



# City of Miracles International

"Changing Lives, One Soul At A Time"

Volume 1 of 3  
Year of our Lord 2010

## *A message from Founder & Chairman of Board of Directors*

Since 1998, City of Miracles International has sponsored an annual festival series to provide free educational materials and school supplies to children in need, in Illinois and Missouri. And most recently we've successfully partnered with organizations in Nigeria, South Africa, Panama and Nicaragua; to complete Christian mission trips for gospel, fellowship and to provide educational materials to children in those respective countries as well. This year we are looking to expand our festival series to more communities. The City of Miracles International

requires your financial support to meet our efforts and help cover operating and administrative expenses of the organization. Please be sure to keep us in mind when you are completing your organizational budgets, and remember it feels so good to give to others. Thank you.

- Todd Gordon

### *2009 Accomplishments*

- Conducted first international mission trip to Nigeria (Nov. – Dec.)
- Restructured Management Team and Leadership
- Reassigned Responsibilities and Titles

## *Faces of CMI - Valencia Hilton*

"Valencia Hilton has been a volunteer with City of Miracles International for the past four years. She has been a dedicated and committed volunteer, responsible, timely, organized and a pleasure to work with. In her tenure at CMI Valencia has worked in a variety of capacities with various levels of responsibilities. This year in 2010 Valencia has decided to step down in her role with CMI to pursue other interests and commitments. We wish her the very best and there are no sufficient words to show our gratitude for her tireless work. Be blessed. We love you."

- Ruben Ernesto  
Executive Director

"Valencia was very influential in helping me learn the administrative part of CMI organization. I will forever be grateful to her in sharing her expertise, gifts, spirit and unselfishness. These are qualities you cherish in a person. She will be greatly missed but thank goodness she is only a phone call away."

- Arlena Taylor  
Management Team

"Valencia Hilton is an awesome, skilled and consistent woman of character with a great deal of integrity. We will miss your laughter. We sure will miss you this year."

- Donna Linder  
Management Team

## *1998 - 2008 Ten Years of Giving*

- Created "Walnut Street Neighborhood Association" 1998
- Conducted first annual "Walnut Street Festival" 1998
- Created GED preparation training program (partnership with Salvation Army)
- Created Drug rehabilitation counseling program (partnership with Salvation Army)
- Started "Bread Ministry" for homeless and those in shelters
- Changed name to "City of Miracles Association" 2004
- Conducted first annual "Zion City of Miracles Festival" 2004
- Conducted first annual "A Heart for Park City Festival" 2007
- Conducted first annual "East St. Louis Festival" 2007
- Conducted first annual "St. Louis Festival" 2008
- Conducted first international mission trip to South Africa 2008
- Changed name to "City of Miracles International" 2008
- Conducted 10th annual "Walnut Street Festival" 2008
- To date, provide an average of \$300,000 worth of educational material to more than 40,000 children; annually; worldwide
- To date, have provided resources to more than 100,000 families; nationwide

## *A Message from Founder & President*

It is because of volunteers and vendors like yourselves, our readers; that the hope and gospel of CMI continues to flourish. We hope through our work, that families and communities all over the world will be affected in a positive way and bring those who seek him, closer to God. Because of the wonderful people we work with, CMI

has been able to reach thousands of families to find resources, faith, educational supplies and even a simple meal to nourish mind body and soul. Thank you and we look forward to another great year in 2010.

–Kathryn Gordon

### Want to Help? Here's How

- Sponsor a back pack
- Make donation to a mission country of your choice
- Make donation to a festival series of your choice
- Want to go on a mission trip with us? Ask us how.

## *2010 - In the Moment*

•Coordinated with Wisconsin/ Nicaragua Partners to provide educational supplies to 3 schools in Nicaragua : Central America

•Coordinated with Episcopal Catholic Church Diocese of Chicago to provide educational supplies to children in Panama : Central America

•Conducted second international mission trip to Nigeria (March)

•Structured Training Programs with testing and measurable results

- Bread Ministry for homeless and those in shelters
- GED preparation training (partnership with Salvation Army)
- Drug rehabilitation counseling (partnership with Salvation Army)
- Basic computer training on Word, Excel and Windows
- Certificate training for forklift operators
- Certificate training in warehouse operations, maintenance and management

## Reminder - 2010 Festival Dates

July 17, 2010 - East St. Louis, Illinois  
July 31, 2010 - Waukegan, Illinois  
August 7, 2010 - St. Louis, Missouri  
August 14, 2010 - Zion, Illinois  
August 28 - Park City, Illinois

For detailed information and why you should get involved, please visit our website at [www.cityofmiracles.com](http://www.cityofmiracles.com).

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