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CHILDREN OF THE CITY

FALL 2007 EDITION, ISSUE IV



SUMMER PROGRAM Reaps Great Rewards

INNOVATIVE PROGRAM COMBINES TARGETTED HELP IN SMALL CLASSROOM SIZE ALONG WITH FOCUSED RECREATION MAKING WAVES IN NEW YORK CITY, CAUSING EDUCATORS TO TAKE NOTICE AND PARENTS TO CHEER ...

Recently, Create Success' Summer Program ended and the results were outstanding.

We are the only summer program in this community that has a strong academic focus. And why shouldn't we, with an alarming drop out rate of 48%. The fact that children are doing poorly was especially evident in the areas of reading and math because of the lack of crucial foundational skills. We tailor our program to the specific needs of each child as well as the general needs of each age group.



Students in this community suffer from many effects of poverty,

including hardships, trauma, challenges at home, language barriers, poor self-esteem and lack of confidence, all of which affect their ability to learn.

Because of our familiarity with their needs, and our holistic approach, we have been successful

in our efforts. No child is incapable of literary success. Children in our program have left Special Ed classes to join main stream classrooms. Children that were about to be placed in Special Ed were able to comfortably read after being in our program for less than 2 months.

Based on academic assessments, children in our Summer Program showed a marked increase in their Developmental Reading Assessments and several children increased one whole grade level. Based on exit interviews with counselors and tutors, most students expressed they were more comfortable reading and felt more confident in going back to school.

LIBRARY FOR LITERACY

Through the generous donation of NYCRC, Children of the City was able to secure a substantive donation of books for our Library project. This renewed the children's love of reading! The children could not even wait until the books were unpacked and organized on the shelf. They begged to look through them immediately, and its no wonder!



The books were a beautiful mix of contemporary and classic pieces that attract all readers no matter what age, level, or culture.

They are new and attractive and strongly support the message we want to give the students we serve: reading is fun and helps to enrich us both personally and academically.

“I like the library because I like to read and the after school program gives me a lot of different and interesting books to read.”
—Andrew Zheng (5th Grade)

Commerce Bank Children Learn Money Smarts at Visit to Commerce Bank

Fifty children visited Commerce Bank as part of our ongoing efforts to combat financial illiteracy and educational failure in West Brooklyn. During their visit of the 39th Street & 4th Avenue Sunset Park branch, children had a complete tour of the bank including the vault, teller stations, and the drive thru ATM, and learned about the history of Commerce Bank and its founder Francis Reid Long. Children were taught that saving means setting aside part of their money—and not just keeping what extra is left, a critical difference. The children ages 6-12, also learned how to balance a check book and were encouraged to put into practical use the knowledge they gained by opening a bank account with the \$10.00 gift coupon they received.



The future of the city is the children of the city... nothing more or less than that. And many children aren't doing well. Children of the City reaches at-risk families who are prone to financial failure, and our visit to Commerce Bank that day changed the financial outlook for fifty children in a profound way.

Legislative Breakfast tackles the Issues

Legislators, business owners, and community leaders participated in a series of meetings to address the desperate need for effective leadership in tackling issues such as high drop-out rates, the effects of poverty on children, the widening academic skills gap, and addressing social issues that hinder children from focusing on their education.

Because of this series of breakfast gatherings, Children of the City was able to present the success of our programs and create greater awareness of the work we are doing in Brooklyn. We successfully connected with elected officials and local business leaders, and as a result of these meetings we were able to procure further committed support.



carnival

Hundreds of children, teens and adults came out to our annual Carnival on the Lawn and enjoyed the games, prizes, food and fun! We were able to register many families to our various programs and services.

We are thankful for a visit from the American Museum of Natural History's Moveable Museum exhibit on dinosaurs, as well as donations from McDonalds, Gino's Ices, Frito-Lay, Utz Snacks, and others. Thank you!



HAMPTONS

Recently board member Mitchell Draizin hosted a Cocktails & Dinner Benefit at his home in the Hamptons. Guests in attendance enjoyed good conversations, great food, a spectacular sunset, and watched a moving presentation on the work that Children of the City is doing. Proceeds from this event go to support the ongoing work of Children of the City.



We welcome your donation, either by mail to:

Children of the City
740 40th Street
Brooklyn, New York 11232

Or you can donate online on our website, at:

WWW.CHILDRENOFTHECITY.ORG

EVENT WATCH

TOY DRIVE
NOV 1—DEC 12

LEGISLATIVE
BREAKFAST III
NOV 2

COMMERCE BANK
COCKTAIL RECEPTION
NOV 14

ANNUAL BENEFIT GALA
To Be Announced



Thank You!