



HELPING INNER CITY YOUTH REACH THEIR LIFE'S POTENTIAL

ST. TITUS ONE YOUTH ANTI- VIOLENCE & MENTORING PROGRAM

JANUARY 2017

IN THIS ISSUE

Welcome to the First Issue of the STO Youth Anti-Violence & Mentoring Program News

The St. Titus One Youth Anti-Violence & Mentoring Program is pleased to present the 1st Issue of its Newsletter.

In this issue you will see highlights of the many activities our youth participated in during Fall, 2016.

Our program is unique in nature because it is multi-faceted. We have an awesome after-school program which provides homework assistance and tutoring to help our youth excel academically.

In addition, we have a strong mentoring program to help our youth successfully deal with life issues including bullying, peer pressure, anger management, conflict resolution and more.

Our Youth love our program because it provides them with an opportunity for free expression, and we cultivate their gifts in the arts by providing

opportunities for them to showcase their talents through poems, skits, rap, dance, songs, artistic drawings & paintings, musical instruments and more.

Our program is a "Safe Place" where youth come and enjoy being kids. We accentuate the positive and help them love themselves and others.

Through field trips and special projects they are exposed to new and exciting adventures which encourage them to expand their horizons.

Their social skills are enhanced by playing board games like Connect 4, Trouble, Sorry, and more active games including Ping pong, Bowling, Basketball and more.

As you review the newsletter you will learn more of how our program helps to curb violence in our communities.

STO Youth Anti-Violence & Mentoring Program Youth Meet Members of the Windy City Groove Semi-Professional Basketball Team

See Page 4



STO Youth Anti-Violence & Mentoring Program Youth Participate in Live Radio Interview on WYCA - 102.3 FM

See Page 5



St. Titus One Youth Outdoor Fest a Huge Success

Hundreds of Youth from the West Pullman Community gathered during Labor Day Weekend in an Outdoor Fun Fest with a message to "Stop the Violence"!

The Youth participated in "Creating Winning Circles: Where Mentoring Meets the Arts" and they shared poems, skits and artistic drawings focused on Stopping the Violence.



Demetria Reed won 1st Place and was awarded a \$100 Cash Prize by Pastor Jones.

The day was full of entertainment and excitement as the kids played in the bouncy

house, played basketball and enjoyed a host of entertainers including the Foundations Dance Team, St. Titus One Dance and Puppet Ministries and the Chicago Bucket Boys.

This event was Sponsored by the Chicago Fund for Safe and Peaceful Communities.



Additional Outdoor Fun Fest Highlights



STOP THE VIOLENCE!!!



Members of the St. Titus One Church and Pretty Girl Organization partner to cover the West Pullman area with Stop the Violence signage.

Stop the Violence Yard Signs

Teams of two walked through the West Pullman Community and Posted signs prepared by the STO Youth Anti-Violence Program participants.



Teens Proudly Display Signs

Some of the teens pose with signage as they prepare to go into the neighborhood to post signs.

FAST FACTS

38 Murders

According to Chicago Police Dept. statistics in the Dec. 4th issue of the Chicago Sun-Times, there were 38 murders in the 5th District which serves West Pullman.

211

According to Chicago Police Statistics in the Dec. 4th issue of the Chicago Sun-Times, there were 211 Non-fatal shootings in the 5th District which serves West Pullman.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Give to the St. Titus One Youth Anti-Violence & Mentoring Program. Visit our website at www.sttitusone.com and click On-line Giving.

National Make A Difference Day!

The St. Titus One Youth Anti-Violence Program brought the community together on October 22nd for National Make a Difference Day!

Stop the Violence Signs

The Youth worked for weeks in advance of the big day to put create "Stop the Violence" Posters that were placed on yard sticks.

On October 22nd, Adults & Youth alike went into the West Pullman neighborhood and posted Stop the Violence signs at each corner so as individuals drove or walked by they were bombarded with the "Stop the Violence Message".

Posters were also distributed to residents and businesses to post in their windows and on bulletin boards to ensure everywhere people went in West Pullman, they saw the Message.

"We feel it is important that our youth play an active role in getting the message out that we must "Stop the Violence", Geri Jones, Executive Director, STO

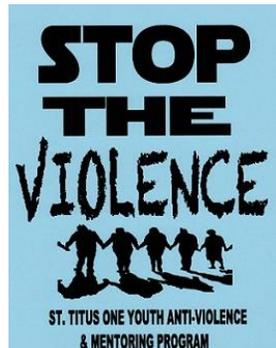
Youth Anti-Violence Program said recently.

By participating in community service projects like this, they truly see how they can make a difference in the community.

Our program was so impactful, that many people in the community automatically connect our program name with the Signs they see in the Community and applaud the work we are doing.

In addition, other communities actually requested signs so they could post them in their community as well.

We look forward to doing more community service projects in the spring to create awareness of the need to "Stop the Violence"



Members of Our Youth Program Meet Players from Chicago's Windy City Groove Semi-Professional Basketball Team

Members of the St. Titus One Youth Anti- Violence & Mentoring Program recently participated in Media Day for the Windy City Groove, a Semi-Professional Basketball Team in Chicago.

Our Youth were able to shake their hands and take pictures with team members during their visit.



In addition, they received Windy City Groove T-shirts and had an opportunity to come to the first home Game for the Team the next day!

It was an exciting time for our youth and a great experience!

Youth Participate in Art Expression Coloring Contest



"Our Youth are so talented and we always look for opportunities for them to shine!"

Members of the St. Titus One Youth Anti-Violence & Mentoring Program were excited to participate in an Art Expression Coloring Contest in December.

Each member was able to select their own artwork to color and each entry had an inspirational saying that they can use as an affirmation for 2017.

**And the Winners Are... Kiara Johnson – 1st Place (center)
Kiteria Gourdine – 2nd Place (right) and Travone Dobine 3rd Place (left)**

Youth Participate in Live On-Air Radio Interview on WYCA-FM

Three members of the St. Titus One Youth Anti-Violence Program recently participated in a Live On-Air Radio Interview with the dynamic Morning Host Ms. Darryl King, on WYCA Radio, 102.3 FM

Participants included Keneesha Harris, DeShawn Thompson and Marlon Jones, II.

This was a great experience, as the youth had never visited a radio station before.

“The Youth were able to see how radio shows are produced and actually be a participant in one of the top shows for Religious Programming.

Morning Talk Show host Darryl King made the youth very comfortable before going on air.

They were able to talk about the “Stop the Violence” Campaign and share why it is important to them.

DeShawn made the interview personal by sharing an experience he had with bullying at school, and how he learned not to retaliate as that

produces more problems, not solutions.

Keneesha shared what she loved about being a part of the Youth Anti-Violence Program and Marlon talked about the competition he recently won producing a skit about the importance of Stopping the Violence.

Darryl King encouraged her listening audience to do all they can to help Stop the Violence in our communities.

She stated everyone can help and encouraged listeners to allow their youth to join the St. Titus One Youth Anti-Violence and Mentoring Program.

Geri Jones, Executive Director shared information on the “National Make a Difference Day” saying everyone has a responsibility to help our youth stay focused and provide positive outlets for them to use their energy and talent so they don’t become statistics.

The Youth left the Radio Station feeling like the celebrities they are. They truly made a difference on that day!

AROUND TOWN



We're Live on the Radio!!!

The On-Air Radio Experience was life-changing for our youth.



Morning Host Darryl King Gives Our Youth a Tour of the Radio Station

Our Youth were excited to pose for a photo with the nationally renowned radio host Darryl King (2nd from left) after they completed a tour of the Radio station.

IL Give Day a Huge Success!!!

Special thanks to all who gave during our IL Give Campaign which climaxed on November 29th. You truly make the Difference in the lives of our children.

DONORS

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MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS

Nathaniel H. Bronner
 Gary & Denise Gardner Family Foundation
 Luster Products Black Heritage Foundation

**Because of your generosity,
 we raised over
 \$10,000.**

Special Thanks to **Michael A. Jones, II**, who was successful in getting the largest number of Individual Contributors for this campaign

*Special Thanks to All Anonymous Donors

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Rev. Michael A. Jones, I, Pastor
 St. Titus One M. B. Church

Angela Taylor, Budget & Mgmt Analyst, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District

DiAnn Stewart, Retired Banker
 Fifth/Third Bank

Michael A. Jones, II, International Sales Manager, Avlon Industries

Geri Jones, Executive Director

January- February Events

Martin Luther King Artistic Expression Competition

Sky Zone Field Trip

Fences Movie Trip

Black History Essay Contest

DuSable Museum Trip

**ST. TITUS
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 PROGRAM**

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www.sttitusone.com

« HAVE A HEART » CAMPAIGN



Join the St Titus One Youth Anti-Violence & Mentoring Program as we put our dollars where our heart is –Our Youth.

Your tax-deductible donation will make it possible for us to serve many youth in the West Pullman Community.

In February, donate by visiting our website at www.sttitusone.com and reference the St. Titus One Youth Anti-Violence & Mentoring Program.



Checks can be made payable to St. Titus One M.B. Church, 12257 S. Emerald Ave., Chicago, IL 60628



Have a and give generously. Together, we will make a positive impact in the lives of our youth and help « Stop the Violence ».

