded by Take Root. But Resilient became an independent 501c3 in 2018 and is now a thriving ministry all its own, serving the people of Villa Park with compassion.

## Pray:

- That the people Resilient serves would come to know Jesus and be enriched by the new opportunities Resilient provides.
- That the area Resilient serves would experience a culture shift toward hope and flourishing as the Gospel takes root.

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