



# NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER, INC.

## 94th Annual Report 2006-2007

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Nancy Shervanick, President  
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### OUR PROGRAMS

- Child Care
  - Infant/Toddler
  - Preschool
- After School
  - Fall Break Enrichment
  - Spring Break Enrichment
- Junior Girl Teen
- Summer Enrichment
- Senior Adult
- Emergency Food Services
  - Soup Kitchen
  - Bagged Food

### Report from the Board President

The Neighborhood Center has a logo on its building of a loaf of bread and a fish with the words “Miracle of Sharing.” Because of the love and care of many individuals, the miracle of sharing happens every day here in Camden.

The Center continues in the tradition of its founders (the Methodist Deaconess’ Home) by offering programs to individuals and families to help meet their needs—needs such as loving care and instruction for small children in our *Infant/Toddler* and *Preschool* programs, Bible Study, tutoring and wholesome recreation for youth in our *After School, Junior Girl Teens* and *Summer, Spring and Fall Break Enrichment* programs; basic food in times of special need as in our *Soup Kitchen* and *Emergency Bagged Food* programs, as well as meeting the need for Christian fellowship in our

### Senior Adult programs.

Many people share their resources and talent to make the ministry of the Neighborhood Center possible—truly a miracle of sharing. Together we can continue to touch the lives of individuals and families and continue to be a witness to the power of Jesus Christ.

- Nancy Shervanick



General Staff (l to r): front row: Melinda Gulyas, Pauly Bie-secker, Elaine Noll, Tess Holley & Lisa Tremont. Back row: Luis Rodriguez, Sheldon MacDonald, Kenneth Williams, Tim Humeniuk, Nancy Anderson, Kaprena Morris, Hector Baez & Veronica Rivera. Not pictured: Sharon Gibson, Pamela Martin, Evelyn Morris & Lise Gaule.

### Report from the Executive Director

Over the years, the miraculous hand of the Lord has been evident in many ways in the ministry of the Neighborhood Center. Through our outreach in the Camden community, families have been helped and individual lives have been transformed.

As a Christian social service agency, our desire continues to be to build relationships with those who participate in our programs in order that we might earn the right to share the gospel of Jesus Christ and disciple children and adults in their faith.

Last year I wrote to you about our need to make some major building improvements here at the Center. While we were not able to address all of the areas, I am happy to report that the Con-

tinuing Corp provided funding for air conditioning to be installed in the gymnasium in early February. This much-needed addition will greatly improve the quality of life for children and adults in our programs during the hot summer months.

During 2006-2007 several employees left to move on to other jobs and we had to face the challenge of keeping Center programs running with fewer staff. Months were spent in advertising for the vacant positions, reading resumes and conducting interviews in the search for new employees. Sacrifices had to be made by the staff. Some of us learned new jobs to fill in for the vacancies while others maintained their own responsibilities and worked additional hours as needed. I am pleased to share the news that in early

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## Report from the past and current Youth Programs Directors

Last summer, our **Summer Enrichment** program averaged 103 children in daily attendance. These children enjoyed trips to lakes and the YMCA. But most importantly, they had an opportunity to hear the gospel



2006 Summer Enrichment children and staff.

of Jesus Christ. In a new weekly activity called "Fun and Faith", each class had to give a presentation based on the biblical theme for that week. Themes included: biblical rhymes, scripture memory and the crucifixion. Not only did the children have a good time, but the biblical message was reinforced. Our Closing Celebration's theme was "Ready For the Battle". Our 5 and 6 yr olds wowed the packed audience by reciting all the books of the Bible by heart. The 9 and 10 yr olds ended the evening with a poem about the crucifixion of Jesus and then a "We Have the Victory in Jesus" praise dance.

Currently we have 52 children



After School team: (l to r): Front row: Danielle Pounds (volunteer), Sarah Mulvenna. Back row: Donna Kaklamanos (volunteer), Tracy Melcher, Lisa Tremont (Youth Programs Dir.), Brenda Feaster, DJ Brito.

registered in our **After School** Program. At the Thanksgiving Dinner, the children expressed thankfulness to God with songs of praise. Over 60 parents attended. Our **Fall Enrichment** program provided full-day care during a week-long public school closing due to a teachers' convention. Over 25 children participated in devotions, gym games, Bible study and crafts.

After over four years as Youth Programs Director, I resigned the position this past January in order to pursue my educational goals and finish my degree. I continue to work part-time at the Center. I am so grateful to have been a part of this



After School children share their knowledge of the fruit of the spirit.

vital ministry. Please continue to pray for the work of the Center and its staff.

- Kaprena Morris

As the new Youth Programs Director, I am humbled by this awesome responsibility and am committed to help these precious children receive all of what God has planned for them.

Regular **After School** activities include Praise and Worship and "prayer circle" time, in which the children pray for each other, family and friends and the Center's work. The goal of these activities is to teach the children how to pray daily and help them build and express their love for Christ. In order to reinforce the Bible lessons we emphasize life applications which help the children discover how to lead victorious lives in Christ. In

March the children studied the lives of Daniel and his friends along with



Praise and Worship with the After School children.

some of the parables of Jesus. This prompted a 3<sup>rd</sup> grader to ask, "Why do bad things happen to good people?" and a 5-year old asked a counselor to pray with him to behave better in class. What opportunities to help these children learn more about who Christ is!

During **Spring Break Enrichment**, a week-long full-day program, we studied Christ's ministry in his life, death and resurrection. In addition to games, crafts and other recreational activities, various Praise and Youth teams as well as Pastors came to share the gospel message.

Though we are excited by the changes we see in the children, we recognize that what we teach here needs to be reinforced at home. So we are exploring ways to strengthen ties with each child's family.

We are grateful for your support and prayers.

- Lisa Tremont



One-on-one help with reading.

*The Neighborhood Center exists to show the love of God and the reconciling power of Jesus Christ, minist*

## Report from the Junior Girl Teens

This past year was a difficult one for our **Junior Girl Teen** program. Pauly Biesecker and Michelle Perez, new coordinators for 2005-2006, could not continue to serve due to family matters.

However, this Spring, Lisa Tremont joined our staff as Youth Program Director. We are grateful for her presence and excited about what the Lord is doing in our **Junior Girl Teen** program. The girls meet Wednesday evenings, prepare dinner together, have a time of worship, study God's Word and dedicate time to learning skits, songs and dramas to share with the community. Their study is based on a Women of Faith Bible study called "Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts". We hope to create

an environment in which the girls feel comfortable sharing their struggles



Tracy and Lisa with the Junior Girl Teens.

and dreams and to provide a Biblical perspective toward tackling the challenges they face. In addition to discovering their gifts and passions, we are helping them set and reach specific

goals.

*"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." - Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)*

In mid April, the girls assisted in a parent dinner for the **After School** Program. They helped to serve the meal and performed a silent skit that highlights the ways in which individual sin affects the community around us.

*Putting the Neighborhood Center in your will is a gift that keeps on giving. ☺*

## Report from the Child Care Director

*"Praise God from Whom all blessings flow..."*

Each May, the Neighborhood Center's **Child Care** programs gear up for the summer to come while at the same time focus on completing the September-to-June school year. We look forward to the opportunity to spend a summer reading God's Word, praising, praying, singing and talking about what God has placed in our hearts to share with young ones.

During the summer of 2006, we had an excellent team of summer teachers and aides, and although we had many substitutes to "weave into" the ten weeks, they too were of the highest caliber.

We are privileged to work with approximately 41 of Camden parents' most "prized possessions"—their children—for this brief but formative time in their young lives. Whether a child is six months old in Infant Care, two or three years old in Toddler Care, or three or four years old in Abbott Preschool (and beyond into school-aged Center programs), we are grateful when we see God move each one into new stages of growth and

development.

We have had a year graced with church involvement; having volunteers who come to Camden to work as small groups or one-on-one with Center children, reading and visiting in the classrooms, or having cross-motor fun on the playground. We also have had



Child Care staff (l to r): Nilsa DeJesus, Debra Graham, Patricia Kelley, Nancy Anderson (Child Care Dir.) Pamela Martin (Family Worker & Asst. Child Care Dir.), Annie Williams, June Rivera, Valerie Cook & Christine Morrissey.

monetary donations ear-marked specifically for books that reinforce God's Word in the classroom, and books that went home with each child at Christmas time. We are presently looking forward to using some of these new materials in the classrooms this coming summer. We are grateful for the benefactors whose donations have made this possible.

- Nancy Anderson

## Report from the Family Worker

*"I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work." - John 9:4 (KJV)*

In addition to my responsibilities as Assistant Director of the Center's **Child Care** program, I am the Center's Family Worker. I have been blessed again this school year to see families of infants, toddlers and preschoolers grow and mature spiritually. Some of my duties as Family Worker include processing enrollment as well as giving resources, attendance and transfers. In addition, I meet with each family of our 30 **Preschool** children a minimum of two times during the school year. These visits are either in the family's home or here at the Center.

The main goal of a visit is to ensure that each family is doing well. Parents share and update me on any successes or difficulties they may be having. I truly enjoy each visiting experience because, not only do I give, but I receive so much in return as I witness the love and care these hard-working parents have for their children. I have great expectations for the future of these precious little ones.

- Pamela Martin

## Report from the Executive Director

(Continued from front page)

January we were able to fill three positions and started the process of training these new employees.

As we look to the future, we realize again that we must continue to rely on the Lord for the continuation of this work, not only for financial and material support but also for providing volunteers who will give of their time and become personally involved with the Center. Our prayer is that individuals, families and churches will be challenged to increase their commitment to missions and join us in our outreach here in Camden.

Question: When is the last time

you donated vacation time to serve in the city?

- Timothy Humeniuk

## Report from the Senior Adults

Our seniors, a couple of whom have been in the area nearly a century, meet for an in-depth **Adult Bible Study** on Wednesdays and the more light-hearted **Fifty Plus Club** on Thursdays.

The Bible Study this year has averaged 12 attendees. We enjoy the Bible lesson and time of worshipping Christ together. Thursday's Club averages 12 to 15 members. At each meeting we enjoy lunch and fellowship. Special activities include visiting area churches to sing gospel songs and give inspirational readings.

## Report from Emergency Services

The **Emergency Food Services** program operates the **Soup Kitchen**, serving healthy lunches every weekday throughout the year, and **Emergency Bagged Food**, which provides families in need with three full days of meals for each family member.

In 2006 the **Soup Kitchen** served 25,559 meals. **Emergency Bagged Food** provided 8,091 meals. We are thankful for the many people who continue to volunteer, no matter the weather conditions, to prepare and serve these meals. For many, lunch at the Center proves to be the only meal of the day.



A Soup Kitchen guest.

Do you have **QUESTIONS** about our programs, volunteering, or making donations?  
Please call us @ 856-365-5295.



	Budget 2006	Actual 2006
<b>INCOME</b>		
<b>Church Support</b>		
GBGM-National Grant	20,592	22,880
GBGM - UMW Supplemental/Special Grants	22,280	19,382
Annual Conference Allocation	30,000	30,000
Churches Through Conference	48,372	40,065
Local Churches	29,076	32,378
Local UMW/UMM	37,533	38,357
Co-Workers	10,055	240
Continuing Corporation	<u>3,515</u>	<u>9,894</u>
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>201,423</b>	<b>193,196</b>
<b>Non-Church Support</b>		
Board of Education	254,383	260,838
FEMA	41,959	41,075
NJ - Div of Family Development	143,361	127,308
Other Government Sources	129,213	104,923
United Way	5,437	6,199
Fund Raising	99,554	139,403
Corporate/Foundation & Grants	80,000	79,670
Membership Fees	79,036	75,696
Other	<u>7,380</u>	<u>8,189</u>
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>840,323</b>	<b>843,301</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>1,041,746</b>	<b>1,036,497*</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Salaries & Wages	625,342	585,636
Employee Benefits	104,566	111,969
Payroll Taxes	58,437	56,599
Program Expenses	111,966	86,171
Program Transportation	17,866	16,553
Office Expenses	20,442	25,742
Buildings, Grounds,	22,770	15,102
Heat & Utilities	26,272	25,187
Other	54,085	62,774
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>1,041,746</b>	<b>985,733</b>
<b>INCOME LESS EXPENSES</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>50,764**</b>

Notes: Figures are subject to final audit adjustments.

Expenses were lower due to unfilled positions. Employees were hired in January 2007.

## NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER, INC. STAFF

Timothy Humeniuk (FT)	Executive Director
Nancy Anderson (PT)	Child Care Director
Kaprena Morris (FT)	2006 Youth Programs Director
Pamela Martin (FT)	Family Worker & Assist. Child Care Dir.
Hector Baez (FT)	Cook
Pauly Biesecker (PT)	Bookkeeper/FEMA Director
D.J. Brito (PT)	After School Counselor
Valerie Cook (PT)	Teacher Assistant
Nilsa DeJesus (FT)	Infant/Toddler Aide
Brenda Feaster (PT)	After School Counselor
Lise Gaule (FT)	2007 Special Projects Manager
Sharon Gibson (PT)	Nurse
Debra Graham (FT)	Preschool Teacher
Melinda Gulyas (FT)	2006 Special Projects Manager
Tess Holley (FT)	Receptionist
Patricia Kelley (FT)	Preschool Aide
Ellen Lehr (PT)	Accountant
Tracy Melcher (PT)	After School Counsel. & JGT Coord.
Sheldon MacDonald (PT)	Accountant
Evelyn Morris (PT)	Bus Driver
Christine Morrissey (FT)	Preschool Teacher
Sarah Mulvenna (PT)	After School Counselor
Elaine Noll (PT)	Admin Assist. & Volunteer Coordinator
Michelle Perez (PT)	Jr. Girl Teen Coordinator
June Rivera (FT)	Infant/Toddler Caregiver
Veronica Rivera (FT)	Floater
Luis Rodriguez (FT)	Building & Grounds Keeper
Lisa Tremont (FT)	2007 Youth Programs Director
Anita Tucker (PT)	Receptionist
Annie Williams (FT)	Preschool Aide
Kenneth Williams (FT)	Assist. Building & Grounds Keeper
14 Summer Enrichment program counselors and staff	
4 Summer Preschool staff	
FT = Full Time; PT = Part Time	