



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

Spring 2011

CAMPAGNA CONNECTIONS

Restoring Hope...Building Dreams

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Restoring Hope...
Building Dreams

Helping youth and families
create a **better future**
for themselves

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT



Dear Campagna Friends and Supporters,

On behalf of our board of directors of Campagna Academy, as well as our staff, parents, students, and volunteers, thank you for your interest and continued support of our efforts to Restore Hope and Build Dreams for the children, youth and families we serve. For 64 years, Campagna Academy has provided services in Northwest Indiana. While many things have changed since 1947, our unwavering commitment to the children, youth and families we serve remains constant. Through a broad array of social services and educational opportunities, together we are shaping our future one child at a time.

Campagna has evolved into a multi-service social service and educational service center. We are proud of a rich tradition of meeting the needs of children and families based upon the founding principles Fr. Campagna established in 1947. Today, we find ourselves in the midst of another challenging chapter in our rich American history. Throughout our history, we have found ourselves confronted by various challenges and each time our response has been the same. We are a people of resolve, committed to helping those among us that are less fortunate and in need of our support, dedicated to our future by investing in our youth.

Recent legislation introduced in the Indiana General Assembly and policy changes require that we reevaluate our environment. Our nation, state, and local communities are under significant fiscal strain in a time when families have more needs than ever. At Campagna, we understand that our kids' future begins each day and our efforts to make meaningful changes in their lives require our best efforts. Together we can make a difference!

Each year, Campagna Academy advances its mission of Restoring Hope and Building Dreams with the support of a caring community, staff, volunteers, and families to the hundreds of kids we serve each year. We cannot meet the challenges of tomorrow without the promise of today that each of you creates simply by responding to a need, which is predicated on the promise of today. Providing an environment where our children can learn, grow, and achieve their full potential requires our best efforts.

Sincerely,

George H. Letz, President
Campagna Academy, Inc. Board of Directors

Campagna Cruise For Charity



Imagine yourself in the Caribbean for an all-inclusive 5-day, 4-night stay at Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Punta Cana! Donated by Palace Resorts and procured through Hilbrich Holidays of Schererville, this trip is just one of many fabulous auction items awaiting you for the right bid during the agency's newest fundraiser, Campagna Cruise for Charity on Saturday, May 21, 2011.

Boarding the Spirit of Chicago yacht at Noon at Navy Pier, guests will enjoy an exquisite lunch, cocktails, entertainment and a live auction. Tickets are \$100.00 per person. Optional coach transportation to and from Navy Pier is available for a nominal charge. Call 219.322.8614 x308 today.

Presenting event sponsors are First Midwest Bank, First Financial Bank and Peoples Bank. Partnering sponsors are Berglund Construction, Harris Bank, NIPSCO and Porter-Starke Services.



Thank you to the volunteers of Greater First Baptist Church of East Chicago for sharing their time serving Thanksgiving dinner to the youth of Campagna.



Westfield Southlake Mall's Marketing Director Lisa DeVries with Campagna Academy's Scott Sefton & Bruce Hillman during the Westfield Mall Giving Tree Presentation. Thank you to everyone who donated gifts this past holiday season to make the holidays bright for the youth of Campagna.



Campagna Academy residents enjoying opening their holiday presents.



IN THEIR OWN WORDS

In each issue of Campagna Connections, we feature an interview with one of our youths. Among our Foster Care kids and in our Adolescent Day Treatment Program is Raquel, age 18, who shares her experiences.

What brought you to Campagna Academy? I was living with my grandmother and taking care of her; she had Alzheimer's. I had been out of school for almost a year when one day Child Protective Services knocked on my grandmother's door. The next thing I knew I was being placed in a foster home with foster parents from Campagna Academy. My case worker thought it would be good for me to work on my education at Campagna so I was entered into the Adolescent Day Treatment Program.

What did you think when you first joined us at Campagna? When I first got to my foster home it was really different from my home. Before I had no rules, I was the one taking care of my grandmother. Now I was entering a home that was structured and with foster parents that were there taking care of me. It was totally different. They made sure I went to school, followed rules and did my homework. When I got to the Day Treatment Program at first it was hard to adjust. I had never been in any type of program before like this and I had been out of school for over a year. I was nervous about fitting in.

What do you think now? Now I am used to my new foster family, I know they are looking out for my best interest. I am excited to have my own bedroom! As far as ADTP, I am used to the structure and groups. I know everyone is working with me to help me and wants me to excel and get my education.

"Hopefully in the fall I will begin working toward a degree to become a surgical technician."

What have you learned in the past year that you have spent with us? I have learned a lot in the past year. I have built up my confidence so much. I talk to people a lot more. I have broken out my shell. I also have learned a ton from my GED classes. My math scores have gone way up from when I first started the GED classes.

Where do you see yourself in the treatment program? I am going to take my GED test in a couple of weeks. Once I pass the GED and get accepted into college, I will hopefully be able to leave my foster home and foster parents in the fall for college.

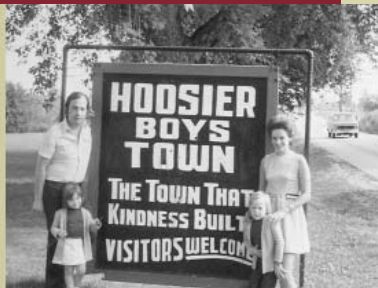
Have you made any changes or growth since joining us at Campagna? I have changed a lot in the last year. Personally, I have grown and have become able to trust people more. Educationally, I am so close to passing the GED.

Can you list your differences from before you arrived at Campagna to now? Before I was on my own. I was the one calling the shots and I was the one taking care of people. I was out of school not doing anything but surviving day to day. Now I am being taken care of, I go to school every day and I have hopes and dreams of a college education.

What is your favorite memory at Campagna? My favorite memory would be the two week foster care summer camp that Campagna had last year. The camp was so much fun, we went on field trips to the beach, the candy factory, and the newspaper. We also worked on crafts and did fun stuff like making pizza and baking cookies.

What is your favorite thing about Campagna Academy? My favorite thing is the volunteers (educational mentors) that come to the GED program. They do not get paid to work with us; they come in every day and work with us on our Math, English and Science while volunteering their time. With the help of the volunteers and my GED instructor they make learning fun and bit easier for me.

What are your hopes and dreams for the future? My goal is to pass the GED test. After that I am going to apply to college at Vincennes University. Hopefully in the fall I will begin working toward a degree to become a surgical technician.



FOSTER HOPE...FOSTER CARE



The need for foster homes in Indiana is tremendous. Based on the latest numbers from Indiana Department of Child Services there are almost 15,000 children in foster care in Indiana. In Lake County alone there are over 2,100 children in foster care.

Foster children are not just a number—they are babies, toddlers, tweens and teens. The fact is we no longer have enough safe and caring homes for them. That's why we're asking you to take one small step today to learn more about the joys and challenges of foster parenting. Every journey begins with a first step. And who knows, once that first step is taken, you may feel that becoming a foster parent is the right path for you. And if you do, Campagna's Therapeutic Foster Care Program will be there to guide you every step of the way.

If you are ready to take that first step and learn about becoming a foster parent, contact us today at 219.322.8614. We offer classes to help you become a licensed therapeutic foster parent. The training program classes are designed for a fast track to help families complete their training in six weeks. The entire process is designed with our potential foster parents in mind; we want to make sure that it is convenient for you. During the classes you will meet the entire Campagna family support team, and learn how Campagna will be with you every step of the way.

CHARTER SCHOOL TEACHER RECEIVES \$8,000 GRANT

Joseph Haines, a Math Teacher at Campagna Academy Charter High School was selected to receive an Indiana Teacher Creativity Fellowship Grant. The \$8,000 grant is funded by the Lilly Endowment of Indianapolis. Over 500 applicants applied for this grant and only 120 were selected. This grant was established for personal development of teachers, librarians and principals to pursue their personal interests. Joseph will be using his grant to pursue his passion for biking and photography. He will be biking across the state of Indiana and camping at State Parks for a month this summer starting on June 25, 2011. His travels will start at the Indiana Dunes and will take him all over the state including Pokagon State Park, Ouabache State Park, and Brown County State Park making a giant loop across Indiana, visiting fifteen state parks in all ending his journey on July 25, 2011. During his adventure, Joseph will be blogging and creating a photo journal online so his students can follow him on his journey. "I am really excited to have the opportunity to explore my personal passion this summer. I can't wait to share my photos and experiences with my students. A lot of my students do not have the means to travel and experience other things outside of Northwest Indiana. I am hoping through my trip I will be able to share my experiences with them, opening their eyes to the beauty of the state of Indiana," shared Joseph Haines.

GOODSEARCH & GOODSHOP FOR CAMPAGNA

What if Campagna earned a donation every time you searched the Internet? Or how about if a percentage of every purchase you made online went to support our cause? Well, now it can! GoodSearch.com is a new Yahoo-powered search engine that donates half its advertising revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities its users designate. Use it just as you would any search engine, get quality search results from Yahoo, and watch the donations add up!

GoodShop.com is a new online shopping mall which donates up to 30 percent of each purchase to your favorite cause! Hundreds of great stores including Gap, Best Buy, eBay, Macy's and Barnes & Noble have teamed up with GoodShop and every time you place an order, you'll be supporting your favorite cause.



Emilie Connor Riggs (middle) and friends painting the newly designed library on cottage four. Emilie volunteered many hours working on the library for our residents as part of her Girl Scout Gold Award Project. Thank you to Emilie and all of the donors who supported this project!



Indiana Congressman Pete Visclosky (left) stopped by for a campus tour.



Gary Mayor Rudy Clay speaking to the speech class at the Charter School.



A Campagna student gathering information on becoming a pipe fitter during our annual Spring Vocational Fair.



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DID YOU KNOW...

■ Grocery shopping can earn cash for Campagna Academy. Through Ultra Food's Smart Shopper Program Ultra will donate 5% of sales from grocery receipts that we collect January 1st - May 31st. Participation is easy. Shop at an Ultra Foods, save your receipt and drop it off at Campagna Academy's administration building front desk M-F 8:30am-4:30pm at 7403 Cline Ave. Schererville, IN 46375 or drop it in the mail. For questions or more information please contact Scott Sefton at 219.322.8614.

■ Campagna has two huge green & yellow recycling bins at the far south end of our campus close to Cline Ave. Our recycling company PAYS us for our paper waste that we recycle in these bins. You can help raise funds for the youth of Campagna while helping to save the environment. Please stop by campus and drop off your paper. We are currently accepting junk mail, shredded paper, books, magazines, scrap paper and more.



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CARMEUSE IMPACTS CAMPAGNA ACADEMY



Carmeuse Lime & Stone's, Carmeuse Foundation, has selected Campagna Academy as one of seven nonprofit organizations in the U.S. and Canada for its philanthropic support during the company's 150 year celebration campaign that is organizing a worldwide concerted effort amongst its employees towards community outreach programs. (L) Amy K. Philipps, Human Resources Generalist with Carmeuse presents Campagna Academy Chief Operating Officer Elena Dwyre with an \$8,000 check for the agency's youth programs in training, education and mentoring. This support represents a three-year financial commitment to Campagna Academy from their local plants in Chicago, IL, Gary, IN and Portage, IN.

Founded in Belgium in 1860 as a small, family run business in the lime industry, Carmeuse today operates in 16 countries with 94 production facilities and up to 4,600 employees. Its North American headquarters, including the U.S. and Canada, is based in Pittsburgh, PA, and covers 35 production facilities and 2,400 employees. The company is the largest producer of lime and limestone products in North America, and its parent company, Global Carmeuse Group, established the Carmeuse Foundation to help further the education and development of children in need.

Amy Philipps notes "We are especially interested in the training, education and mentoring of at-risk youths and we hope that our effort through our careful, internal selection process of beneficiary charities will help these young girls and boys to grow and prosper in the communities where our own employees live and work." "This donation and their company's strategic commitment to our mission will allow Campagna Academy to reach beyond where we are and extend the impact of our work by expanding key program components for the betterment of our youth. We look forward to this new partnership and welcome their employees to work side by side with us through their volunteerism," states Elena Dwyre.