



Giving Hope and Transforming Lives...

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Kroc Center Increases After-School Programming



confidence and social skills. In recognizing all of this research, the Army is increasing its programs in after-school programming in the West Pullman Community. In addition to band, keyboard, and music classes already provided during the school hour, after-school programs will be offered at two schools—**Higgins Community Academy** and **Johnnie Coleman Academy**. After-school programming includes the following: **Character Building for boys and girls, Green Club (Science/Nature Education), Choir, Percussion, Drama Clubs, and Art.**

The National Youth Violence Prevention Resource Center indicates that during after-school hours, children and teens are more likely to become **victims of violent crime** than at other times. Many young people get involved in dangerous and risky activities during the after-school hours. Youth that are not supervised after school are more likely to use alcohol, drugs, and tobacco; receive poor grades or drop out of school; engage in risky sexual activity; and get arrested and carry/use weapons. Evaluations have proved that quality after-school programs can decrease juvenile crime; decrease the likelihood that youth will be victims of violent crime; decrease youth participation in risky behaviors such as drugs, alcohol, and tobacco use; lead youth to develop new skills and interests; improve youth's grade's and academic achievement; encourage youth to reach higher in planning their futures; and increase self

Programs goals include improving attendance, self esteem, youth identifying new interests and talents, improving social skills, youth planning for the future, and building relationships within the community before the Center is open.



As Crime Increases, Kroc Center Provides Shelter



The Chicago Defender has reported that homicides on the southeast and far south side of Chicago have more than doubled the first half of 2008 compared to 2007. The area where the Kroc Center will be located is known as the "Wild Hundreds" (100th—138th Streets). This confirms why The Salvation Army is needed in this community. The Kroc Center will provide a shelter and safe-haven for youth in the community. Pictured left is a group of young people who built a "shelter" during a character building program indicating that when we come together we should be a **safe-place** for one another.



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Kroc Center Increases and Equips Staff

As the Kroc Center increases programming, additional staff has been added to provide quality ministries to the Kroc Center area. **Vernon Lawson**, Divisional Music and Fine Arts Director, has provided leadership in securing additional staff for the Fine Arts area. The following people will be teaching programs:

Vernon Lawson	Advanced Band, Higgins
Joe Caddy	Beginners Band, Higgins
Steven McClain	Percussion & Drama, Higgins
Akeya Harper	Drama—JCA
Ozivell Ecford	Drama/Percussion—JCA
Kaela Rampton	Keyboard, Higgins
Kevin Sparks	Art, Choir, Music, Character Bldg.
Darlene Harvey	Music Lab and Character Building
David Harvey	Character Building
Monte Sier	Green Club
Ernie Davis	HopSports and Golf

The above staff comes with education and training in their respective areas. They have a passion to work with young people in helping them to discover and develop their interests and talents.

The Salvation Army is creating **more jobs** in this community and providing **capacity building** opportunities for individuals.



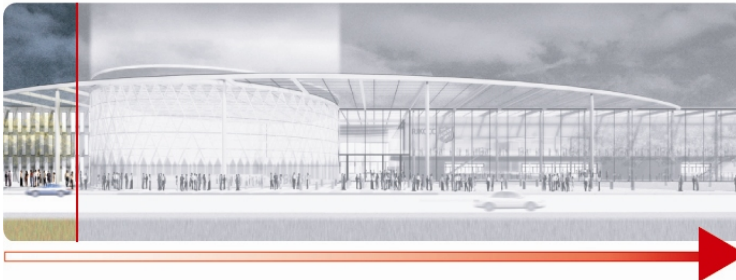
Pictured above is **Steven McClain**, who will be teaching percussion and drama at Higgins.



Upcoming Events & Opportunities:

- **Farmer's Market** sponsored by Green Club—**October 17**
- **Character Building Programs Restart**
- **Fall Soccer Clinic**
- **Family Workshops**
- **Southside Project Office Opens**

Campaign Update



\$50 MIL

The *Give Hope* Campaign has reached 14% of its goal!
\$7,003,219.18



Four men attended Men's Camp from West Pullman and Pastor Leonard Gilbert, from Sheldon Heights Church of Christ, was the special speaker on Sunday.

Thank You for Giving Hope.....

Thank you for all you are doing to make the Kroc Center a reality! As you can see, the dreams of the Center are already making an impact in this community!

You are putting **smiles** on young people's faces and giving them **Hope** not only for their futures but for today!

