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***Bringing Renewal To Urban Families***

May 13, 2009

Dear Friend,

We are thrilled that we can again offer summer camp to children in the inner city. This summer marks the **25<sup>th</sup> year we have sponsored kids to camp.** The reports keep coming in from children whose lives have been impacted while at a summer camp with us. Whether at our 6 week day camp or at our one week overnight camp, we know that **our summer program is the most effective way to reach kids for Christ.**

Below is one of the recent stories of something God did during our summer program through one of our summer interns, Dominique, who grew up in the inner city herself:

*A young girl was once told me that she was ugly. I looked at her, and out of curiosity and concern asked her why did she feel that way. She replied that her mother, her peers at school, and her siblings told her that she was ugly. The hurt in my heart at that moment in time took me back to how I felt when I was her age. I remember growing up, and how for a period of time I felt not pretty enough or not good enough. This short flashback to the trials and demons that tortured me when I was a young child motivated me to express to this young girl that she was beautiful, intelligent, funny, and smart because God made her that way. I encouraged her not to and believe the horrible and hurtful things that people may say to her. This short, but powerful dialogue with this young girl has led to a discipleship relationship with not only her, but two other young girls involved in the day camp. **As I look at each and everyone of these young people, I see and feel what they see and feel because I used to be one of them, and because of this it is my prayer that God will continue use me as well as the other HPCO staff to be a source of hope, inspiration, and motivation in the lives of these beautiful, special, intelligent, humorous, and mighty children of His.***

How thankful we are that the Lord provided the resources to hire Dominique last summer to work in our Day Camp and be God's voice of love to these dear children. **Thus it is our hope to once again hire her and some others to form a team of young leaders to provide the same opportunity for these kids that we have in the past.** In short, we plan to offer the same kind of Day Camp (6 weeks, 3 days a week that includes tutoring, recreation, bible class, field trips and this year they get one special week of music, art, and dance), one night of overnight camp, and the teen summer employment program.

We would like to invite you to partner with us to provide this summer program. We need to raise just under \$20,000 for this program and we are already behind due to the loss of a grant we usually get each year of \$6,000. **If you are interested in sponsorship, prayer, or volunteering, please fill out the response page on the next page and send your response or [click here to donate with a credit card through Network for Good.](#)** If you are a regular supporter of John and Jacky Weidman or Sarah Hilliker we ask that you continue to send your regular funds to their ministry accounts. Please make this donation above what you normally give. Thanks!

In His Service,

Sarah, The Weidmans, and the Highland Park Community Outreach Summer Staff

**HIGHLAND PARK COMMUNITY OUTREACH  
SUMMER MINISTRY RESPONSE PAGE 2009**

If you are interested in being involved in some way with our summer ministry (*through 6 weeks of Day Camp, 1 week of overnight camp, 6 weeks of youth employment experience training, and other discipleship activities*) please check one or more of the following and return this page to us as soon as possible. Thank You:

(CHECK ALL OF THE FOLLOWING THAT APPLY)

\_\_\_ By sponsoring \_\_\_ children at \$400 for the whole summer (total gift \$\_\_\_)

\_\_\_ By sponsoring \_\_\_ children at \$100 for one week of summer camp.

\_\_\_ By sponsoring \_\_\_ youth(s) to complete the summer employment program (\$600)

\_\_\_ By giving a one-time donation of \$\_\_\_ for wherever needed.

\_\_\_ By praying regularly this summer for all of your activities, that they would done in the power of the Holy Spirit and would bear fruit in the children's lives. (Please indicate with a "yes" whether you want us to add you to our email prayer update, if you are not already on it \_\_\_)

\_\_\_ By volunteering myself for a support service, a project, or ministry event that you may have.

\_\_\_ Support services (office work, bookkeeping, computer help, mailings, etc.)

\_\_\_ Coming down and helping with Day Camp for a day or so.

\_\_\_ Being a counselor at summer camp (TBD)

\_\_\_ Getting involved in a service project (Our facility has some work to be done)

\_\_\_ Other

***PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHECKS OUT TO HIGHLAND PARK COMMUNITY  
OUTREACH AND SEND IT TO US WITH THE RESPONSE PAGE IN THE  
ENCLOSED RESPONSE ENVELOPE)***

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

***If you have any questions please call us at 313-883-1502 or  
email Sarah at [shilliker80@gmail.com](mailto:shilliker80@gmail.com) or John at [godrule242@aol.com](mailto:godrule242@aol.com).***