A SUMMER TO REMEMBER WITH CAMP HOPE

Working each week, our staff has seen reading levels, attention spans, and love for learning grow in our Education Program. May marks the end of this school year which also means the start of summer. Summer, which should be a time of sun and games, brings stress for many families. Without the classroom for their students, some working parents struggle with being able to find a constructive place for their child. A few years ago after seeing this need, Camp Hope was created centered around Christ.

From June 6 - July 29, 2022, we open our doors Monday through Friday to students for camp activities. With swimming lessons, crafts, Bible lessons, and snacks, it is the most exciting way to spend a summer. Our goal is for each of our 75 campers to be fully sponsored for $1,400 per student. In total, we are trying to reach $105,000 for a fully funded summer! We also challenge our kids that learning doesn’t pause in May. Our daily routine includes summer reading and time for writing and learning.

Our summer staff break into groups to help support each child. Volunteer teams come bringing worship songs and crafts for the kids. For those who can't volunteer in person, you can partner with us financially. You can partner with us as a donor to ensure that each child has the books, food, and Christ's love to make their summer unforgettable.
We all know how vital food can be in bringing people together. From a plate of home cooked food to the groceries that make those meals possible, we have seen so much joy in our Essential Food program. We have a neighbor who has been coming to our building since it was the YMCA and her kids were in daycare. She watched them grow up in Jackson and has seen downtown change significantly. Every month now, she comes to receive food and prayer at the same building she used to bring her kids.

The number of lives and neighbors we see weekly is only growing. This summer, we plan to move our food pantry across the street to our much larger facility to house more food, pray for more people, and help more in the community. The equipment, freezers and refrigerators, shelving, and staff increase will be large but we are excited to be able to share Christ more in our city! With that growth comes need in the form of donors and people who want to sponsor one of our families monthly. There are also additional expenses with moving to our new facility. Learn more about how you can contribute on our website.

So many people see the need in Jackson and want to help. They see the communities in neglect and the neighbors who just need a helping hand. Our mission statement is one that anyone can be a part of: we are neighbors willing to engage our community with the love of Christ. That looks like our staff coming in weekly to keep our programs running, camp counselors working with our kids, and volunteers jumping in to contribute. But what if there was an option somewhere in between volunteer and staff?

Our Engage Jxn program allows you to immerse in a lifestyle of active faith longer than just a short volunteer experience. From August 15, 2022 - May 15, 2023, you can sign up to live in the community you’re serving. Every week, you can join in with our programs, connect with our neighbors and fellow staff, and learn what being involved in practical missions looks like. With a weekly Bible study, 3 day retreat, and time to make friendships with those in the program, it can be a great experience for those looking to see the impact of serving Jesus in practical ways on a daily basis.

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