



TJ Warren
Program Director, Life Launch

Stand in the Gap Ministries

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TJ Warren possesses the unique combination of a compassionate heart and a detail-oriented ability to accomplish tasks. This combination of skills allows him to provide significant and unique support to not only the at-risk youth we serve, but the volunteers who engage with us as well.

His compassion makes him excellent at relationally investing in other people. Since he joined our staff in 2016, TJ has met hundreds of at-risk youth. He has an instinctual ability to understand how to develop a relationship with each young adult and he views each person he works with as an individual, recognizing and respecting their unique needs and life experiences. In his current role at Stand in the Gap, TJ manages the Life Launch program on a statewide basis, supervising our OKC based Program Manager. TJ benefits from the self-described “servant mindset” that he attributes to his Christian faith and previous ministerial and mentorship work experience.

TJ’s analytical skills allow him to examine why he is so good at engaging with at-risk youth and conceptualize those skills to pass them on to volunteers (not to mention, organize the paperwork that comes with hundreds of volunteers, dozens of at-risk youth, and many organizational partnerships). For example, after months of research, TJ created a new training curriculum for Life Launch volunteers. The curriculum is based on his personal experiences and gifts and supported by insights from experts in the field of trauma, brain development, and counseling. It provides a solid foundation for volunteers as they enter into a Life Launch relationship. In spite of all the effort TJ has invested in this curriculum, he remains open to new ideas and is continually revising his systems and researching best-case practices to bring to the Life Launch experience.

Previously, TJ has held positions where he gained experience recruiting and training volunteers (as a church administrator, youth director, and worship leader). He created systems while working as an account manager at a computer software company. He developed a mentoring program at John Brown University and worked for four years at the Boys and Girls Clubs of Siloam Springs, Arkansas. His experience serving youth living in poverty was formative to his work today.