



Summerhill Community Ministries, Inc.

Newsletter ~ November/December 2006

Sewing Inner-City Youth and Families

New Beginnings Remember Khamirah?

Khamirah was the Southside High school senior who received the "Beat the Odds" scholarship. She went through her 4 years of high school homeless with both parents were in jail. Khamirah graduated this year with a 3.9 average and is now a freshman living on campus at Georgia State University.

Her father passed away this year and her mother has been transferred to a minimum-security facility where she has earned a one-day furlough outside of the facility. She spends this time with Khamirah and stops to visit Justina and her family before returning at the end of the day.

During their time together, God continues to bring healing and restoration to this mother and daughter. Mom only has a couple of months more to serve. She looks forward to the time she can be an active mother in her daughter's life. She is a part of a work program in Atlanta and has secured a job for herself after her time is served. She thanks God for giving her a second chance and a new beginning.

Khamirah and her mother, Pamela, will celebrate Thanksgiving with Justina and her family.



Sponsor a Child for Christmas

The past few weeks, the children at Summerhill Community's After School Program have been learning about loving and giving to others. The two greatest commandments have been the motto: Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind, and love your neighbor as yourself. It is exciting that the children get to live out what they have been learning through ASP's Christmas program. Each child has made a list of two gifts they would like to give to others, and one gift they would like for themselves.

As we approach the "wrapping party" on December 21st, the kids will be doing extra chores around the house, at school, and throughout the community in order to earn "Christmas bucks." An adult will sign a form to show

that the child has completed a task, and then those Christmas bucks will be exchanged for the gifts they want to give to their loved ones. It is encouraging to see a group of young people excited about serving and giving to others during a season in which they are generally focused on just themselves.

We would love to have your help!

If you choose to sponsor a child, you will receive an card written by one of the children with three gift wishes. We ask that you purchase the gifts and turn them in to a SCM representative by Friday, December 15th. Please put the gifts in a bag with the child's name on it. If you don't have time to shop, feel free to send a donation to cover the cost of the gifts for a child. Remember that all donations are tax deductible

Reach Out

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in. I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.'" Matthew 25:35-36, 40

Zubiadah ("Zae") is one of the least. Her life has been full of difficulties - some the result of circumstances and some from poor choices. Zae was the eldest of 7 children. When her mother decided she had too many to raise she chose Zae and her brother to give away. Not understanding her mother's rejection and having no relationship with her father, Zae "looked

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for love in all the wrong places.” She left high school at 17 and had a series of unhealthy relationships. Zae is now 24 years old, with three children (the oldest is 3) and another baby on the way.

Two months ago Zae had to move out of her apartment because of a small electrical fire. God touched the heart of a neighbor who took in Zae and the kids temporarily. This neighbor was one of the after school teachers at Summerhill. God orchestrated events such that Zae was able to meet Justina Dix.

Justina has learned from years of walking and talking to many teenage girls like Zae that, as Scripture teaches, the elder women should teach the younger women. Young women are facing life decisions everyday, and many of them are failing to make right or positive choices.

As a teen girl, Justina remembers how she longed for a mentor or someone to confide in and ask questions. Her mother worked a great deal and her older sister was consumed with her own life. Justina also ended up looking for information and affirmation from the wrong sources.

As teen girls grow up to be wives and mothers, mentors and friends to others, hopefully there has been a host of godly woman like Justina who have lead the way by example and personal commitment.

Justina is patiently trying to teach and train this young mother to make choices that will better her life with and for her children. Zae is learning to be more responsible. She is having to face some truths about herself. As we all know, it is not always an easy thing to have to face “you”.



Our Flag football ended their season with the 18-under going all the way to the championship. They placed 2nd place in the league. It is the last year for a few of our players. They are now 18 and are going on to college and the Job Corps. The players will miss them, but are glad to see them move forward in life.



The 15-under placed 4th and had a good time doing it. This “rookie” team looks forward to playing again next year as they learn the art of the sport.

Redemption Fellowship Church has also helped Zae to feel loved and hopeful. Individuals have come alongside to help financially. Many have also prayed. Zae and her 3 children moved into their new apartment last week and are no longer homeless. She is excited about being “in – out of the cold” and to have a place to call home.

Zae’s heart’s desire is to work to support herself and her children. She completed the new job training at Chick-fil-A, but then had to go into the hospital for 3 days to stop premature delivery. She might

have to go on bed rest. Please keep Zae in your prayers. Pray that God’s hand would continue to be on her and her family’s circumstances. Pray that her heart will remain open and she will receive whatever the Lord wants to do in her.

Allow Christ to work through you to be a listening ear or a prayer and accountability partner to a young woman. Be part of altering the course of a difficult life. Women of God be encouraged to reach out to a young woman or teen girl today. It takes much patience, but God’s grace is sufficient.