

#### **NOW MORE** THAN EVER!



#### Kurt Schwarz Executive Director

Summer 2019, is in the books! If you were following our weekly summer E-Reports, you know that we saw God move in powerful and life-altering ways once again. After 8 summers of this vision, we believe now more than ever that Jesus Christ is the ONLY answer that will make a difference in the lives of the young people we serve. Our marginalized and often overlooked population of campers are searching for and seeking truth, many times in the wrong places. At camp they find the truth they are looking for and realize that there is nothing besides Christ that can offer them hope both now and for eternity.

Our camp program was better than ever this summer. We had amazing speakers, coaches, and action from sun-up to sun-down. Fun and excitement were in no short supply. However, once again, the difference-maker was not the fun or games, it was the love of Christ being poured out by our selfless summer staff counselors. We saw God's Spirit use them in unique and sometimes unplanned ways. In turn, His Spirit also worked in them! We heard comments like, "This was one of the craziest weeks of my life! So many ups and downs, but I can't believe how much God worked through me!"

From a director's perspective, one of the most memorable aspects of this camp season was how each member of our summer staff team worked with one another. Inspire Sports Camps is definitely not an individual 'event,' it's definitely a team 'sport.' We call it the I'm 3rd mentality- God 1st, Others 2nd, and I'm 3rd. We watched this play out time and time again this summer. When one counselor was temporarily weak, the other was strong; and when one lead counselor was dealing with a camper

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#### EAGLE'S PERSPECTIVE



## **David Roche Youth Pastor**Joy Fellowship Church Bronx, NY

One of our youth, Elijah, returned from Inspire Sports Camps and his Grandma would find him sitting in the living room singing worship songs, which he wouldn't normally do. He also began inquiring more about the Bible and mentioned that he wants to be a counselor to help the young people receive the Lord, like they do at camp. He really had a great experience during his week at ISC!

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## Counselor's CORNER



# Brian Kurian Rutgers University Major: History and Education

My experience at Inspire Sports Camps was definitely a life-changing one. Inspire Sports allowed me to experience amazing fellowship, but I think that the most amazing thing was learning to love on people just like Jesus loved people. Jesus calls us to reach out to those who are neglected and rejected to help them experience something that will leave them never having to walk on their own ever again. By learning to love on people just like Jesus did, I've really begun to see what God really has in store for my life. Being part of Inspire Sports Camps has ignited a fire in me to go out in the world and do missions for Jesus and to allow his name to be heard everywhere.

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issue, another stepped right up to cover their area. Our staff team put themselves 3rd and looked for opportunities to lift each other up all summer long. When a capacity crowd of inner-city youth rolls in each week, you better believe it gets real, and sometimes that means it gets really

Christ has a deeper and greater plan for their lives

tough. However, when you're working with a team who gets your back, you hear comments like this, "God taught me what it looks like to be intentional with people.

We were made to be in community with one another, and ISC is definitely a place where I know I'm part of a family."

The quotes in this article are from young adults who put Christ-like character into action this summer. Our camp experience was a microcosm of what the Christian life is all about- Perseverance in Him alongside brothers and sisters who have your back. As I reflected on the experience of this summer the words of James 1:12 came to life: "Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him." When we persevere, the Lord does bless us tremendously!

Our blessing came in the form of watching young people surrender their lives and futures to Jesus Christ. One camper stated, "I had a weight get lifted off my shoulders and all the pain and suffering CONTINUED ON PG. 3



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I came with was removed." Another shared, "Jesus protects us, and the fact that I know this really hit me hard." Our 2019 camp theme was "Dig Deep" and we can confidently proclaim that hundreds of campers went back to the neighborhoods where they live understanding that Christ

has a deeper and greater plan for their lives than they ever realized before. They left camp with a new plan and purpose for life. Will you please pray for our campers and the Eagles (urban-based leaders) that pour into them all year long?

#### **HELP WANTED**

### We are looking for volunteers to help with the following areas:

- Administrative Support (2-4 hrs/wk)- Calling & Emailing Eagles (Urban-based partners)
- · Bookkeeping (2-4 hrs/wk)- Data Entry
- Banquet Set-Up Team (1-4pm, Dec. 3rd)- Help with arranging the Ballroom at Macaluso's

## Counselor's CORNER



Amanda Lemire
Susquehanna University
Public Relations Major

Inspire Sports Camps was one of the most challenging yet fulfilling experiences I have ever been through. On the first night, I didn't think I would make it through two weeks of camp, but that just showed me how much I needed to rely on God's strength and energy every second of every day. I learned the importance of loving on others, yet I realized it's impossible to do unless I surrender to the Lord and let his love shine through. While I learned so much about myself and about my own spiritual journey during camp, I also realized what it looks like to be a true servant of Christ by interacting with the other counselors. I met some of the greatest people ever who I know will be lifelong friends of mine. These counselors welcomed me, encouraged me, and helped me focus on God throughout the fourteen days I was serving. I couldn't thank ISC enough for allowing me to be a part of a lifechanging experience for so many campers as well as myself. Because of Inspire Sports Camps, I have such a desire to serve the Lord and glorify him in all that I do! I pray that God gives me the opportunity to serve again next summer!



#### **THANK YOU!**

# You make ISC a reality for inner-city young people all across the Northeast.

On behalf of the campers, staff, and our entire leadership team we "Thank You" for your relentless prayers and generous support.



\*If you would like to make a donation to ISC and sponsor campers for this year, you can do so with the attached "Sponsorship Letter" or by clicking on the "Support" page at: www.inspiresportscamps.com

#### ONLINE GIVING MAKES ONE-TIME GIFTS AND MONTHLY GIVING QUICK AND EASY!

All sponsors receive a hand written thank you note and a baseball card picture of the campers that they sponsor.

