

July 29, 2020

Dear (Greeting),

We want to **thank you** for your investment in the lives of college students. Your consistent support of Renée Buck makes an incredible difference here in Boston and around the globe. We wanted **you** to know what an impact you are having on the lives of hundreds of students.

Renée's personal ministry is helping change the hearts and minds of students in every corner of campus and across the globe. As a co-laborer in Christ in Boston with Renée, we have been blown away by the impact that she is having in the lives of students. We have both worked in college ministry for decades and have worked with Renée since she was a student herself, but what God is doing through her is unique and priceless. She is one of the most effective people we have known at relationally connecting with anyone, from anywhere, and helping them courageously take their next steps towards knowing and following Jesus.

We want you to see the difference your partnership with Renée makes.

Walk with us through the heart of Boston, where future world-leaders are being groomed. There are 100,000 students within a 4-mile radius. Let's first walk to Emmanuel College. A campus long closed to the gospel, is now reverberating with the love of a group of students. Valerie and Jessica are both new believers. Kimberly, Hannah and Sarah came to school as believers, but now are helping others know and love Jesus too. They would each tell you that walking side-by-side with Renée has dramatically changed not only their experience of Jesus now but also the trajectory of their lives.



Next let's walk down the street, away from Wentworth where she has grown missional leaders since college, past Simmons where she has mentored and coached generations of disciples, to Boston University--a sprawling campus, where it is notoriously difficult to feel connected. Each Thursday night, Renée walks into a mostly empty room and helps transform it into a home for a family meal we call "The Table". Here Christians and their

non-Christian friends gather every week to be embraced by the warmth of home-cooked food and heartfelt conversations about life and God. Here, for the first time, many explore who the God of the Bible is, and others see Renée model what it looks like to share your faith in a winsome way.



Walking from here, one mile to the East, let's climb the concrete stairs into an old chapel. Here, Renée gathers with volunteers and student members of a gospel choir. Together they are helping black students on campus, who most often feel unseen and unheard, to know they are deeply loved. Renée helps lead this Bible study and outreach to black students on campus and has earned a deep trust that is leading to life change.

Lastly, though we can't walk there, we'd love to take you to Inner City Jacksonville or the Middle East, where Renée frequently takes students, to places they've never been, to people much different from themselves. There, just like on campus, she walks with them to see a grander vision of who God is, how he wants to grow them, and how he wants to use them to change the world.



We often think about how grateful we are for you, her ministry partners.

- Because of you, Renée can continue to deeply engage in the spiritual journeys of these students at a pivotal time in their lives.
- Because of you, Renée can lead students across the city and around the world.
- Because of you, Renée can be the voice and tangible expression of the love of God, to those who have never known him.
- Because of you, students' lives are changing for all eternity as they begin following Jesus.

You might wonder: why isn't Renée writing this letter to me?

As directors of our ministry here in Boston, we couldn't help ourselves. You need to know what a difference Renée is making. You need to know what a difference **you** are making. And we want you to know about an additional way you can help.

There are two significant and very time sensitive ways that you can be part of what God is doing in Boston and around the world.

Renée has an immediate and a long-term financial need and we'd like you to prayerfully consider both.

Because of partners who have lost jobs, etc., Renée has experienced a shortfall of \$20,000 in her financial support this year. Without this support, Renée will no longer be able to journey with students as they navigate the most formative years of their lives. And that's where we are asking you to step into the breach. Would you prayerfully consider an additional gift of \$500, \$1,000, or \$2,000 to help make up for Renée's immediate financial need?

Another way you could significantly impact the lives of students through Renée is to prayerfully consider increasing your monthly support. Renée is in need of \$2,000 of new monthly support to get her back to a spot where she can engage in the lives of students this fall. Until she is able to see \$2,000 in new monthly commitments, she will need to continue to work on raising that amount and not returning to campus. Would you consider increasing your monthly pledge of support from [\$Current] to [\$MoveTo]?

Sincerely,

Malisa Ellis & Todd Williams

Team Leaders, Cru Boston

P.S. Students are returning to Boston even in the next couple days, and classes start at the end of August. **Would you consider a gift before August 21** so that Renée can get back to connecting with students? You can also give online at <https://give.cru.org/0645086>

YOUR NAME: _____

(Please make checks payable to **Cru**)

- I'm investing a special gift of \$_____ in your ministry.
- I'm committing to give \$_____ every month to support your ministry.
- I'm not able to give at this time, but please continue sending me updates about your ministry.

THANK YOU FOR
YOUR PARTNERSHIP



Thank you so much for considering a special gift by August 21 so that Renée can get back to connecting with students. You can also give online at: <https://give.cru.org/0645086>