Josh & Kaitlyn Ramsier

Serving faithfully at

Caribbean Mountain Academy

Jarabacoa, Dominican Republic



Spring 2017

Holidays:

We enjoyed the holidays here in the Dominican Republic. Josh surprised me and coordinated with my sister to have her come for two weeks over Christmas and New Years! It was such a gift. We had so much fun hanging out and playing with Oliver. Another blessing over the holidays included my brother and sister-in-law having their first child, Haven. We are very excited for them and to be a first time aunt and uncle.

Raising Support:

Josh and I have been evaluating our recurring support we receive each month. We are slightly down from our target monthly support. We have been blessed each month by one-time gifts of various amounts and we want to take a moment to thanks so many of you that continue to financially support us. We plan to be here indefinitely and will need to continue to raise our monthly donors but we also know God is faithful in one-time gifts. Even just yesterday, I was crunching numbers and realized we had a few crucial one-time gifts this month, just in time for the extra expenses. So again, please consider joining our monthly supporter team, or one-time gifts as God moves you to donate. Also a huge thank you to those that are supporting us or have over the past two and a half years. We know many of you support us through prayer and reaching out in other ways, know that little things do not go un-noticed either!

What is Caribbean Mountain Academy?

Caribbean Mountain Academy is a therapeutic boarding school for troubled teens located in the Dominican Republic. Teens take part in intensive therapy and participate in community service projects. This unique location removes them from their familiar surroundings and eliminates distractions like technology and social media to provide them with a time of personal and spiritual growth.



Baby Elana is Here!

Baby Elana Ramiser arrived Thursday, February 23, 2017, at 8:30 am. I will spare you most of the boring details, but feel free to check out her birth story on our blog. (jkramsier.blogspot.com) Here's the quick version: I woke up around 4 am with mild cramps, by 5:15 am I started tracking the contractions. I woke up Josh and we were on our way to the hospital by 7:15. Once we got to the hospital, about 8:15, I was 10 cm dilated and ready to push. She was born at 8:30 am. She has been a blessing to our family. Oliver took a little time to get used to his new sister, but within a week was asking to "hold it". We picked the name Elana at the hospital and appreciate the meaning of her name in Greek: "to give light". Our prayer is she can share God's light wherever the Lord will take her.

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Learn more: CrosswindsYouth.org

See the reverse side for more information on how you can help support us!

Little, Well Not So Little, Ollie:
Ollie is growing fast. He loves to talk, and we are going to try potty training this month. He loves to repeat any phrases and always adds his own emphasis to words. Oliver enjoys people but also seems to need his quiet times during the day. Oliver enjoys going to the gym with his dad. He loves to listen to songs, videos, and look at pictures! He is such a joy to our family, and those here on campus.

Campus Updates:
We said goodbye to some good friends this past month. In February our friends Chichi, Mindy, and their son Philip moved to the Midwest to pursue some different opportunities and spend some time living by Mindy's family. We will miss them a lot. We have also welcomed a few new staff members and are looking to expanding our program to include a second girl's house in April. Josh has been brainstorming along with the staff here on what that could look like. It is exciting to be talking about expanding but also comes with its share of what-ifs. We also will be welcoming our new director in April. Please pray for him, his family, and our campus in this transition.

God bless,

Josh & Kaitlyn

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Support Through Prayer

- Prayer for my time off with the kiddos. I want to enjoy this time of "maternity leave" but also use it wisely in evaluating what life with 2 littles will look like.

- Prayer for Josh in his work and leading our family; that he can feel the Lord's nearness and be refreshed daily.

- Prayer for the growth of our campus and spiritual awareness for our staff's health, our leadership as managers, and our students & their families.

Support Financially

Crosswindsyouth.org/staff-support

Checks should be made out to Crosswinds with a note attached indicating your preference that the funds be used to support me.

Please mail checks to:

CROSSWINDS
4150 Illinois Road Ft. Wayne, IN 46804

Contributions are solicited with the understanding that Crosswinds has complete discretion and control over the use of all donated funds.

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