

Path To Shine®

August 2017

From the Director



Summer time is over, and it's back to school for children in Georgia! **Path To Shine** will be walking alongside more than 170 children this fall as they participate in our programs at 14 different sites. For some programs, this is just the beginning, or the start of their first complete academic year. For others this is the seventh year, which speaks volumes about the integrity of the program and of the men and women who give of their time to do this work. It's exciting and we're busy but we are quite clear that we couldn't do it without your support and donations of all kinds. Thank you!

[Lesley-Ann](#)

P. S. Help us continue supporting children. Donate at www.pathtoshine.org

Kennesaw Kicks Off



With determination and perseverance, Donna saw her hard work rewarded when nine volunteers showed up for training last week. With boxes of books, donated supplies, rooms waiting to be used, and curriculum with weekly lesson plans, the team is set for the long term. The school social worker stopped by to thank everyone for their time; she knows the impact of programs like **Path To Shine®**. We can't wait to meet the children in a few weeks! Thanks Father Ben and Christ Church Kennesaw for your support in making this all possible!

Summer Antics

The children from our Smyrna and Marietta programs met for a week of art camp and a week of sports camp. Thanks to a grant from United Way of Cobb County we were able to take the children to see the Atlanta Dream basketball team! The children learned about setting goals (one of the children told us she wants to be a surgeon!) and they learned about practicing over and over. They even decorated notebooks so they could collect autographs after the game.

At art camp, the children learned about Jackson Pollack and made splatter paint pictures. They had fun with science making slime and silly putty and lava lamps. And each day they enjoyed lunch and strengthened friendships.



Partnering with Provisions Today



Provisions Today began partnering with the **Canton Path To Shine** program in Dec. 2016. A non-profit founded by Becky Becker, *Provisions Today* works to help families in Canton. Together with Brenwood Academy, they provided Christmas stockings and Easter baskets. Last May, Ms. Becker led a clothes drive for the families in the Canton community whom we know through our ministry. This month *Provisions Today* is collecting boxes of school supplies for each student in our program to keep and use at home. Many of our students tell us that they would like to color, draw or finish their work at home but lack the supplies to do so. This gift will help enormously.

Thank you, *Provisions Today* for partnering with us to help children in Cherokee County!

Perry's Camp

A busy week of summer camp included a visit to a paint-your-own-pottery studio; a reading of *The Giving Tree* with a copy of the book given to each child, as well as a project to re-purpose old books into art projects; a visit from an artist; and a visit from a musician with her guitar and several other instruments. But the highlight was the perennial favorite - a visit to the local fire station! Getting inside the fire truck was fun, but seeing all of the life-saving devices, especially the "jaws of life", gave the children an appreciation for the firefighters who put their own lives at risk when doing their job. See our website (under the locations tab) to read more, and see more photos.



Ugly Pants October 15 and 16

Sign up at tiny.cc/UglyPantsEvent to play golf, and/or for pre-tournament brunch on Sunday. (You don't have to play golf to enjoy our fabulous mimosa brunch on Sunday after church.)

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For more information about Path To Shine® and about the articles in this newsletter, please visit our website at www.pathtoshine.org or contact us: Lesley-Ann Drake, Executive Director, Path To Shine®, 2160 Cooper Lake Road SE, Smyrna, GA 30080. 678-279-4308 lesleyann@pathtoshine.org facebook.com/pathtoshine