



Camden Crew Camp 2016

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Newsletter Editor

First Four Weeks of CAMP-AMAZING!!!

Why are Community Partnerships Important?

“Community Partnerships inspire youth to excel!”

-Ms. Mari

“Community Partnerships prepare and expose youth to the real world”

-Mr. Gem

“When we learn to authentically support one another, manifestation of truth and hope shows up.”

Ms. Lutunji

“Community Partnerships expose the kids to different activities”

-Mr. Jon

Hello Parents! Camden Crew Camp is on the move! We are enjoying your children. Thank you for allowing us to be a part of their Summer 2016. Camden Crew’s camp is theme based. So, we have put together 9 weeks of excitement. Which, includes A World Portrait: Village of 100 people, Poems, Everything Minneapolis, College Week, Health & Fitness, Safety and Drug Awareness, Summer Fiesta, Science and Back to School.

Week 1 the youth explored the many different cultures we interact with on a daily basis. Some of the activities included sharing language, religion, music, dance, foods, special attire, important things we

wanted others to know about us, what we believe is important, what we believe to be right and wrong. The youth were very engaged! Week 2 we explored different types of poetry including Haiku, Diamante, Acrostic, Cinquain, Rhythm and Rhyme. Week 3 we researched The Minneapolis Convention Center, The Walker Art Center and the community they reside in; Camden, Minneapolis. Week 4 we were heavily emerged in College week! Our team led by example; Mr. Gem was Mr. Harvard, Ms. Mari was Spelman College, Ms. Nicole was Ms. U of M, Ms. Chris was MCTC and Ms. Lutunji was her alma mater Bethel University. Strategically,

we shared the difference between; Historic Black College & Universities (HBCU), Ivy League, Public, Private and Technical colleges. Our youth created individual and collective collages of their college. Some used their imaginations by sharing their dorm rooms as room mates.

The week culminated with an amazing tour and experience on the University of Minnesota campus. Our scholar Faith exclaimed loudly three times “I want to go to college here some day, I want to live here!”

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Our 2016 community partnerships with Edit the World, The University of Minnesota’s Master Gardener program and Summer Reads-AmeriCorps VISTAs prove themselves

worthy! **EDIT the World’s** mission is to empower youth to promote equity, diversity, and inclusion together in our communities through service learning, leadership, and the arts.

Faithfully, they join us every Thursday 1-3 p.m. and engage our scholars in digital photography, nature walk, meditation and healthy social justice discussions.

Community Partnerships Cont.

“Every successful individual knows that his or her achievement depends on a community of persons working together.” Paul Ryan

The University of Minnesota’s Master Gardener program, is an internationally recognized volunteer program that offers a variety of services. Specifically, they teach our scholars about gardening. Together, they have built garden beds in the back yard.

The Master Gardeners enthusiastically engage our youth in curriculum that teach the importance of watering the plants, and the relevance of insects in

the plant growth process.

Summer Reads is an AmeriCorps VISTA program of the Minnesota Literacy Council in partnership with summer school, libraries and community organizations across the state. They have a goal to help children K-4 improve their literacy skills and fight the summer slide! They are actively involved with our scholars Monday – Friday providing literacy assessments, reading activities and provide our scholars with tons of grade level books. Also, they

attend every field trip with us as well!



Camden Crew hanging out at the U of M during College Week!



Mr. Jon is amazing and brings a wealth of youth development knowledge to the playing field of Camden Apartments!!! Currently, he is the personal trainer to a high school aged young lady that will compete in the United States Olympics! He is a proud Father of four beautiful children and thoroughly enjoys grilling with chilling!

WELCOME, MR. JON!!!



OUR MISSION We partner with people as they redefine themselves and create economic opportunities in our communities.

OUR VISION Creating a community where people have the freedom and mutual support to thrive.

OUR VALUES

- **Equity**--We embrace the diversity of those we serve and seek inclusiveness and fairness in all we do.
- **Responsiveness**--We strive to be flexible and adaptive to the changing needs of the communities while remaining urgent in our actions.
- **Respect**--Everyone is treated with professionalism and profound regard for their individualism.
- **Integrity**—We embrace honesty at every level of our organization.



Mr. Gem educating our Youth!!

Step Up Highlights!!



Ms. Mari engaging our Youth!!

Wow! Emerge Camden Crew Summer camp has the cream of the crop! We are honored to have Kemar “Mari” McCuin and Gem Fields as our Step Up Leaders.

Ms. Mari brings her smile and great attitude to camp every day. She is always ready to serve our scholars in any capacity. With confidence she helps our youth understand they are significantly important and can achieve anything they put their minds to. We love Mari!!!

Mr. Gem is wise beyond his years and brings tons of wisdom to our team and scholars. At anytime during camp, you will catch

Gem speaking words of encouragement to our scholars, Camden residents and community partners. Gem is amazing and we are blessed to have him with us!

Truly, Ms. Mari and Mr. Gem rock out Camden Crew camp!!!

Marvin Clark, Director of Villages

Terra Mayfield, Program Manager of Villages

Lutunji Abram, Camden Crew Camp Summer Supervisor

John Rummel, Camden Crew Summer Coordinator



Camden Youth!

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