

Summerhill Community Ministries

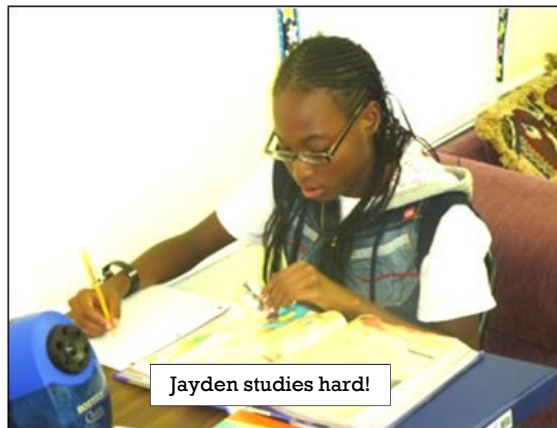


November 2011



Homework time with Ms. Justina.

After School Program (ASP)



Jayden studies hard!

We have 40 students enrolled in the After School Program. This year we have a mix of old and new students. The majority of our new students are way below grade level.

During our first week of the After School Program, two of our seniors came up to me with much excitement and said, "We're seniors!! We made it!" They know they do not have the diploma as of yet, but they were so glad to make it to the 12th grade!

After several academic struggles and setbacks, and problems at home down through the years, this group of young people have taken the word, "perseverance" to another level in the Summerhill community. This group has been a part of SCM programs, varying from 3 to 13 years.

They have asked for prayer to pass all of their classes this year and to pass all 5 parts of the high school graduation tests. Some have taken parts of these tests already, and have had to repeat the test because of missing the mark by a couple of points. But, they continue to studying hard and are determined to "make the grade!"

We will have the final results in May of 2012.



Tim is helping our high school seniors with Calculus and Trig!

After the results of the cheating scandal, many parents are very concerned about their children's academic progress. We are working very close with parents and teachers to help improve the children's academics skills, with emphasis in math, reading and language arts.

Over the years we have stressed the importance of parents supporting their children as they learn and grow, by communicating with the individuals that have an active role in the

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and Russell!



Kenneth, James, Ralph, Nicorrie, Matthew and Andrew—Class of 2012

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children's lives. This gives strong support and accountability between teachers, parents, children and after school programs. So far this school year, we are seeing that many parents are encouraged to take a more aggressive role in their child's education.

"... teachers have highly recommended personal tutoring for these kids, or they may not be able to move on to the next grade."

SCM wants to continue our mission to help inner city kids increase their academic skills in specific areas of need. Many of our kids not only performed well on the standardized testing, but made the honor roll and Principals list in 2011. We also saw improvement in reading and math skills in low performing students.

To help us accomplish our daily goals of helping the children with homework and tutoring, we have been blessed with a group of dedicated volunteers that have committed to coming at least one day each week. They work very well with our staff each day to get the job done. We are grateful.



Danny helps with homework.

Because we have a few students who are so far behind, their teachers have highly recommended personal tutoring for these kids, or they may not be able to move on to the next grade. A couple of SCM staff are willing to commit an hour on Friday afternoons to assist these children. **We are asking for any volunteers that can give 30 minutes to an hour on Friday afternoons (3:30-4:30).** Please contact Justina.

You can help this Christmas Season!

Although there are many families in need this holiday, Summerhill Community Ministries has identified 7 families that are going through a very rough financial time and could use some assistance this Christmas.

We are asking for Wal-mart, Kroger and Publix gifts cards to give to these families. SCM will provide transportation for the family to purchase a few gifts for the children and food for a nice Christmas dinner. Any gift card amount for \$25 to \$100 will really be a help.

If you'd like to send a donation to purchase gifts or a gift card, feel free to do so.

(Names have been changed)

The White Christmas Family

1 grandmother, 1 young mother,
5 children ages 1,2,7,9 and 11

The Drummer Boy Family

1 mother
4 children ages 3,5,6 and 8

The Oh Holy Night Family

1 father, 1 mother,
daughter age 19,
3 children
ages 7,12 and 15

The Silent Night Family

1 adult, 5 children ages 5,6 9, and
twins age 4 (boy & girl)

The First Noel Family

1 mother, 2 girls,
ages 8 and 10

The Joy to the World Family

1 grandmother
2 boys ages 12 and 13

The Winter Wonderland Family

1 mother 2 children
ages 5 and 6

How you can help the Teens!

We have 15 teens this year! Some of these have moved up from the 5th grade class to middle school. We need sponsorship for these kids. They have chosen 2 gifts and will work hard to earn Christmas bucks to purchase a gift for a loved one, as our littler ones are doing.

Our teens are also working diligently to keep their grades up, and studying to pass important upcoming tests. Please feel free to come meet the teens of Summerhill and share a word of encouragement and/or help one of them with homework.

If you would like to sponsor a teen, please contact Justina at justinascm@juno.com or 404-964-4604. She will give you their wish list.

We are asking that all gifts for the teens be in by December 19th. Our Christmas party is December 20th.

"Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. . ." 2 Thessalonians 3:16