



“Did you see it? It bit me. I let it. I wanted that spider to bite me. Now I have spider powers. Now I am Spiderman!”  
- Sammy

# SUPERHERO

## AN UNLIKELY TALE

For months, the extent of my conversations with Sammy had been “Hey..... stop that...” and now, here he sat in my backyard, reclining in one of the patio chairs revealing something I sensed was more than cartoon fantasy.

“Do you want to be Spiderman?” I asked the question quietly and seriously.

“Yes. I am Spiderman. I have Spider powers now.”

“Why do you want them?”

“Because when I grow up I want to save the world.” Sammy was not joking.

“What do you want to save the world from?”

Sammy’s answer was clear and direct, and for the first time in a long time he looked me straight in my eyes.

“Thugs and drug dealers. They don’t make things safe for kids. Glenna, I’m going to save the world.”

**I felt a conflict of emotions of both pride and a wounded heart.** Proud that despite what Sammy witnessed around him God was placing in him hopes and a vision for his future – even if it was mixed with a little bit of superhero dreams. And heartbreak that at age 7 he was already aware of who thugs and drug dealers are and their effect on the well-being of children. Who knows, maybe this would-be Spiderman will someday be a police officer saving souls, or a Pastor or EMT!

God is at work – do you see it? *“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”* This promise in Jeremiah 29:11 is what we cling to for our youth.

**What can you do?** Pray that all of our children and youth will discover the specific plans God has for them. “Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city...Pray to the LORD for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.” *Jeremiah 29:7*



1. Junior Park Patrol plants new trees in the Codman Cemetery. 2. Junkyard Sports (game equipment made by kids from recyclables). 3. Marquis helps build a new garden pathway. 4. Hawaiian luau was a big hit at Family Fun Night! 5. Jumping rope and double dutch all summer in the park.

# Giving Thanks

- by Paul Malkemes,  
Executive Director

*As the deer pants for streams of water,  
so my soul longs for you, O God." - Psalm 42:1*

A year ago I was in the hospital with a virus around my heart. I hadn't thought much about it this past year until I reached my birthday mid-August, when I was filled with tremendous gratitude for life. I didn't quite know how to express it to others, so I made awkward jokes by saying "Praise God, I'm still alive."

**I truly thank God for life.** For the staff of The Boston Project, our hearts continue to burn for our children, neighbors, and youth to experience the gift of life Jesus Christ has for them. I praise God for the preservation of physical life, as two of our young people were hit this week by a car that drove recklessly onto our street. **The spiritual battle over our children and teenagers is so clear** - like night and day; and we, along with many of our staff, are compelled by Christ to engage in the battle. This summer we were blessed with a gifted summer staff that did a superb job leading our outreach ministries. They spent time with over 400 children and teenagers.

As summer draws to a close, many of our full-time staff will go on vacation. I appreciate Jesus' example of withdrawing to lonely or quiet places in the midst of his ministry as a time to reconnect with God the Father. **Pray for us during this time of refreshment.** We also sense that this upcoming academic year may look a bit different for the ministry, and we are asking God for some clarity around this change.

We can never say it enough - **THANK YOU** - for your ongoing encouragement, prayer, and financial support of us through The Boston Project Ministries. *PS. If you don't receive our monthly email prayer updates, we'd love to send them to you. Let us know ([paul@tbpm.org](mailto:paul@tbpm.org)).*



*Staff running one of our summer's most successful programs, "The Spot" teen cafe.*

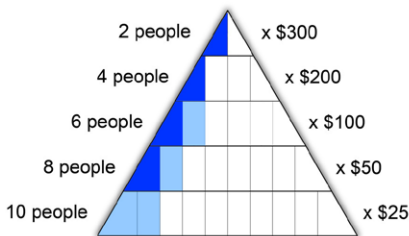


*Our neighborhood programming ended with "The Big Event" for families.*



*Over 200 youth from around the country served with our Summer Missions Program.*

## 30 Monthly Donors Needed for the General Operating Fund:



Will you become a regular supporter today?

## General Fund Update

**Praise God! Several people have joined us as new General Fund supporters** (lightly shaded areas of the pyramid are new regular donors).

We invite you to join us as a **New Donor**. This graph highlights the need for 22 more individuals, families, or churches to join us in 2010. Special gifts are also welcome. Thanks!

2010 Need:  
**\$72,000**

**\$30,800**  
Raised  
to-date

## Please PRAY for these needs of The Boston Project

**PRAISE GOD** for increasing our outreach to children and youth, **a gifted A+ summer staff team**, for those who prepared meals for summer staff, the license from the City to build our new community garden, summer funders, and your prayers which have strengthened and encouraged us!

**SUMMER SPIRITUAL FRUIT.** Ask God to touch the hearts of young people who volunteer, work, or play with us. We have had many Christ-centered conversations, and are praying for spiritual change.

**FALL STRATEGY.** Wisdom as we consider our fall with staff changes and new opportunities.

**CHURCH PARTNERS.** Praise God for church families who stand with us in ministry (about 20). Pray for two to four new church partners to join with us in 2010. If interested, contact Paul or Keith.

**LOW FUNDING.** Our General Fund which pays program staff, our health insurance, and operating expenses is seriously behind (33% or \$17,405). **Pray for God's generous provision (we believe He will).** August and September are typically some of our lowest donation months. Gifts during these next 4-8 weeks are extremely helpful. *Thanks in advance for any help you can provide!*

Please Pray



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