

SETTING THE FOUNDATION



Kurt Schwarz Executive Director

Yandel Sanchez plays football for Eastside High School in Paterson, NJ. He is striving to make the honor roll, wants to go to college, and one day hopes to be either a surgeon or detective. He is thankful for a loving mother who stays on top of him. But, he was not happy with his mom when she told him that she signed him up for something called Inspire Sports Camps a couple of summers ago. In his words, "I had a very bad attitude and I didn't want to go to some Bible camp. I was hanging out with the wrong people and good at getting in trouble at school." He also shared that even though he had plenty of people he called friends, "I felt very alone."

Camp came and the change started when he met his counselors. Yandel clearly remembers Kevin and Jake. He said, "They were fun, funny, and the kind of guys I really want to be like. They were the ones who told me about Jesus." The most important thing they shared was that "God would always be there to help me and be there to help me when I needed Him and needed His strength." Yandel recounted that when he went home, he stopped hanging out with certain people. He said, "I now knew God had a plan and I now wanted to take things more seriously and focus more in school."

He admits that over the last year, with online learning and classes on Zoom, it has been hard to focus. He also shared that he still has an attitude sometimes. He said. "But it's (his attitude) much better than before. Sometimes I still get mad. But, I now realize that I can control it." Instead of getting overwhelmed and shutting down, Yandel said, "I now turn to God and He helps me control my emotions." This is a real story of a real teenager who is fighting the same battle that all of us fight every single day - Should I try to do it on my own or should I give myself to God?



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Yandel said, "Knowing Jesus lived and sacrificed His life for me makes me grateful, and that motivates me a lot. When I want to give up, I remember that Jesus had a choice for me and He chose to give me life and that meant that He had to die."

In just over a month, we will welcome hundreds of teenagers just like Yandel to Inspire Sports Camps 2021. These young people are trying to navigate daily decisions that have real consequences. Our desire is that they will be able to make these decisions with a knowledge of Jesus Christ's love, truth, and their foundation in Him.

Thank you for making a life-changing week at camp possible for young people like Yandel Sanchez.

IN THIS ISSUE:	
Setting the Foundation	1
Trusting Closed & Open Doors	2,3
Counselor's Corner	
Lindsay Benitez	2
Jake Momanyi	3



Counselor's



Lindsay Benitez

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God pursues us. During camp, I kept seeing that pursuit. It was everywhere. The campers may not have any clue about what's going on, but MAN to see God pursue them. To see His love for them. To see them come to an understanding of the Gospel. That cannot be traded for the world. The Truth is, that Christ changing lives is the only thing that matters... nothing is more important. The experience of being a counselor at ISC has convicted me to live more fully in that Truth.



"FOR MY THOUGHTS ARE NOT YOUR THOUGHTS. NEITHER ARE YOUR WAYS MY WAYS," DECLARES THE LORD . **"AS THE HEAVENS** ARE HIGHER THAN THE EARTH. SO ARE MY WAYS HIGHER THAN YOUR WAYS AND MY THOUGHTS THAN YOUR THOUGHTS. **ISAIAH 55:8-9**

Kurt Schwarz Executive Director

Sometimes in life and ministry, we have a plan, and it seems like a good plan. It's not bad, sinful, or wrong, but God allows for an adjustment or He changes it altogether.

Earlier this year as we planned full speed ahead for our return to overnight camping, the camp facility that we had been partnering with since 2017 informed us that it would not be available for our program any longer. This was unexpected news and the timing was not ideal, but we had peace about it. We believed that God had closed this door for a reason and that He must have a plan. We immediately began to prayerfully search for new facilities. One important note is that our leadership team has been having an ongoing conversation about the potential need to expand to a multicampsite program at some point in the near future in order to reach the number of young people we believe

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God is calling us to serve. Long story short - God showed us that it is time for that multi-campsite plan right now.

Within six weeks, we became a multi-campsite program with increased capacity, tremendous facilities at two locations, and camp leadership teams who were eager to participate in our mission of

reaching young people from innercities for Jesus Christ. Both camps are in Pennsylvania about a two hour drive from the NY metro area (Camp Orchard Hill in Dallas, PA & Kenbrook Bible Camp in Lebanon, PA). We currently have multi-week and multi-year agreements with each camp and will have the ability to reach up to 1,000 campers by summer 2022. God is so faithful!



Counselor's **CORNER**



Jake Momanyi

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Serving at ISC was a totally new experience for me. I didn't have any idea what I was getting myself into, but I wanted to serve. I'm glad I did. Quickly, I learned that it was my responsibility to serve as an example of Christ to my campers. I didn't know their life story or their background, but God gave me the ability to love them and help them grow as individuals. Some decided to follow Christ, some left still thinking about it, but I'm content knowing that all kids experienced the Love of God. I'm really blessed for being a part of ISC and look forward to another year of serving in this ministry.

2021 PRE-CAMP



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 Card" or by visiting www.inspiresportscamps.com/give

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