



SKYLINES

SUMMER 2019

THE HOPE CENTER

KC



THC
Student
Highlight

**Kamathi
Parks**

Moments
that made this a
**Memorable
Summer**

Our
Upcoming
Projects



PRAYER REQUESTS

- Faithful volunteers who are passionate about empowering the urban community.
- Nurturing relationships to deepen & blossom with existing & new families.
- For Shalom (Peace) in our community.
- Program impact and influence among youth and families.
- Strength and health for our Hope Center staff.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- August 26.....S.A.Y. Yes! Begins
- August 27.....Volunteer Informational Meeting
- August 30.....S.A.Y. Yes! Fun Friday Kick Off
- September 3.....Youth Programs Open House
- September 10.....C.I.T. / Jr. L.I.T. / L.I.T. Begins
- September 11.....Amped Bible Study Begins
- October 31.....Fall Hope Fest



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To give to The Hope Center, please visit
hopecenterkc.org/donate

JUNE

8th-15th High School Mission Trip

Our high school team did a wonderful job of living life on mission while serving communities in the Dallas area this summer. With great attitudes and practiced diligence, the L.I.T. mission team presented dances, skits and chants to elementary school students in the Oak Cliff community.

Each of their presentations proclaimed a message of Good News, hope and joy. The students also aided local community centers by completing painting and cleaning tasks, along with other projects.

The Leaders-In-Training loved spending time at, Bonton Farms, an urban farm and market that is helping residents prosper by providing hope and nourishment in a former food desert. The high school team ended the week of hard-work and service by laughing and splashing at an indoor water park, embodying an important "work hard, play hard" life rhythm.

19th Juneteenth Celebration

Over 500 community residents enjoyed a delightful time of fellowship at this year's Juneteenth festival on Kansas City's East Side.

This year the Betty Rae's ice cream truck was a crowd favorite and the petting zoo provided therapeutic relief to many families in need. Fantastic entertainment presented by the Delta Sigma Theta and Alpha Kappa Alpha sororities, a guest dance team from St. Louis, and rousing presentations by THC parents Corey Rodrick and Jordan Wade filled The Hope Center grounds with glee.

Testimonials were also shared by our Hope Center volunteers. Grilled burgers and hot dogs flowed in ample amounts and children lept high to the sky in our inflatable bounce houses. As always, our annual Juneteenth festival was a wonderful celebration of culture, pride, unity and joy.

27th Girls L.I.T. & Junior L.I.T. All-Nighter. (C.I.T. All-Nighter was July 16th)

There isn't much that can be compared to joyfully giggling with friends, running and jumping into a glimmering swimming pool on a hot summer's day, singing karaoke into the wee hours of the morning or having a safe space to talk about life issues.

The Girls' L.I.T. & Junior L.I.T. All Nighters truly presented a space where a kid could delight in being a kid. We were excited to see the girls genuinely enjoying one another as a family. The evening was filled with hilarious KAA highlight reenactments, hair styling, evening devotions and delicious food. Afterward, the girls woke up bright and early to head straight to the pool again!

28th High School Grad Party

We are incredibly proud of our high school graduates! The Hope Center seniors received a 100% acceptance rate to a school of higher learning. The High School Grad party granted us an opportunity to honor these hard-working and dedicated students.

In addition to the scholarships that many of the seniors received from their selected colleges and universities, The Hope Center also presented each student with a scholarship that the graduates were free to utilize for book fees, dorm supplies or travel expenses.

It was a joy to see the genuine familial bond that the students have developed with one another and we know that they will continue to encourage and inspire each other when they return home.

Meet KAMATHI PARKS

It was only a few months ago

that Kamathi learned of the Hope Center, while picking up his 7-year-old sister from the S.A.Y. Yes! program. During that time, the Youth Director informed Kamathi and his mother about the high school programs available at the center. Kamathi's initial participation in THC's programing was in the role of a student volunteer. After a few weeks, Kamathi decided to join the Leaders-In-Training program.

This summer, as an L.I.T. participant, Kamathi attended Kids Across America camp for the first time, and it was there that he made the life-changing decision to accept Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior! Additionally, Kamathi enjoyed his first experience with water tubing, the opportunity to conquer a formidable tree-top obstacle course, fishing, zip-lining, mountain biking and a host of other exciting camp activities. At the end of the week, Kamathi received the Mountain Biking Team Captain award and his cabin was awarded Championship Locker.

Kamathi is grateful for the new experiences that The Hope Center provides. What Kamathi likes most about The Hope Center is "the way everyone immediately accepted me as part of the family by showing me love and helping me out".

We are all incredibly glad that Kamathi decided to join the family. We're also very proud of his accomplishments!



7th-15th KAA Camp

The Hope Center collaborated with partner church, Macedonia Baptist, to bring over 80 children to Kids Across America, (KAA), camp this year. The children, along with The Hope Center staff and volunteers, enjoyed a wonderful week of adventures and basking in the beauty of God's creation.

We were delighted to see the high awards that many of our students received including, Keelron Hooker, a THC high school student who earned the Captain Award, the Good Samaritan award, and KAA's highest honor, the "I'm Third" Award. This award is granted to one student at each camp who displays exceptional servant leadership qualities throughout the week.

In addition to winning awards for excellent leadership and character, many of our students made decisions to rededicate their lives to Christ and others made decisions to receive salvation. We are rejoicing over these decisions alongside the angels in heaven.

17th C.I.T. & L.I.T. Guys' Day Out

This summer, our young men gathered together for food, fun, fellowship - and a demonstration culinary skills - as they whipped up beautiful, golden brown waffles and crisp, juicy and delicious fried chicken during Guys' Day Out. The young men also enjoyed a few rounds of miniature golf as they spent time providing life updates in a warm and loving environment. A total of twelve young men attended the event for an afternoon that was sure to have rivaled the Master's joyful time with His disciples. The gentlemen are already looking forward to the next gathering of food, fun and fellowship.



23rd Youth Game Day

This summer the Hope Center set a goal of presenting engaging activities every Tuesday that would allow our students, families and volunteers to continue building nurturing and impactful relationships.

The Youth Game Day presented our students with a consistent and carefree space to foster loving fellowship and enjoy fun games like knock-out and 3-on-3 basketball.



JULY

THE HOPE CENTER VISION

The Hope Center vision remains, "to develop healthy communities in Kansas City, where the vulnerable can have hope and flourish."

FUTURE PROJECTS

Community Event Center

Since 2001 a congregation has not inhabited this church building. Through the agreement of our urban core Pastors, community leaders, and the families we serve, we will launch a capital campaign to remodel this historic building to be used for youth, family, and community events to encourage, educate and enrich our community.

Interactive Playground

In a few weeks we will be breaking ground on our new Playground for the children of our school and community. As part of our safe space/fun place initiative, the future will bring.

Purchase of New Bus

Special thanks to our donors we are close to purchasing a new bus to serve all of our programs.

