



FALL 2011

DAYBREAK NEWS

Big Thank You to McLean Bible Church!

In June, McLean Bible Church raised funds for DayBreak's general operating budget with a special offering. Thanks to all who contributed to DayBreak through this offering! Over 85 percent of our contributions come from the generous people of MBC. DayBreak could not do this ministry, serve the children in Lincoln Heights, and share the gospel with so many in Washington, D.C. without your gracious support. We hope that this newsletter will serve as an encouragement to you as you read about how the Lord is using your gifts to impact the children

and families in Lincoln Heights. Praise Him for how He provides for His work!



DAYBREAK'S 10TH ANNUAL BACK-TO-SCHOOL CARNIVAL

On August 20 over 1,000 people from the community of Lincoln Heights came out to DayBreak's 10th Annual Back-to-School Carnival. The carnival was held at Marvin Gaye Park where the community enjoyed games, rides, food, music, school supplies and most importantly a Gospel presentation!

We had the privilege of partnering with four community organizations this year to make the carnival a BIG success. The Right Prep, East River Family Strengthening Collaborative, New Communities Initiative, and the 6th District of the Metropolitan Police Department all joined us this year to serve the community and throw one exciting carnival! Also, Zion Church of Landover, Maryland joined to distribute free shoes to the community.



Lincoln Heights kids enjoy the carnival.



We were incredibly blessed this year by the community of Frontline and the families of Kid's Quest and Access ministries of McLean Bible Church who provided a total of 550 bags of School Supplies to give away at the Carnival! Kids ran through the carnival playing games to earn tickets, which they turned in to get on the rides, earn prizes, and receive a backpack full of brand new school supplies.



Free shoes met the needs of many!

It was amazing to watch the kids from the community smiling and laughing as they got their faces painted, climbed the rock wall, hopped along in a 3-legged race, soaked each other in a sponge relay, and raced through the moon bounce obstacle course. What a great way to kick off the school year! Thank you for your prayers and support for this event, it was a huge success!

Summer Camp

Most children look forward to a summer of relaxation and laziness. However, the academic break can result in a loss of important math and reading skills. Students then enter the new school year unprepared and may fall behind.

DayBreak used its five-week summer program to address this critical need. Our two goals this summer for our children were to have them read at least thirty minutes a day and to learn all of their multiplication or addition and subtraction facts. Thanks to an ongoing partnership with Cornerstone Christian School,

DayBreak was provided classroom space to pursue these goals.

Our older children participated in a nutrition class, including a trip to Clagette Farm in Maryland where they picked fresh vegetables to make a pasta salad. Each Monday, Miss Michelle, one of our amazing volunteers, came to teach and do science activities. Wednesdays were "pool day"—allowing everyone relief from the summer's heat. Mr. Dave, one of our community partners, volunteered his Thursday afternoons to ensure the children stayed active with fun outdoor games. We spent Fun Fridays at an area water park or flying down a roller coaster at Six Flags.

Academically, two thirds of our students mastered their multiplication facts, reciting them with no errors. One of our students insisted on not only reading from her library book, but also reading from Proverbs 31. A local teacher volunteered her time each morning to work with struggling students.

We were blessed to have six phenomenal college interns who worked hard and had a passion to love and share the gospel with the children and families. Not only did the interns creatively implement lesson plans, it was not uncommon to find them playing basketball on the neighborhood court or visiting children and families in their

homes. As a result, relationships were built and opportunities emerged for Christ's hope and love to be shown.

The DayBreak staff and interns were stretched, challenged, and shown God's faithfulness. And most importantly, the Gospel message was shared.

One generation commended another generation by speaking of the Lord's awesome works and His great deeds.

Psalm 145:4, 6

Mentoring Builds Lives and Shows Love

DayBreak's Mentoring program aims to demonstrate God's love to inner-city children through one-on-one relationships that bring support and encouragement based on the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Over the past few months, we have experienced a steady stream of new mentors and have taken significant steps toward matching all the children in the after-school program with a mentor. We now have female mentors for some children outside of our elementary programs and we continue to pray for and recruit more male mentors for the boys.

Over the summer, we had successful mentor socials! Rick Pratt hosted a summer pool party and barbecue. The kids had a blast swimming, paddle boating, and playing games with their mentors. In August, all the mentors and students met for breakfast at Denny's then served together at DayBreak's Back-to-School Carnival.

Remember, the more mentors we have, the more children in Lincoln Heights can experience Christ's love in these one-on-one relationships that have proven to make significant impacts on children's lives.

Research shows that mentoring enhances academic motivation and achievement, improves school attendance, reduces classroom behavior problems, reduces the likelihood of drug use, and strengthens communication skills. So, please help us get the word out about this amazing way to share Christ with a child in Lincoln Heights!



PRAYER REQUESTS!

- *Pray for more **male mentors**.*
- *Pray for the **children** as they have all returned to school. Pray for **academic success, focus in school, and good behaviors so they can learn.***
- *Pray for our **After School Program, staff and volunteers.***
- *Pray for **guidance and direction from the Lord** as the staff and board of directors of DayBreak consider our future, growing the ministry, and how we can make a bigger impact in Lincoln Heights.*
- *Pray for the **salvation** of the children in our programs and their parents.*
- *Pray for the **safety** of our volunteers, staff and community.*
- *And, that we would continue to focus on **preaching the gospel** and keeping the Word of God on our lips.*

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

Pray

This is God's work in Lincoln Heights, and we need prayer warriors on their knees asking Him to move in the community and in the hearts of individuals. Please go on our website and sign up to be a prayer warrior to get our monthly prayer needs and updates emailed to you.

www.daybreakkids.org/about/pray/

Volunteer

There are many ways to volunteer with DayBreak – through one-time large events or on-going service to the community. Please check out our website.

www.daybreakkids.org/volunteer

Give

DayBreak is an independent 501c3 fully dependent on God's provision through individual donors. Would you consider being a DayBreak donor? Go online to give a one-time gift or set up a recurring monthly donation.

www.daybreakkids.org/donate

NEW THIS FALL

After a very successful summer program, we are excited to see what this new school year brings at DayBreak.

We have seen the Lord work in the hearts of children and families in Lincoln Heights for the last 10 years and we are looking forward to His work through new initiatives in this year's After School Program.

With the addition of a new staff member, and a more focused approach of individualized student tutoring in academics, we will be moving toward a strategy to improve the student's academic levels in reading and math and encouraging them in future educational endeavors.

DayBreak has also established a new scholarship fund in memory of our former staff member, Sarah Napier. The scholarship fund will go to help children pursue their educational goals through providing scholarship awards to assist parents with private school costs in primary and secondary schools and to help pay for college expenses for those graduating from high school.

Lastly, meet our new Education Specialist, Adria Hutson! We are excited she has joined the team and look forward to how the Lord will use her in Lincoln Heights.



Adria Hutson,
Education Specialist

Before I moved to D.C, I taught and worked with a campus ministry, but was particularly burdened to do work that impacted the lives of children and

families, spiritually and practically.

When I moved to the D.C area I worked with a few after-school programs throughout the city and loved the opportunity to serve kids and families in these venues. I began pursuing a Master's in Reading Education so I could gain tools that would help me improve in my ability to meet the students' academic needs.

Now I have the great opportunity to work with Daybreak to use my experience and training as I serve as the educational specialist. I'm looking forward to seeing what the Lord will do in the kids' lives, both academically and spiritually.