



ST. JOSEPH SERVICES UPDATE

DEVELOPING YOUTH. EDUCATING ADULTS. TRANSFORMING LIVES.

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Dear Friends,

It continues to be very busy here at St. Joseph Services with all the different events we've had going on!

This was the first year for two of our events: the SJS' Humboldt Park Community Carnival and the Night of the Arts in Austin. We opened our doors to our neighbors, as they are another integral part of the SJS mission to transform communities. We were excited to see so many new faces and meet new partners. It's heartwarming to know that our programs are truly growing from the "inside out."

Below are some of the marvelous photos taken at our various events these past months. Thank you once again to all the volunteers, staff and donors who made them possible!

Blessings to you and your family,
Lisa Sand Sullivan, Executive Director



Night of the Arts in Austin showcased SJS participants' creativity and ingenuity and gave the community a chance to come together to support the young talent. Some of the students (below and right) pose proudly with their artwork and after their performances.



You win some, you lose some...as was the case at the SJS 8th Annual Trivia Night in Hinsdale (right). Teams with names such as "Fifth to Nun" and "Trivial People" vied for the coveted Lamp of Knowledge as they answered questions about history, pop culture, literature, and more!



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Volunteers came from far and wide to put on the first ever SJS Community Carnival. Participants (left and top) tried their hand at a myriad of games, won prizes, and had their faces painted. Humboldt community members helped spread SJS' mission when they invited family and friends to join the fun!

Developing Youth



Antonio shows off his creativity at Loyola University's Museum of Art on Michigan Avenue.

Students in our Humboldt Park After School Program experienced the chance of a lifetime when they were invited to exhibit their artwork at the Loyola University Museum of Art (LUMA) on Michigan Avenue.

"It was so cool getting to come here and have my pictures up for everyone to see!" exclaimed Antonio, a 4th grader in the program.

For two hours, our SJS students enjoyed an opening reception at LUMA where they reflected on their unique experiences and how they learned to use different art media over the last few months. They also expressed gratitude to their families and to the LUMA volunteers, Ann Meehan and Susan Friel, for this amazing opportunity. These caring art educators secured a grant to provide their expertise while instructing SJS students in a series of art projects. The LUMA sessions resulted in a culturally enriching experience for both our After School students and their families. SJS thanks LUMA and their staff for their time and creativity enriching the After School Program!

Educating Adults



Tammy Smarsh (far right) poses with Avondale ESL students and Sr. Sharon Horace during Volunteer Appreciation Week

Tammy Smarsh and the Daughters of Charity enjoy a long, shared history. Tammy, a graduate of Marillac High School, was taught for four years by Daughters of Charity sisters. Tammy heard about SJS a few years ago and decided to put her own teaching skills to good use. "I found the ESL participants and their stories extremely inspiring. I wanted to do my part in the program."

For the past two years, Tammy has been an ESL instructor at the SJS Avondale site. Recently, she helped the ESL students put together a book of essays entitled "Impressions," which documents the students' first impressions upon arriving in the U.S. Tammy also recently led a field trip to the National Museum of Mexican Art. Additionally, Tammy is dedicated to furthering her learning in teaching English as a Second Language, recently completing a 30-hour ESL instruction course. Tammy learned from the Daughters of Charity the value of giving back and truly serves as an asset to the SJS Adult Learning team!

Transforming Lives



Diamond (right) learning administrative tasks from Tiara At SJS Austin site .

Diamond, 16, has been a part of the St. Joseph Services family since she was 11 years old. She started with us as a 5th grader in the SJS After School Program, and the summer and winter camps in Austin.

When asked about her experiences growing up with SJS, Diamond said, "It was all really fun. I liked everyone, especially the staff. St. Joseph Services is a fun and safe place to

come . . . and when you need someone to talk to, they're always there for you."

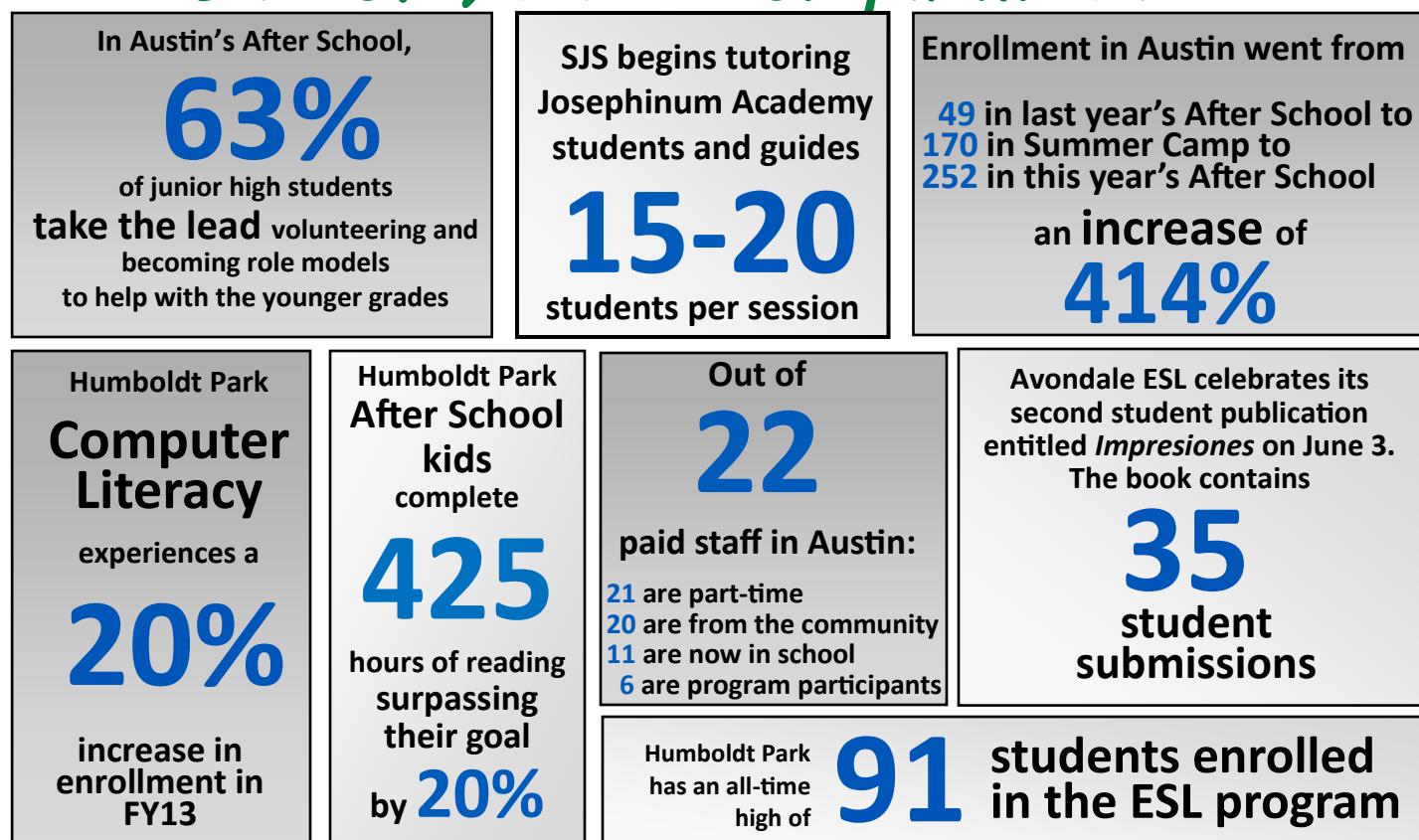
A little over a year ago, Diamond began volunteering with us, tutoring kids and leading culture clubs at the After School Program. Site Director Bradly Johnson saw potential

in Diamond's work with the After School Program, and he teamed up with the Austin Chamber of Commerce to offer her a paid position at the SJS Austin site. Her dance club is already a great success and recently performed at the SJS Night of the Arts in Austin. Ellie Terrell, an SJS After School Instructor emphasizes, "Diamond's students love her dance club! They look up to her a lot. One of her students was in tears when she had to miss practice because that's how much they look forward to it."

Diamond is currently a sophomore at the Al Raby School for Community and Environment. When asked about her future, she expressed big plans. Diamond wants to attend Northern Illinois University and hopes to become a pediatrician. "I like working with kids. Being around kids is so fun, and they make every day really interesting. They make me happy . . . very happy."

Diamond exemplifies the St. Joseph Services model of developing youth participants into volunteers and helping them to learn to work. St. Joseph Services continues building our programs from within the community.

End-of-Year Accomplishments



SJS Bus Donated by Caring Supporter

Our volunteer and anonymous donor explains why she chose to honor SJS students with the gift of a bus . . .



SJS volunteer blesses our students and expands our reach in countless ways!

"I love being a volunteer, and since high school I've been involved with various organizations—mostly working with and helping school-aged children. Now that I volunteer with SJS, I wanted to do something besides donating my time and efforts. Amazingly, the SJS students I work with thank me for helping them, but I always thank them back for making me feel like I'm doing something worthwhile helping all of us feel good as a result."

I asked SJS staff what their organization needed that wasn't currently in the budget. After some discussion with staff, they gave me a "wish list." My intent was to provide something immediate which the kids or adults participating in their programs could benefit from right away. So, when I saw a school bus was on the wish list—needed for transporting kids to SJS for the after school programs, or adults to job fairs, or various other places – I knew that this bus would be the best choice for my donation.

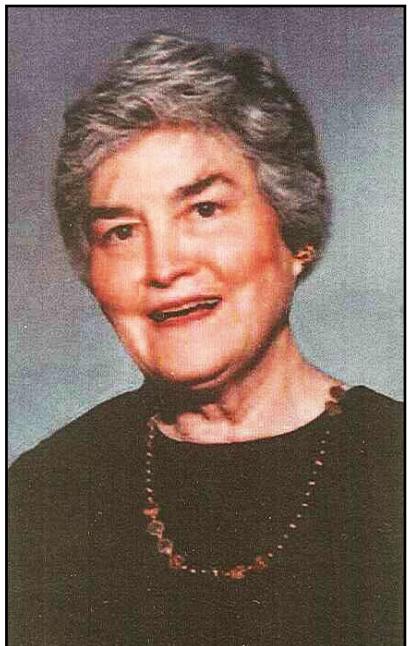
I'm so happy to be lucky enough to donate something as cool as a bus to SJS, but it seemed SJS was even happier than me about my donation. And now, after much detailed investigation and study, this bus has materialized—with the SJS name, phone and web address painted on it for all of Chicago to see and contact if services are needed.

It's a great feeling to be part of a group--almost like a family--where everybody who participates feels happier for doing so. SJS does transform lives—all of our lives—the clients, the volunteers and the staff, and I'm so pleased to say I'm part of that group."

www.stjosephservices.org



St. Joseph Services
1501 N. Oakley Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60622
www.stjosephservices.org



**Join us as we honor the memory of
Mildred Dolan Sullivan with the
St. Joseph Services Award**



**Saturday, October 5, 2013 at 7:00pm
9th Annual Fall Festival
Bredemann Lexus & Ford in Glenview, IL**

\$50 ticket includes music by
the Sullivan Brothers Band and Platform 29,
appetizers, drinks and an awesome silent auction



Register online at:
www.stjosephservices.org

Call Mercy at (773) 278-0484 or
email events@stjosephservices.org
with questions and donations.

*Will you help
by donating
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Sports tickets, theater tickets,
wine, golf outings, Chicago
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