



YOUTH UNLIMITED (TORONTO YFC)

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Benjamin Osei

2009 Annual Report

I am very pleased to give this update of the 2009 ministry year. I am very grateful for your prayers and financial support, which made it possible for me to receive full support for my salary and also program expenses.

WAVE

The W.A.V.E (Winners with an Active Voice of Excellence) Boys' and Girls' Club continued throughout the year at Agape ministries. This program was led entirely by volunteers from Agape and Friendship Church. Specific themes covered were self-worth, time management, self-control, character and leadership development. The youth also had the opportunity to go to the Ontario Science Centre.

HOOP 2 HOPE

We continued the Hoop 2 Hope program with the financial support from the African Canadian Christian Network (ACCN). The funding came to an end in June 2009 but there was some money left to carry the program to the end of the year.

The younger group of 9-14 year-olds continued to meet weekly at the Oakdale Community Centre on Saturdays from 6pm to 9pm with an average attendance of 30 youth.

The older youth group of 15 to 23 year-olds continued to meet at Westview Collegiate from 6:30pm -9:30pm every Friday and proceeded from there to 265 Eddystone Avenue for social time until 11:45p.m. There was an average attendance of 35 youth every week. The teaching sessions during the centre court break time focused on discovering their potential and purpose for living. The greatest difficulty we encountered during the year has been the withdrawal of key adult mentors who helped with supervision, coaching and mentorship. In spite of this, the program continued to grow with at least two new youth joining weekly.

In February we welcomed eight student interns from the University of Toronto Department of Urban studies who did one month of field placement with us. They participated in community meetings, the Hoop 2 Hope basketball program, the WAVE boys' and girls' club and the Straight Talk program. I also took them by turns to walk in the community – mostly through the public housing areas

ELITE SOCCER PROGRAM

We started a soccer outreach program last year which proved very successful. Over 70 new students joined and competed in tournaments during the summer. They continued to practice indoors in the fall. This granted us an opportunity to reach out to youth who are not interested in basketball.

STRAIGHT TALK

This youth discussion group continued throughout the year through a partnership with *Y-Connect* a local youth mental health agency. By facilitating these weekly discussions, youth were given the opportunity to speak out about issues the concerned them.

SEEDS OF HOPE SUMMER DAY CAMP

The 2009 camp was very successful. Thanks to ***GMP Securities LP*** who provided the funding to cover the daily operation of the camp, hire three staff and also providing the money for six day trips and five nights of camping for 66 youth and volunteers at Camp Kwasind. With the approval of the Federal member of parliament for York West, we received the HRSDC grants to hire four students as counselors for the camp. The Focus on Youth program also placed three students with us there by bringing our summer staff to ten. This helped us to admit sixty children at the day camp.

PERSONAL REPORT

I am happy to report that I received full financial support for the year for my salary and program cost. Thank you very much for your partnership in this endeavor. Transformation is gradually happening in this community. There was only one incident of fatal death in the community last year and all the youth we are working with were saved from harm.

In addition to individual donations, the following Companies and Churches donated towards the Outreach:

- **Across Boundaries, Toronto, Ontario**
- **African Canadian Christian Network, Toronto, Ontario**
- **Fallingbrook Heights Baptist Church, Toronto, Ontario**
- **Friendship Community Church, Toronto, Ontario**
- **GMP Securities LP, Toronto, Ontario**
- **Heritage Christian Reformed Church, Brampton, Ontario**
- **Hope Fellowship Christian Reformed Church, Oshawa, Ontario**
- **Lisle Memorial Baptist Church, Toronto, Ontario**
- **Peoples Church, Toronto, Ontario**
- **University Presbyterian Church, Toronto, Ontario**

Sincerely,

Benjamin