

CityINSIGHT



Flemingdon Park kids at
Sonshine March Break Camp

We Are All World Changers

By Felicia Fischhoff, Outreach Worker in Flemingdon Park

At March Break Camp, we spoke to the kids about God being a God of justice. He has a heart of compassion for those who are broken, He stands up for the oppressed, and He is a defender of the widows. Taking what we learned, we created papier mâché globes and wrote "I am a world changer". When asked, "How many of you believe that you can change the world?", one of our kids blurted out, "I can't change the world! It's impossible". With encouragement we taught them that everyone has the power to change the world around them.

When we choose to stand up for those who are less fortunate or may not have the ability to stand up for themselves, when we encourage those who are hurting around us, and become grateful for what we do have, rather than complaining about what we don't have, we begin to evoke change not only in our world, but in the world of others. **Pray for us as we continue to disciple and walk with our next generation of world changers.**



In this newsletter:

We Are All World Changers

By Felicia Fischhoff

SpikeBack 2017 Recap

PJ Joins Toronto City Mission

By PJ Trinidad

Welcome Baby!

Return of the Interns

Interview with Misha and Priscilla

Welcome Melat

Community Partnership Perspectives

A note from St. Paul's Bloor Street

Third Party Event: Strike Out Poverty



SpikeBack 2017 Winners: Attack the Block



12 TEAMS RAISED \$13,218
HELPING TO SEND OVER
130 KIDS TO SONSHINE DAY CAMP

Thank you to everyone who spiked and supported SpikeBack Against Poverty 2017!



PJ (bottom) and his SpikeBack team

SAVE THE DATE: SpikeBack 2018 is Friday, February 23, 2018

PJ Joins Toronto City Mission

By PJ Trinidad, Outreach Worker in St. James Town (June 2017)

Seven years ago, I served with TCM in St. James Town as part of a Mission Team with my church. Ever since that summer, I have been involved with TCM either as a summer intern, a placement student, or as a volunteer at the Youth Extreme program. This year, the youth group that I lead took part in SpikeBack Against Poverty 2017 to help send kids to Sonshine Day Camp. Despite being the youngest team, we were able to raise over \$750 through bake sales and had a great time playing beach volleyball.

I am thankful for what God has been doing in my life and how he has led me to TCM. Starting this summer, I will be working as a full-time Outreach Worker in St. James Town. **My hope is** that I'll continue to build upon the relationships I have already established and make new long-lasting relationships in the community.



Welcome Baby!

Michelle, Outreach Worker in St. James Town (on maternity leave), and Andrew welcomed **Eden Joy Lau** into the world on March 25, 2017. Here they are pictured as a family with the St. James Town neighbourhood in the background!

Return of the Interns

"It's all about relationships!" These are words that we live and breathe and it is evident in our summer internship program. This year we are blessed to have six returning interns, with at least one in each of the four communities we offer Sunshine Day Camp. Priscilla is returning for her second year and Misha is returning for her third year.

How have your previous experiences with Sunshine Day Camp been?

P: It was such a rewarding and memorable experience that pushed me out of my comfort zone. I loved the opportunities that I had to build relationships with the kids. I was also encouraged by how much the kids learned over the duration of camp and *it is truly a testament of God working within the community and in the kids' hearts.*

M: Previous summers have been a real heart examination for myself. Examining fear, examining the weight of responsibility,



Misha (middle row, right) in 2015

loving discipline (of myself and of the kids), examining my relationship to authority and to colleagues, and asking God to intervene in those parts, and also increasing love for the kids.

Why are you returning?

M: *I hope to communicate to the kids through consistency and relationship that they are loved, that they are more than a job, and that they are needed and important in my life. I was also able to volunteer at EPIC*



Priscilla (bottom row, right) in 2016

during the school year, so that also helps to build trust.

What are you looking forward to or hope for this summer serving at Sunshine Day Camp?

P: I look forward to continuing to strengthen the relationships that I have with the kids. It is such a blessing to be able to walk with them for more than just one summer and to see over time how God has been working in their lives.



Welcome Melat!

Born in Ethiopia, raised in Winnipeg, and now a true Torontonian. Melat Hailu joins Toronto City Mission as the Fundraising Coordinator.

“ It was not long after arriving in Toronto that the Lord opened my eyes to a simple truth: in order to serve and help those impacted by poverty, I did not need to travel to another country. He purposely showed me parts of Toronto that would affirm that truth and would help me in concluding that Toronto was exactly where He wanted me to start this part of my journey. ”

Through her role as Fundraising Coordinator, Melat hopes to live out her passion to support and inspire others to reignite their own light and help it shine by serving others.

Community Partnership Perspectives: St. Paul's Bloor Street Church



St. James Town kids thanking St. Paul's Bloor Street for hosting Sonshine March Break Camp

St. James Town is right in our backyard so our partnership with Toronto City Mission was a natural fit to help us be a light to the community and open our doors to our neighbours. We host TCM's Sonshine Day Camp during the summer months, March Break Camp, and a Youth Drop-In on Monday evenings. A few times per year, our congregation collects school and craft supplies to support activities during programs.

We love having the TCM children here. Their infectious laughter and cheery faces brighten our days. We were especially thrilled when they made a big thank you banner for us! It has been great getting to know the parents and interacting with Outreach Workers who are always friendly and fun.

It is our prayer that TCM will continue to be a blessing and that these children will learn to trust Jesus and put their hope in Him. We look forward to having the Sonshine Day Camp back again this summer!

Blessings,

Joyce Badley, Executive Pastor
St. Paul's Bloor Street

St. Paul's Bloor Street is a dynamic and growing church based in a historic building in the heart of downtown Toronto. Throughout the week our members live out their faith across the city, learning how to live as followers of Jesus in their places of work, in their homes and as they interact with their friends and family. By the power and grace of Jesus Christ, we seek to be a transformative community for the city.

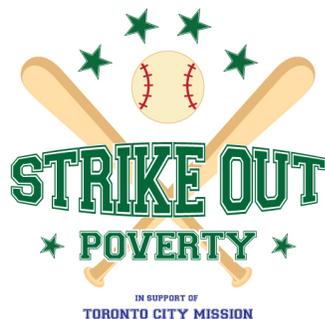
Third Party Event: Strike Out Poverty 2017

Third party events are a creative and fun way for an individual or group to take initiative and raise funds and awareness for Toronto City Mission. Peter Shearer, a former summer intern, organized Strike Out Poverty, a softball tournament with over 50 participants raising almost \$2500.

"I have a passion for Christian ministry and softball; so I combined both passions, leveraged my connections in the softball community, and organized a tournament to support the great work that TCM does. I have seen the impact their programs have transforming the lives of children and families impacted by poverty, so I wanted to do my part and take steps to Strike Out Poverty!"

Thank you, Peter and those who participated and supported this initiative.

If you would like to organize a third-party event, visit our website for more information: www.torontocitymission.com/thirdpartyevents



Peter (fourth from the left) with former interns



Jeff, Outreach Worker, sharing a few words about TCM