

Hartford City Mission Summer Newsletter, 2017



PRAISE GOD! A RECORD BREAKING YEAR!

More campers, more after school students, more lives changed!

It was the last day of camp Noah. HCM Program Director Dave Ambrose stood in front of a crowd of 65 campers. He reminded the students of all the things they had done over the summer... and how all those things served a single purpose: to introduce them to the greatest “superhero” of all time—Jesus Christ. Dave looked out at the campers: *“If any of you want to know this superhero in a personal way, I want to ask you to come up to the stage.”* Silence. Then, a camper stood up, and started walking towards the stage. Then another. And another. Until, eventually, almost the whole camp had come forward. For the next while you could see staff and students scattered throughout the room, praying together. Some were accepting Jesus into their lives for the first time. Others were recommitting their lives to Him. It was a truly beautiful time.



Camp Noah’s success comes on the heels of a Noah After School program that saw a 40% increase in the number of students enrolled, along with a new In-School program that served the entire 2nd grade at Simpson-Waverly, and the entire 4th grade at Martin Luther King elementary schools.

“Everyday I pray for people like them in my life because we all need people like them to push us to keep going. I can safely say I love them!” - Nichelle



We also caught glimpses this summer of how deeply campers are being impacted by the Camp Noah staff. As camper Nichelle put it, *“Miss April and Miss Andreina are understanding. God put them in my life to make me smile and laugh and they are people that I will never forget. Everyday I pray for people like them in my life because we all need people like them to push us to keep going. I can safely say I love them!”* In short: HCM’s impact in the North Hartford community continues to grow, and—one-by-one—children’s lives are being changed in the name of Jesus.

Thank you for your continued support of HCM. You have helped accomplish a truly record breaking year!

Ms. April chill’n with Kamryn, Gabbi, Nichelle, Biore, and Rosalie at the Attendance Field Trip to Launch

HCM CONTINUES TO GROW ... AND CHANGE

A message from the HCM Board of Directors

It is with mixed emotions that we, HCM's Board of Directors, announce that **Tim Goodwin has resigned from his position as HCM's Executive Director.** During the last year and a half under Tim's leadership and with the help of our great staff and supporters, HCM has made important strides including increases in the number of students we serve, program enhancements, professional development of our staff, additional approaches to fundraising, and more.

While we will miss Tim's day to day involvement in the ministry, we couldn't be more pleased that his next major endeavor is to procure a charter to establish the Community First School as a high-quality education option for families right here in the North End of Hartford. We have invited Tim to apply for membership on



Dave Ambrose (left), Tim Goodwin (right)

HCM's Board of Directors, and he has offered to provide ongoing consulting, on a pro bono basis, to HCM on grant writing, academic programming, and other areas. The board and staff of HCM thank Tim for his good service to our ministry and our community. We look forward to future partnership with Tim and Community First School.

HCM's Board has decided to consolidate our Program Director role into our Executive Director role going forward. We are pleased to announce that **Dave Ambrose is HCM's new Executive Director.** Dave, a graduate of The Master's School and Gordon College, has prior experience as a high school math teacher in public and Christian schools as

well as Youth and other Director positions at two Connecticut churches. Dave's passion for Hartford was ignited over years as he learned more about the city's strengths and injustices, served alongside brothers and sisters already called there to share Christ's love and most importantly, as he grew to love Hartford's people. It was here that he found his "Kingdom Calling". Dave, his wife Danielle, and their three children embraced Hartford as their community in 2012 when they purchased a home and moved into the city. At this point, Dave was still enjoying working at Wintonbury Church, but his heart was constantly being pulled towards joining God full-time in His work in the city of Hartford. In 2014, the perfect opening came through a job opportunity to serve as HCM's first Implementation Director.

Over the last three years at HCM, Dave has been instrumental in leading numerous enhancements and expansions in HCM programs, relationships with churches and schools, fundraising, and operations. His strong commitment to God's Word, the Gospel of Christ, and Hartford's families is undeniable. We look forward to Dave serving as HCM's Executive Director and believe that he will always seek the Lord's will for our ministry and, with God's leading, will achieve great things for the Kingdom here in Hartford's North End. Please join HCM's Board of Directors in welcoming Dave to his new role as our Executive Director.

HCM FALL GALA - OCTOBER 26TH!

Purchase your tickets today! Don't miss out on the excitement this fall.

If you'd like to see live performances by HCM children, hear inspirational stories from HCM parents, volunteers, church partners and staff, and watch the unveiling of our first photography exhibit—featuring Hartford photos taken by our own students through a project sponsored by the Aetna—come join us at the Gala!

The HCM Gala is part of Hartford City Mission's strategic funding plan to assure the sustainability of its life changing programs for youth and families. **By attending the Gala, you can support HCM's mission to serve the residents of North Hartford—and have fun while doing it!** Come hear how God is powerfully moving and working in our city. You will be richly blessed!

Do you own a business?

It's not too late to join our Lead and Secondary sponsors.

Lead

StanleyBlack&Decker

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A full list of sponsorship and advertising opportunities is available for the event. For information on how to become a sponsor, purchase an advertisement, reserve a seat, or get other information please contact Executive Director, Dave Ambrose, at 860-246-0132 or davea@hartfordcitymission.org.

You may also support HCM right now! Make a one time donation using the enclosed envelope



The HCM Christmas Store

This Christmas season, give the gift of dignity to Noah After School parents through the Noah Christmas Store

The HCM Christmas Store is a store for parents of our After School children. We will offer new, donated gifts to the parents at a minimal "suggested donation" cost so they can have the joy and dignity of giving their children presents for Christmas. Proceeds received by Hartford City Mission from the store will be used toward sending youth to sleepover camp this summer. Therefore, parents are supporting their children in two ways: providing Christmas gifts and providing funding for a meaningful summer camp experience!

Will you or your church consider collecting gifts for us this year?

Contact: Dave Ambrose, Executive Director, davea@HartfordCityMission.org, 860.246.0132
or visit www.hartfordcitymission.org/hcm-christmas-store.html

You are part of the HCM family!

Please support us by:

- Praying regularly for our students, parents, volunteers, and staff.
- Volunteering weekly to support one of the After School Sites or Young Life.
- Making a donation - HCM is a 501c3 non-profit.
- Advertising your business in the Annual Fall Gala program.

For more information visit our website or contact Executive Director, Dave Ambrose at davea@hartfordcitymission.org



www.hartfordcitymission.org

- Save The Date - Annual Gala October 26!
- HCM Continues to Grow and Change
- A Record Breaking Year!

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