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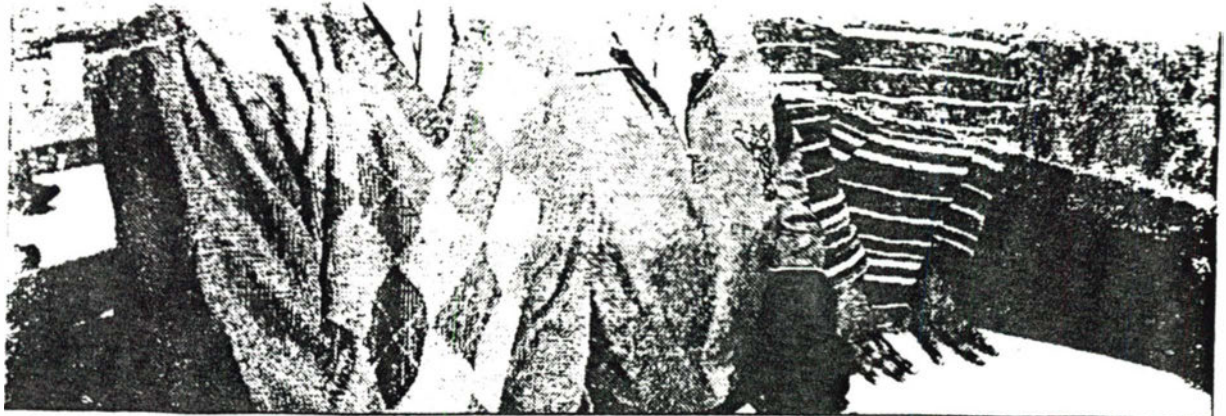
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God's Gang and Mother's Cupboard

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Gods Bay
+
Mother's Cupboard



PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVAIS SUN-TIMES

Michael Hallmon (from left), Verice Herbert and LaTonya Williams are trying to give something back to their community. "The more people see positive, the more they do positive," Hallmon says.

Making a difference



■ *Life at Robert Taylor Homes can be bleak. But some dedicated young people are doing their best to turn it around and restore self-esteem and hope.*

By Cindy Richards

Quick: What comes first to mind when you hear the words Robert Taylor Homes and youths? Gangs? Guns? Drugs?

If a group of dedicated young people were asked that question, they would answer: A computer lab. A youth-run food pantry. A peer tutoring program.

They're not the kids who make the evening news, but LaTonya Williams and Jelahn Wallace want people to know that everything that happens in the tough Grand Boulevard neighborhood isn't bad.

"People say, 'Here comes [someone from] Robert Taylor. Here comes trouble. Call 911.' It makes us feel bad," said Wallace, a 12-year-old who volunteers with the Adopt-a-Grandparent program.

"It's a self-fulfilling prophecy," said Williams, 19, who helps run a tutoring program. "Most of the children are innocent, but people think you're bad if you live in this neighborhood," which is roughly bordered by 39th Street, 51st Street, Cottage Grove and the Dan Ryan Expy.

Williams and Wallace got some help with their projects on Thursday when they were awarded grants from Youth as Resources. The program was started nationally in 1986 by the National Crime Prevention Council and came to Chicago in 1993 under the auspices of the Chicago Area Project. YAR seeks "to claim young people, not merely to fix them." It asks youths to identify problems and craft solutions.

To date, YAR-Chicago has funded 102 service projects involving more than 1,300 young people from Grand Boulevard. On Thursday, the group handed out 31 grants to 150 young people.

Michael Hallmon, 20, is a former grant recipient who now serves on the board and helps decide who else will get money. This grant period, they had just

\$24,000 to parcel out and 42 groups seeking funding. YAR-Chicago has to raise the money each quarter. The limited funds this time meant they had to downsize. The grantmakers looked for projects aimed at youths and led by young people.

Williams' group, Greater Harvest Youth Connection, got \$1,500 for its tutoring program and \$3,000 for its computer lab. Wallace's Adopt-a-Grandparent program got \$1,000. Mother's Cupboard, a youth-run food pantry, got \$2,000 to provide emergency food. TKO Youth Committee got \$3,000 for an after-school homework program. Tis the Season got \$2,075 to visit nursing homes and pass out toys to terminally ill patients at Provident Hospital.

Hallmon believes the impact of the grants will go far beyond the small community service projects they fund.

"The more people see positive, the more they do positive," he said.

Leslie Welch, 22, a member of the national board of Youth as Resources, agrees.

"Once you take away the bare necessities from a community, people start behaving in a way that isn't normal. [Youth as Resources] can't put all that back, but it restores some self-esteem, some hope."

And it has one other benefit that can't be measured in dollars: It keeps good people in the community.

Hallmon had already left the neighborhood. Welch was on her way out. After joining up with Youth as Resources, Hallmon has moved back. Welch decided not to leave.

"Making a difference here makes a difference in me," said Welch.

Cindy Richards is a member of the Chicago Sun-Times editorial board. E-mail: crichard@suntimes

God's Gang Is Sponsoring A...

BOOKS TO AFRICA!!!



Book Drive

SEPTEMBER 14 AND 15, 1996

We Need Your....

Textbooks
Reference Books
Novels
Etc.



*Call: 312-264-2652 or 312-548-2100 for pick up....
or drop off between 12:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m.:*

*St. Mary A.M.E. Church
5251 South Dearborn
Chicago, Illinois 60609*

Our children in Africa need your books!

Our drive will continue through the end of 1996. Please call at anytime for a pickup. Any excess book donations will be donated to the Green-Cheeks Cultural Library at 5266 South Dearborn.



God's Gang

presents.....

Reading Dynamics

with

Mother Evelyn Martin

St. Mary African Methodist Episcopal Church
5251 South Dearborn Street
Chicago, Illinois 60609

Every Second and Fourth Saturday.

All Are Welcome

Especially designed for ages 4 - 10

*Come And Enjoy A Grand Cultural Experience
and Learn The Dynamics of Reading*

God's Gang
GRADUATION CAMPOUT

Four^{of} God's Gang's members are graduating and we're celebrating!!!

Boots and Saddle Ranch

St. Ann, Illinois

Weekend of May 23, 24, 25, 1997

Price \$20.00

(includes food and camping Friday Nite and Saturday Nite only)

Black Rodeo*

Gospel Fest *

Hayriding*

* Entrance fee is not included in \$20.00 cost

Leave: St. Mary A.M.E. Church
5251 South Dearborn Street
Chicago, Illinois 60609
5:00 p.m., Friday May 23

Return: St. Mary A.M.E. Church
Approximately ~~5:00 p.m.~~ ^{8:00 AM} Sunday March 25

Contact: Carolyn Thomas -- 773-548-2100 or 773-264-2652

.....
To: God's Gang -- Carolyn Thomas, Director

I give permission for my son/daughter, Joy Galwood, to attend the Graduation Campout at Boots & Saddle Ranch in St. Ann, Illinois on Friday, May 23, 1997 through Sunday, May 25, 1997. I will see that my child is picked up promptly at the church by _____ p.m., Sunday, May 25, 1997.

I take full responsibility for my child's behavior during this outing and will not hold God's Gang responsible for any accidental injury that may occur while my child is in God's Gang's care.

Guardian

GOD'S GANG FOOD PANTRY

MOTHER'S CUPBOARD

**5266 S. STATE
APT #202**

NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Please give a monetary donation to Chicago Food Depository, 4501 South Tripp, Chicago, Illinois 60632.

***Mother's Cupboard Code #P748**

(*please add in memo if you are writing a check or money order.)

Your donation will allow the cupboard to remain open and purchase food at \$0.07 a pound.

Please contact Barbara Moore, Director of Pantry at 773.538.8195 for more information.

GOD'S GANG BOARD & STAFF

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God's Gang

MEMBERSHIP

PROGRAMS
AND
SPECIAL PROJECTS

COMMUNICATIONS
NETWORKING
(PR)

FUND RAISING

SPORTS

DIRECTOR

BOARD

STAFF

GOD'S GANG

OF

ST. MARY'S AME

PRESENTS:

Spokane, etc]

[Washington
State

THE LIFE OF CHRIST DINNER / PLAY

PALM SUNDAY
MARCH 23, 1997
DINNER 2:00 P.M.

ST. MARY'S A.M.E.
5251 S. DEARBORN
PLAY 3:00 P.M.

(REFLECTIVE OF LENTEN SEASON)

DONATION \$7.00

REV. WILLIAM TOWNSEND, PASTOR
CYNTHIA BURNETTE, PROGRAM CHAIR PERSON
DE ROSA HARDIN, YOUTH DIRECTOR
ALEXIS FAIRFAX, MEAL CO-ORDINATOR



A MESSAGE FROM GOD'S GANG

THE TRAGEDY OF LITTLE GIRL X COULD HAVE BEEN ANY
LITTLE GIRL, ONE OF OUR LITTLE GIRLS...

ON WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 5TH GOD'S GANG WILL MEET IN FRONT
OF THE CHURCH AT 5:00 P.M. TO TAKE OUR DONATION . WE WILL
GO TO THE HOSPITAL GIVE THE DONATION AND EVERY ONE WILL BE DROPPED
OFF AT HOME. PLEASE WEAR YOUR GOD'S GANGSHIRTS IF YOU COME BE
PREPARED TO WALK FROM PARKING TO THE HOSPITAL NOMATTER WHAT THE
WHEATHER.

ALL PROCEDES FROM OUR BLACK HISTORY BAZZAR TABEL TODAY
WILL BE ADDED TO THAT DONATION . IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEND
A DONATION BY US, MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO LITTLE GIRL X.

OUR MOTTO READS, " RAISING VILLAGE CHILDREN HIGHER", WE AS
MEMBERS OF THE VILLAGE SHOULD EMBRACE THIS CHILD AS WHAT SHE IS...
ONE OF OUR OWN.

WAREHOUSE: BNK

	WEIGHT 0.00	WEIGHT 0.03	WEIGHT 0.04	WEIGHT 0.05	WEIGHT 0.07	WEIGHT OTHER	TOTAL WEIGHT	ESTIMATED REVENUE
C1 - COMMERCIAL, 2ND HARV. NATION	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,620.70	340.00	6,960.70	727.20
C2 - COMMERCIAL, 2ND HARV. LOCAL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,217.40	0.00	4,217.40	295.08
C3 - COMMERCIAL, NOT 2ND HARVEST	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	14,167.50	0.00	14,167.50	991.60
FB - FOOD BANKS, GCFD AFFILIATES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	492.60	0.00	492.60	34.47
FD - FOOD DRIVES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,222.20	0.00	1,222.20	85.50
FS - FOOD SHOWS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	855.70	0.00	855.70	59.89
G1 - GOVT FOOD IEPP/USDA	9,579.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9,579.30	0.00
G3 - GOVT FOOD PURCH, FEHA	5,737.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,737.10	0.00
ID - INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	36.00	0.00	36.00	2.52
NP - NON-PROFIT DONATIONS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	190.30	0.00	190.30	13.31
P1 - PURCHASE, G.C.F.D.	264.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	264.00	0.00
SA - STRATEGIC ALLIANCE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	541.00	0.00	541.00	37.80
WAREHOUSE TOTALS:		0.00	0.00	0.00	28,343.40	340.00	44,263.80	\$2,248.28

WAREHOUSE: BNK

	WEIGHT 0.00	WEIGHT 0.03	WEIGHT 0.04	WEIGHT 0.05	WEIGHT 0.07	WEIGHT OTHER	TOTAL WEIGHT	ESTIMATED REVENUE
1 - DAIRY	843.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,818.00	0.00	2,661.30	127.00
2 - GRAIN	3,468.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,714.30	0.00	7,182.60	259.89
3 - MEAT	5,091.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	740.50	340.00	6,171.60	316.52
4 - PRODUCE	5,705.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,335.10	0.00	8,040.30	163.42
5 - MEALS	472.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	9,179.80	0.00	9,652.30	642.52
6 - P/S/S/C	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,855.40	0.00	7,855.40	549.71
7 - INEDIBLE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,700.30	0.00	2,700.30	188.99
WAREHOUSE TOTALS:		0.00	0.00	0.00	28,343.40	340.00	44,263.80	\$2,248.28

USDA
Food total #
of pounds
Received

no cost
to Agency
Free
USDA food.

total # of
pounds for
paid food

OTHER
TOTAL LBS
Received

total of M.
spent for
food.

Food's Corner
Mother's Cupboard
May to December 1996

COME AND VISIT

the God's Gang Mask Display

THE FIELD MUSEUM'S INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF MASKS

Saturday, September 21, 1996
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

HAVE YOUR FACE PAINTED! MAKE DIFFERENT KINDS OF MASKS TO TAKE HOME! SEE BEAUTIFUL MASK PERFORMANCES! COME...HELP US CELEBRATE THE DIVERSE CULTURES OF CHICAGO THROUGH THE COMMON THEME OF THE MASK.

MCDONALD'S AND PICNIC IN THE FIELD WILL BE OPEN FOR LUNCH PURCHASES.

Need more information? Call (312) 922-9410 ext. 363 or 478

The Field Museum

Roosevelt Road at Lake Shore Drive (near Grant Park)
Chicago, Illinois 60605-2496





OPEN BOATS

GOD'S GANG
LINCOLN PARK COMMUNITY BOATING ASSOCIATION

St. Mary A.M.E. Church
5251 South Dearborn Street
Chicago, Illinois 60649
(312) 548-2100

Tom Hall: 312/883-5230

Proposal

GOD'S GANG COLABERATION WITH L.P.C.B.A.

OPEN BOATS is a nonprofit community outreach program of the Lincoln Park Boat Club (LPBC). The club makes its facilities, equipment, and services, available to groups, organizations, and institutions that work with Chicago-area children and wish to involve children in boating.

LPBC facilities are the boathouse and its direct access to the 1-kilometer lagoon between Cannon Drive and the Outer Drive. Equipment includes 90 canoes and kayaks; also paddles, training and conditioning aids, and other accessories. Services include instruction, boating expertise, and lifeguarding.

Participants

LPBC/OPEN BOATS will provide two paddling coaches, both expert at handling all paddle craft. They will teach paddling and oversee all activities on the water. They will be in charge both on the water and on shore.

Children who participate must be 10-16 years old and must be able to swim. They must have liability waivers signed by their parents. They may participate in groups of as many as 15 at a time.

Each group of children must be accompanied by two or more adults who provide transportation to the boat club and help supervise the children when boating is underway. These adults must sign waivers of liability. They are encouraged to paddle with the children but are not required to; they can be equally helpful on shore. The essential requirements are that they know the children and provide active support to the paddling coaches.

CHILDREN TO BE RECRUITED BY GOD'S GANG NAD G.G. ALSO TO PROVIDE STAFFING IN CONJUNCTION WITH AMERICORPS.

2360 N. Lincoln Ave. • Chicago, IL • 60614 • (312) 549-B

Paddling • Rowing • Sailing