



DOING THE MOST GOOD™

RAY AND JOAN KROC CORPS COMMUNITY CENTER IN CHICAGO

HOME

ABOUT US

NEWS

EVENTS

DONATE

CONTACT US



SAVE THE DATE

Green Club Farmer's Market
Friday, October 16, 2009;
12:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Higgins Community Academy
11710 S Morgan St

Join kids from The Salvation Army-sponsored Green Club for the second annual Farmer's Market at Higgins Community Academy. Green Club members will sell vegetables, herbs and flowers grown in their community garden to family and neighbors in the West Pullman community. Everyone is welcome to attend!

Around the Kroc News

October 2009

Salvation Army and Chicago Police Department Partner to End Violence



Salvation Army Corps Sergeant Major Rev. Vincent Johnson, 9th Ward Alderman Anthony Beale, Salvation Army Major David Harvey and Chicago Police Department Superintendent Jody Weis at the 5th District "Smoke Out" on September 11.

In an effort to help build relationships with members of the West Pullman and Roseland communities, the Chicago Police Department partnered with The Salvation Army in two neighborhood events this summer in the 5th District, an area with high crime rates and violence and the district that includes the site of the future Kroc Center. Many of the youth in the 5th District are already involved in Kroc Center programming.

"Building a relationship with the Chicago Police Department is so important to the community," said Rev. Vincent Johnson, Salvation Army Corps Sergeant Major. "These officers recognize the hope that the Kroc Center will bring. They are signed up to be future Kroc Center coaches and referees. Their children are taking music classes and volunteering in school supply distribution. The Salvation Army and the Chicago Police Department are continually collaborating to bring peace and change to our neighborhoods."

The annual Chicago Police Department "National Night Out," held August 4 at Palmer Park, attracted more than 400 residents for a fun-filled afternoon of entertainment, including a carnival, live gospel music, backpack and school supply give-a-ways and free physicals provided by the Roseland Christian Community Center. District 5 Captain James O'Donnell was also on hand during the event to talk personally with residents and give away book bags and school supplies. The Salvation Army provided a wide range of services at the "Smoke Out", including counseling and senior activities in an effort to build positive relationships with the community around the site of the future Kroc Center.

Chicago Police Department Hosts Roseland Community "Smoke Out" Barbeque

More than 200 residents turned out for the Chicago Police Department-sponsored "Smoke Out" barbeque on September 11, in the Roseland neighborhood. The Chicago Police Department, including Chief of Police Jody Weis and 5th District Commander John Ball, partnered with the local CAPS (Chicago Alternative Policing Strategy) and The Salvation Army to go door-to-door talking with neighbors about how to make the community a safer place. The Salvation Army canteen served refreshments.



Give hope

A Campaign to Transform Lives

About the Kroc Center

The Kroc Center will be a state-of-the-art community and social services 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.

[\(learn more\)](#)

[Support the Kroc Center Campaign](#)

[Learn about the latest Kroc Center developments. Go to www.KrocCenterChicago.org](#)

Kroc Center Team Expands Programming to Fenger High School and Songhai Elementary Learning Institute

In 2007, students from Christian Fenger High School created an acrylic mural of their vision of the future Kroc Center for The Salvation Army. After the project, The Salvation Army donated a kiln to enhance the school's art and ceramic classes.



The Salvation Army Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center have expanded their outreach efforts on the far South Side of Chicago to include two additional schools. Christian Fenger High School, 11220 S. Wallace St., and Songhai Elementary Learning Institute, 11725 S. Perry Ave., will receive music instruction, art and theatre courses. The schools join Higgins Community Academy and Johnnie Coleman Academy in West Pullman.

At Christian Fenger High School, The Salvation Army is collaborating to provide a theatre component for teens that has been absent for years. The site of the future Salvation Army Kroc Center is mere blocks from Fenger High School. The Salvation Army Kroc Center project presents us with an extraordinary opportunity to dramatically improve the lives of children and teens that need safe alternatives, greater opportunities and enriching after-school activities. An opportunity to be part of the solution.

At Songhai Elementary, The Salvation Army will offer musical instruction in beginner's band, drum line and choir. This will be the first time in the school's history of offering musical instruction. The Salvation Army will also provide golf and flag football after-school clubs to keep kids healthy and active.

Golf and Flag Football Added to Kroc Center Programming at Higgins Community Academy

Salvation Army will offer two additional after-school sports clubs to students at Higgins Community Academy this fall as part of their continued effort to keep kids healthy and active.

The Salvation Army has partnered with the Kids Golf Foundation (KGF) to bring the renowned USGA Tee Level and SNAG programs to Higgins. In addition to teaching kids the fundamentals of golf, the USGA and KGF provide golf education facilities and opportunities for kids to develop, through golf and character education, life-enhancing values, such as honesty, integrity and sportsmanship.

Flag football will also be offered to students at Higgins and three other elementary schools as an after-school recreational opportunity.

Approximately 50 percent of children in and around West Pullman are obese, according to a 2008 study of community health by the Sinai Urban Health Institute. This epidemic is directly attributed to a lack of organized sports. Only 33 percent of community children are involved in any kind of physical education or weekly sport program. The Salvation Army and its partner schools in Chicago's Far South Side are working to change this.



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.