



ONLINE
RED KETTLE

'Tis the Season to Get Involved

About the Kroc Center

The Kroc Center will be a state-of-the-art community and social service facility in one of Chicago's most underserved areas, a community center of unprecedented scope and size. It will provide thousands of people of all ages with new opportunities and become an anchor for the community and a beacon of hope. The array of sports, educational, arts and supportive programs has never been offered in Chicago.

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Around the Kroc News

November 2008

NEWS

New Office for Kroc Center Project Supports Increased Programming

Salvation Army Continues to Expand Services in West Pullman

This November, The Salvation Army opened the new **Kroc Center Project Office at 11357 S. Halsted**, a base of operations serving the administrative needs of the many on-going programs in the West Pullman area. The new project office allows The Salvation Army to continue to increase the programs offered to students and families, plan community events and maintain continuous programming throughout the year.

For more than two years, The Salvation Army has collaborated with West Pullman schools, community organizations and families to develop positive alternative programs for area youth, including educational, arts and sports activities designed to enrich the mind, body and spirit.

FEATURES

Salvation Army Increases After-School Programming in West Pullman

Innovative new programs provide unique opportunities for area youth

Continuing its partnership with Higgins Community Academy and Johnnie Coleman Academy, The Salvation is expanding its music instruction schedule and developing innovative new after-school programs. Research from the National Youth Violence Prevention Resource Center indicates that during after-school hours, children and teens are more likely to become involved in and victims of violent crime than at other times. The newly expanded Salvation Army after-school curriculum provides a wide range of new opportunities for students, creating engaging, positive alternatives to risky behavior.



Higgins Students Turn Green

During this summer's Salvation Army Green Day Camp, Higgins students gardened and learned about the environment and conservation. Determined to continue their studies, the students formed the **Green Club** to continue their exploration of environmental issues, science and agriculture. The Green Club kicked off the school year by hosting **West Pullman's first farmer's market at the school**. Students worked along side a local farmer to set up the market, sold fresh produce to fellow students and neighboring families and provided guided tours of their community garden.

HOPSports: An Innovative New Way to Get Kids Moving

In an effort to keep kids active, The Salvation Army has teamed up with **HOPSports** a unique interactive video exercise training system that teaches a broad range of athletic and physical skills. Students will learn and practice a variety of skills as they move, dance, jump, pass and swing their way through lessons in this high-energy, entertaining multi-media program.

Continuing the Tradition of Salvation Army Arts Programs

Music instruction is woven into the very fabric of The Salvation Army ministry. This year, Divisional Music and Fine Arts Director Vernon Lawson added six new teachers to the music instruction programs at Higgins and Johnnie Coleman in band, percussion, keyboard and choir.

Back by popular demand is the **Drama Club** at Higgins Community Academy. Last spring, participating students wrote, directed and performed musical theater pieces inspired by personal stories. Students also experienced an evening of professional live theatre, attending the Goodman Theater's production of "The Ballad of Emmett Till."

These are just some of the ongoing activities The Salvation Army has helped to develop for West Pullman students. Quality after-school programs like these can decrease juvenile crime and lead youth to develop new skills and interests, encouraging self confidence and social skills. These activities also help to form a solid foundation for future Kroc Center programming, fostering a nurturing environment of trust, growth and corporation for entire families throughout the community.

The Salvation Army in Chicago and the Nation

The Salvation Army is the largest social service organization in the world and the single largest direct provider of social services in Chicago and the state of Illinois. The Army operates 200 points of entry in neighborhoods across the greater Chicago area, providing disaster relief, shelter, meals, rehabilitation programs, child care and head start, senior services and more. On any given night, about 900 people are sleeping under a Salvation Army roof. In 2010, The Army will celebrate 125 years of service in Chicago. The Salvation Army is there every day, 24-hours-a-day in Chicago and throughout the country providing disaster relief to people in crisis.

The Salvation Army, an international movement, is an evangelical part of the universal Christian Church. Its message is based on the Bible. Its ministry is motivated by the love of God. Its mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination.

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