

Path To Shine

May 2013

Morrow Moves Forward



Our newest Affiliate is located in Morrow, and will be run by volunteers from St. Augustine's of Canterbury Episcopal Church. They will be working with children whose families are temporarily housed at the Calvary Refuge Center in Forest Park. The shelter provides the families with 18—24 months of stability while they get back on their feet. The children all attend the same day-care when school is out, and this is where the Morrow volunteers will provide them with additional tutoring and mentoring support. All of us are excited to meet the children next August.

Thank You ECF!



The Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta
EPISCOPAL CHARITIES FOUNDATION

When was the first time your child saw a movie in a movie theater? How many times have your children eaten at a restaurant where they sit down at a table and are served? Do you remember your first visit to a professional sports game? Thanks to grants from Episcopal Charities Foundation the children in Path To Shine have enjoyed these types of experiences, that many families would think were routine. This year's \$3000 grant from ECF will be shared among our current locations to ensure more children can enjoy these types of outings.

Three Principles That Differentiate Us

We believe in small groups and small ratios. A typical Path To Shine program will have no more than 20 children, with adult to child ratios at 2:1. This ensures the children receive the attention they crave—and need—while the adult volunteers are not overwhelmed. It also provides us with opportunities to form meaningful relationships with the children and their families.

We want a program that is sustainable. When programs rely on volunteers, they are more likely to be sustainable if they are of a manageable size. We can find 5 or 10 volunteers willing to make a weekly commitment more easily than we can find 50 such volunteers. We can probably provide 20 sandwiches

from our own kitchen but if we have to provide 100 sandwiches, we might need to ask for reimbursement. We can buy 20 boxes of crayons more readily than 80, and so on.

3) We don't want to get in the real estate business! There are plenty of churches that have empty space during weekday afternoons, and we believe that we can run Path To Shine more cost-effectively and with fewer resources by partnering with churches such as these. We don't need a dedicated building with all of the inherent overhead and maintenance costs and headaches to run an effective after-school program. These 3 principles make us quite different from most after-school programs but we believe they help us keep our focus on the children.



The Bishop Visits Macon



Last week the children of our Macon affiliate met the Episcopal Bishop of the Diocese of Atlanta, the Rt. Rev. Rob Wright, when he attended their regular Tuesday Path To Shine session. The Rev. Michael Fruitho was also in attendance, visiting from Haiti, where he is an Episcopal priest. The two visitors made it quite the cultural day for these young children.



Update from Canton

We have been blessed with a successful start as of January of this year. Our staff of nine tutors is a major factor in this success. Organization of three cabinets for materials and supplies, organization of our library and organization of special events for the children have all been arranged by our volunteers. The children are quite young (K-3rd grade) so developing a solid routine for their active life styles has been challenging. The books and supplies furnished by the Path To Shine headquarters were invaluable to get us off the ground, and we owe a big debt of thanks to the Forever Fed program headed by Susan Vanderhaden for the weekly snacks for the children. Our last meeting will be May 16th for this academic year, and we are looking forward to another year with the children as school begins in the fall.

P.S. Congratulations to Pastor Zane Yi of Canton Adventist who earned his PhD in April

Your Chance to Get Involved



From Smyrna and Marietta we will be taking the children to a Braves game and to the Marietta/Cobb Museum of Art for an afternoon of creativity. We'll also have 3 weeks of

themed learning with stories and activities. From Canton the children will be going to an animal ranch and enjoying a playground picnic. And in Macon there will be a community-wide Vacation Bible School—a hit last year with about 100 kids and adults involved. While our regular after-school volunteers commit to helping weekly, our summer schedule is more relaxed and we are happy to have you join us for a few hours one day, or for an excursion. Transportation costs add up quickly so if you have a large vehicle and would like to help us out, please let us know.



Ugly Pants Golf



Ugly Pants is about FUN! \$125 buys a round of golf, boxed

lunch and then dinner back at St. Benedict's Episcopal Church. Have the family join you for dinner for an extra \$15, where everyone can enjoy the music and silent auction. Our trophy prize goes to the wearer of the ugliest pants regardless of their golf score, so don some britches and enjoy the day..

Please go to our website at www.pathtoshine.org or check our Facebook page at facebook.com/pathtoshine for more information about our programs. Contact information for each of our locations (Canton, Macon, Marietta, Smyrna and Morrow) is also on our website under "Programs and Locations".

Feedback or questions? Please contact our Executive Director, the Rev. Lesley-Ann Drake at 678-279-4308 or lesleyann@pathtoshine.org Our address is: Path To Shine, 2160 Cooper Lake Rd SE, Smyrna, GA 30080

Going Green

We now send most of our newsletters via e-mail. Using e-mail keeps more money for programs for the children. If you prefer a paper newsletter, please let us know.