

Change

the Headlines

THANK YOU!
\$19,103
for summer outreach!

SUMMER 2014

YOU impacted our entire neighborhood this summer! In June, we reached out to many of you* to help us raise \$20,000 quickly for summer programs. We are thrilled to report that with your help our neighborhood was full of teens working, children playing, parents connecting, and a decrease in violence. This is definitely what we prayed and worked for - a summer of God's shalom!

* Our apologies to those who did not receive the June update due to an oversight.

Children Build A Caring Community

Elmhurst Park was full of 40-60 children everyday for "camp" (as the kids call it). Free, drop-in programs included Tae-Bo with Ms. T., the Storymobile, Water Fun Days, Gymcrafts, Bible Club, and much more! We saw children grow in their relationship with God, make new friends, and care for the community.



The Eco-Teens installed dozens of rain barrels for neighbors and a green bus stop roof.

Sisterhood Shares Hope Through Benches

This summer we had a large group of middle school girls who formed the "Sisterhood," a job readiness and leadership program. The girls sanded, primed, and painted two new wooden benches for our community. Their messages of hope include "Love Each Other / Love is Patient" and "Our Community Is Beautiful." These signs throughout our neighborhood inspire us all towards change.

Installing Rain Barrels, Instilling Leadership

Eight teenagers learned about caring for God's creation through our environmental youth jobs program. The team installed dozens of rain barrels at neighbors' homes. Each time a full rain barrel is emptied it saves \$8 in water consumption. They also helped install the city's first green bus stop roof as part of our neighborhood's vision to become Boston's first Eco-Innovation District.



Teens Challenged by Injustice, Work for Justice

Ten churches participated in the 19th year of our Summer Missions Program. Since 1996, thousands of lives have been changed by this Christ-centered service experience. One youth was overwhelmed this summer by the realization of how much he had been given. While serving at Rosie's Place

(a sanctuary for homeless women), his eyes were opened through a conversation with a guest that homelessness can often result from unexpected circumstances. Frustrated by what was unfair, this teenager became convicted and energized to figure out how he could help alleviate homelessness at home.

130 Kids who came to the Elmhurst Park Program

29 Teenagers hired this summer

79 People who gave to "Change the Headlines"

3,768 Hours served by church mission teams this summer

Updates from...

The Boston Project Staff Team

Many of you are saying “it’s hard to believe summer is already ending.” Us, too! **This was a great summer at The Boston Project for all of our outreach programs.** This summer we flourished from your encouragement through emails, personal visits, small notes with gifts, and prayers. **Know that we stand here today because of God’s care through you.** Please continue to pray for our staff below as they serve God and desire a strong community characterized by God’s shalom.



Dayna Hollinquest - Youth Employment Coordinator

God has taught me a lot this summer (especially about patience!) as we worked with our youth preparing them with life and work-place skills. I was part of a new team that launched the Youth Hub, an initiative to improve, increase, and create innovative solutions to youth employment in our community. I’m also a full-time student taking classes in counseling. I’d appreciate your prayers as I work hard to complete my degree by this December, and continue to care for the young people God has brought into my life.



The Malkemes Family - Executive Director & Curriculum Director

Glenna and I are becoming part of a smaller number of people nationally who are “veterans” in Christian community development work (20+ years); and we are excited to share our lives with others. In July we brought 17 friends in ministry on a weekend Sabbath camping trip in New Hampshire. In August, we reunited with long-time friend, LaTonya, who is now helping to strengthen the ministry. Finally, we are excited to celebrate the 1-year anniversary of Rescued Church.



Damaris Taylor - Director of Volunteer Engagement

This whirlwind of a summer has been full of blessings! In July, Cherish and I were married in a beautiful ceremony surrounded by friends and family. We are thankful that I was able to take time out of a busy summer directing mission trips with The Boston Project. We are both excited and sad to announce that this fall, we will be moving to Killeen, Texas. Please pray for us as we begin our new life there. We will miss Boston, and are thankful for the many people, ministries, and churches that have shaped our lives during this season.



Liz & Ben Cressy - Director of Finance; Community Development

Ben co-led our Eco-Teens summer jobs program. For one young man, it was evident that this summer would be a decision point. During one project, he got to develop some basic construction skills. He loved it, and began to step up as a leader. When Liz led a training on writing cover letters, he practiced by writing for construction jobs. We hope to hire him this fall for the TNT Youth Council. With the right investment, he will change the headlines.



Kristi Ellens - Volunteer Engagement Coordinator

For the past three months, I served as the Program Director for SMP, which hosts youth groups in Dorchester for a week. It was amazing to see God help me be better than I am. I can look back over this amazing summer and say with confidence that God provided what I needed and listened to your prayers. This upcoming year is an exciting one for me. I just moved into an apartment with 3 beautiful Christian girls and I start my 2nd AmeriCorps term at The Boston Project as a Volunteer Outreach Coordinator.



Sherimon Harris - Youth Leadership Coordinator

This summer I co-coordinated the Sisterhood program for middle school girls. Although I have historically worked with older students, I found God drawing me to this age-group, and it was a lot of fun! My other “news” is that during the last week of our summer, I gave birth to my first son, James Arl Harris, who arrived about 5 weeks early. He is healthy and growing stronger each day, and I look forward to raising him while continuing to serve at The Boston Project part-time this school year.



Keith & Sarah Riddle - Elmhurst Park Director

Due to staffing needs of the ministry, I directed the Elmhurst Park Children’s Program this summer – a first in my 12 years at The Boston Project. I loved that my job was to play with kids and teach them spiritual truths, meet parents and families, and lead with an awesome staff team. I also loved that our whole family was involved, with the boys coming to the park almost every day, and Sarah helping with larger creative projects.

July - August 2014



Neighborhood Ministry House



1) We’re so thankful for our 2014 summer staff team (most pictured). 2) Eco-Teens help install green roofs on a bus stop. 3) Kids slip n’ slide at Elmhurst Park. 4) Neighbors plan for future developments.

Financial Update

We invite you to make a **special** or **monthly** gift today to the 2014 General Operating Fund.

