

Our History

Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF) in the Buffalo area was started in the Fall of 2015 when director Brian Ide felt the call of God on his life to move from sunny Florida to reach the children of Erie County NY with the gospel. In January 2017 an exploratory committee was formed and in January 2018, CEF of Greater Buffalo received its Charter becoming an official CEF Chapter.

But even before it became an official CEF chapter, God was opening doors! In 2016, a teacher in the Buffalo school district was so concerned for the spiritual welfare of her students, she called the CEF corporate office to see how she could start a club all on her own. They put her in touch with Brian, and one club started. Around the same time, a couple who had been teaching three Bible clubs inside Lakeshore elementary schools moved to Pennsylvania, and asked Brian to take over their clubs. Without even trying (or being "official") CEF of GBA had four clubs running!

In 2018 Good News Clubs were started in the Eden and Frontier school districts, and two more in the Buffalo. By the 2019-2020 school year we had 11 GNCs.

Then Covid hit, and schools were shut down. Our fledgling ministry had to quickly adapt. Online clubs were started, and though they couldn't reach as many children, they were able to reach some!

In Summer 2021 we started our summer "5-Day Club" outreach. Like a Vacation Bible School, but held in an individual's home or yard, these action-packed, gospel-centered programs reached 60 children in 3 weeks with 24 decisions for Christ.

We are currently working with churches in Amherst, Lancaster, Rushford, and Bemus Point. Please pray that those schools open to us in the 2022-2023 school year.

We are not deterred by what is happening in the world around us. Now more than ever, children NEED to know the God of love, joy, and peace! Please pray with us that we will reach every child in Erie County with the gospel. It's a big request but our God is able!