



Restoring Hope... Building Dreams

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The seeds of Hoosier Boys Town
are blossoming in
Campagna Academy!



Issue 1 Volume 1

Restoring Hope... Building Dreams - Fall 2007

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MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT



Dear Friends and Campagna Supporters,

One of my favorite times, as a local school administrator, was when Father Campagna would invite the Dyer Central (now Lake Central) administration to join him for dinner. Besides being a gracious host, we experienced first hand his passion and commitment to providing a loving, home like and supportive environment for the young boys he brought to what was then called Hoosier Boys Town. He personally knew them all and would share with us about their past and what he dreamed could be in their future. He always concluded those meetings by challenging us to join him in making a real difference in their lives.

Sixty years later Campagna Academy is still committed to his vision of "Restoring Hope and Building Dreams" for young men and women of northwest Indiana. The current Board is actively engaged in helping the staff meet the needs of clients today and at the same time, planning for the future in a very intentional way. In case you haven't been by our campus recently, we are again building for the future and this facility will be serving a unique population of young men and women in need of more interventions. A wider range of services will allow us to transition our residents to more appropriate programs, as the need arises.

As caretakers for this unique population, our Board wants to make sure that each of you knows there are real faces and broken lives that our staff is successfully helping to reshape and empower toward a brighter future. Our pledge, to the young people who enter our doors, to their families, to this community and to Father Campagna, is that we will continue to be proactive in providing premier rehabilitative services for society's troubled youth.

The entire Campagna family believes that all lives can and will be touched by the miracle of Love.

Jeanne Wese,
President of the Board

CAMPAGNA WINS GREAT LAKE AWARD

Charitable work is often considered a labor of love. But in today's world, running a successful non-profit also requires fiscal responsibility, effective personnel management, good governance, measurable social outcomes, and high public accountability. A tall order to say the least! This Fall, Campagna Academy was recognized for its excellence in each of these as this year's recipient of the Great Lake Award.

Sponsored by the Legacy Foundation, Inc. and GRANTS, Inc, this coveted award celebrates excellence in non-profit management and offers its recipients \$10,000 for continued training. "One need only to look at the list of non-profits competing for this award to understand what an honor it is to receive it," explained CEO Bruce Hillman. "We are grateful to the Legacy Foundation and Grants Inc. for inspiring us and other

northwest Indiana non-profits to strive for achieving excellence in every area of our organization."



CEO Bruce Hillman with
The Legacy Foundation's
Executive Director Nancy Johnson

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

Each year Campagna Academy serves over 300 at-risk youth & their families in Northwest Indiana!

Of the 17 students that graduated from Campagna's Charter School this year, 14 of them are now attending post-secondary schools!

This year Campagna Academy has heard from alumni living in Texas, California, Florida, and Australia. Your support isn't changing lives just at Campagna, it's changing the world!

DON'T GOOGLE, GOODSEARCH!

What if you could give Campagna Academy a penny every time you searched the internet? Well, now you can! Think about how many times a day you use Google. Now multiply that by a penny, & that's just what you would be giving to Campagna every day, just by using www.goodsearch.com. It's just as effective as other search engines, but it uses the revenues from advertisers to give back to

your designated charity. Here is all you have to do. Every time you want to search, go to www.goodsearch.com (rather than www.google.com) and be sure to enter Campagna Academy in the (my charity) box. Then do your search.

Searching a few times a day will generate thousands of extra dollars a year without anyone spending a dime.

And with the holidays coming, you can also shop your favorite stores online at www.goodshop.com and a portion of the sale will be donated to Campagna.

Be sure to tell your friends. **And remember don't Google it...Goodsearch it!**



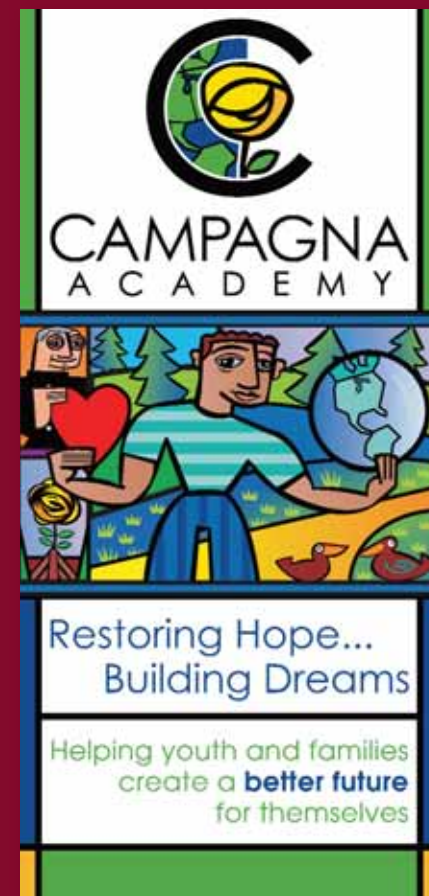
SAVE THE DATE!



Sr. Director of
Human Resources,
Sofia Mendez-Bork

Campagna Academy wants you to be among the first to know that next year's First Look for Charity black-tie benefit will be held on Thursday, February 7, 2008. Of the 18 Chicagoland charities who benefit from the First Look, Campagna is the only one invited from Indiana! So please save the date. Call Izolda Snarskis at 219.322.8614 x308 for more information or to reserve your spot.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2007



Campagna Quotes...

Throughout the year, kids at Campagna Academy have the opportunity to post notes to staff on a bulletin board in our administrative office. Below is a sampling of their messages.

"Thanks for not giving up on me." - Warren

"Thank you for being there for me & giving me all these opportunities to do better." - Thomas

"Thanks for always being there for me when I needed to talk to someone." - James

"Thank you for telling me how everything is and not sugar coating your words." - Calil

"Thank you for helping me with all of my problems and giving me advice on what to do." - Andrew

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

In each issue of *Campagna Connections*, we will feature an interview with one of our youths. Martell, a resident in our "Boys to Men" program, was kind enough to join me on a chilly October afternoon to talk about his experiences at Campagna, and to share with me his new-found hopes and dreams.

Martell, how long have you lived here and what's different now than when you first came? *I came to Campagna Academy when I was fourteen and a half, and I've been living here for two and a half years. When I first got here I was disobedient and defiant. I was a devil child and didn't want to listen to anything anyone had to say. I was into drugs and my life was just a fantasy, a dream. I thought the meaning of life was about getting money and partying. I used to stay in my room a lot and think about what would happen if I got out...how great it would be. I thought I was here just to be locked away and didn't realize what this program was all about. Then, as the months passed, I came to understand why I was really here. That this place offered me help.*

What kind of help did you find here?

Where I came from, I knew right from wrong, but didn't know why people would choose the right path. I didn't know the feeling of doing right. I was always afraid of going on the right path because it felt uncomfortable. It wasn't what I knew how to do. So I'd always fall back again. Coming to Campagna Academy helped me see another way of life and find another person in myself who I hadn't seen before. Campagna helped me with my social skills, with my drug issues and my coping skills. I'm able now to build my relationship with my family. I can express my feelings with them in a way I couldn't before. Campagna also taught me perseverance. Today, I have goals for each day, taking life one day at a time. I realize I have choices, and that if something goes wrong, I have to be ready to go to plan B, or even to plan Z.

"There's no telling where I might be if I weren't here"

I've learned to never give up. Now I go to school and I work on the weekends at a local pumpkin patch. I took the tools I learned at Campagna into my workplace, and now the owner has asked me to come back to work for him next Fall.

Where do you think you'd be if you weren't at Campagna Academy?

There's no telling where I might be if I weren't here...dead, missing, in juvenile lock-down. I have several friends, teenagers, who are dead now. They were in the wrong place at the wrong time, and I often think how easily that would have been me.

What's one thing you'd like to tell people about Campagna?

That Campagna Academy is a great place to start your life over...but only if you're willing.

Martell, are you grateful for anything today?

Yes, I am very grateful for several things...for all the workers in the cottages for helping me get to where I am now, and for the people that support Campagna Academy and support us as residents. I'm grateful that they understand that sometimes kids need a second chance in life. Campagna Academy was my second chance.

CELEBRATING 60 YEARS OF SERVING CHILDREN!

On Saturday, September 8th, 2007, over 150 staff, volunteers, and supporters gathered at Villa Cesare in Schererville to honor Campagna Academy's



Board member Denise Dillard with Sheriff and Mrs. Roy Dominguez

sixty years of serving children. While sharing good food, great company, and a dance or two, attendees celebrated the enduring vision of Father Michael Campagna, founder of Hoosier Boys' Town in

1947, who sought to restore hope and build dreams for at-risk youth and their families in Northwest Indiana. Thanks to the generous donations of area businesses and community members, this elegant evening helped raise over \$15,000 for Campagna's therapeutic programs through a fabulous silent auction with items ranging from horseshoe sets to diamond necklaces. The evening's program included speakers Board Vice President Dan Lowery, Executive Director Bruce Hillman, and Senior Director of Development Jennifer Wojcikowski, as well as a touching power point presentation honoring

Campagna Academy's sixty-year history. The evening was a wonderful blend of past and present, beginning with an invocation given by Father Dennis Blaney, a long-time friend and colleague of Father Campagna, and ending with a presentation of yellow roses to 2007 Charter School graduates Sarah Fought (studying nursing at IUN) and Brian Sartain (studying nursing at Prairie State College) and recent Campagna alum Richard Gutierrez (studying business management at Calumet College of St. Joseph).

RUN FOR THE ROSES

Campagna Academy would like to thank the 300 runners & walkers, sponsors, & volunteers

that came out to our 3rd annual Run for the Roses, on October 20th. Together they helped raise over

\$10,000. Which will go toward helping at-risk youth thrive.

BROTHERS & SISTERS OF THE ROSE

At our 60th anniversary dinner, three Campagna Academy alumni, Sarah Fought, Brian Sartain, and Richard Gutierrez received yellow roses as they were welcomed into Campagna Academy's new alumni association, "Brothers and Sisters of the Rose." The name of this association honors Father Campagna's assertion that children, like roses, would blossom if transplanted into a healthy, nurturing environment. "We're hoping to

connect with former residents, day treatment attendees, and charter school graduates," explained Jennifer Wojcikowski, Senior Director of Development and Public Relations. "We want them to know that no matter where they go, they will always be part of our extended family." The association plans to have an interactive website where members can talk with each other, view old pictures, mentor current residents, and connect

with the latest updates. That's good news for alum Walter Kubon, who recently traveled all the way from his home in Australia to show his children where he lived as a boy in the 1950's. "I told you I'd be back" said a misty-eyed Kubon as he leaned in toward Father Campagna's picture. With "Brothers and Sisters of the Rose," coming back home for Campagna Academy alumni will be a whole lot easier.



Sr. Director of Development Jennifer Wojcikowski and Charter School alumnus Brian Sartain.

Mr. and Mrs. Cal Bellamy bid on auction items.



Campagna staff and volunteers register over 300 participants.



Alumnus Walter Kubon and his children return to Campagna Academy from their Australian home.

