

partnership

fall 2009

Prayer: the critical ingredient

Prayer is the foundation of any ministry," says Barbara Wibling, Jericho Partnership's volunteer prayer coordinator. "We can really impact this city if we are practicing intercession."

And prayer – the critical ingredient in Jericho's mission to mobilize ministry and transform the city – isn't just for personal quiet times or Sunday mornings. It's the core and backbone of everything we do at Jericho, including our approach to those whose hearts we hope to see moved by the Holy Spirit.

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First Jericho fundraiser

Jericho Partnership will conduct its first annual fundraising event Friday, Dec. 11 at the Palace Theater in downtown Danbury. The 70-year-old theater, in the initial stages of being transformed to its 1920s elegance, is the setting for Jericho's "An Evening of Transformation."

Keynote speaker for the black-tie-optional event is former Connecticut Gov. John G. Rowland, who will talk about his own

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Clara Perkins, director of the S.A.Y. Yes! after-school program, stands in the doorway of her new office in the facility under construction.

S.A.Y. Yes! gets a new home

For the past three years, Jericho Partnership's after-school tutoring program has met in five different locations. But come Thanksgiving, when the program's youth development center is scheduled to open, the 41 boys in S.A.Y. Yes! will have a place to call home.

"With the Lord blessing us with the S.A.Y. Yes! Youth Center, we'll have our own space," said Clara Perkins, director of the program designed by Campus Crusade's Here's Life Inner City. (S.A.Y. Yes! stands for Save America's Youth.)

The new 2,800-square-foot, \$300,000 center is being built on the footprint of a mothballed wing of Jericho's 13 Rose St. facility in Danbury. The wing was demolished and the new center built on a new foundation.

A matching fund drive will match a total up to \$50,000 to help cover the center's cost of construction and equipment (See Page 3). The new facility will allow the program to expand to as many as 75 at-risk boys in the future, Perkins said.

A safe place to go

The after-school program for Pathways Danbury mentees focuses on raising academic performances to 3.0 levels while developing the middle school and high school boys into Christ-centered young men. More than merely a tutoring program, S.A.Y. Yes! addresses the whole life of a young man.

"We're teaching them the importance of having a relationship with God, how He's part of

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From the Chairman



Bill Beattie

HELPING OUR KIDS EMBRACE A BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW

In the previous Partnership, I outlined four outcomes we believe God is working to achieve in Danbury through the Jericho Partnership (See box). The first is significantly increasing the number of Danbury youth embracing a Biblical worldview.

If Danbury kids are typical of national youth, data shows kids with considerable spiritual interest but no foundational understanding of the Christian faith, and rebelling against the church of their parents.

Only 15 percent of public school kids from Christian homes have a Biblical worldview. Not only that, but 63 percent of Christian youth don't believe Jesus is the Son of God, 58 percent believe all faiths teach equally-valid truths, 51 percent don't believe Jesus rose from the dead, and only 33 percent believe the church of their parents will play a role in their own life.

Common good threatened

The impact on our community and the implications for our faith are major. When youth have no Biblical belief system, attitudes and behavior are significantly affected. According to Barna Research, they are:

- 225 percent more likely to be angry with life;
- 200 percent more likely to lack purpose and be disappointed in life;
- 48 percent more likely to cheat on an exam;
- 200 percent more likely to

steal and/or hurt someone;

- 300 percent more likely to use illegal drugs;
- 600 percent more likely to commit suicide.

The lack of a foundational understanding of our Christian faith by our youth could result in this being what Christian writer Josh McDowell calls "The Last Christian Generation." And the absence of a Biblical worldview poses a behavioral threat to the common good of Danbury and all of our people.

Fourfold strategy

Jericho is blessed with five ministry partners that minister passionately and directly with Christ-centered outreach to the youth of Danbury. We particularly impact at-risk 11- to 18-year-olds with a combination of our academy, mentoring and after-school programs, our free pediatric clinic, and our evangelistic outreach for unchurched kids.

Here's our fourfold strategy to significantly increase the number of Danbury youth embracing a Biblical worldview:

1. Channel 70 percent of our grant funds, currently \$1.5 million annually, to support our youth-focused, Christ-centered ministry partners.

2. Develop a Gospel-based, relational curriculum to train kids to understand Christianity and reject ungodly influences.

3. Develop a network of 350 Jericho-ministry-impacted kids from which to build an expanding core of Christ-centered kids in our schools.

4. Provide opportunities for kids to meet and experience Jesus, have their lives transformed and become a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17).

Join us

Please join us in prayer that the youth of our community will know Him and experience transformed lives. Pray for our youth leaders to make Jesus real, guide kids around the seductive traps in our community, and live lives that glorify God. We serve an awesome God. •

Bill Beattie is the founder and chairman of Jericho Partnership.

Key Jericho strategic outcomes

- Significantly increase the number of Danbury youth embracing a Biblical worldview.
- Significantly reduce the high school dropout rate and achievement gap of at-risk youth in Danbury.
- Foster sanctity of life and personal responsibility within the Danbury community.
- Offer hope to at-risk adults in Danbury as they battle substance abuse and homelessness.

Partnership is published four times a year in Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter, for the members and friends of Jericho Partnership, Inc. Reprinting is permitted if Jericho Partnership is credited. Jericho Partnership is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) charitable organization, supported by tax-deductible private donations. Donations by check are electronically debited from the donor's checking account in the amount specified, and funds may be withdrawn as early as the same day. Donors will not have checks returned by their financial institution. Checks are kept in our files for up to 60 days and then destroyed.

Jericho Partnership, Inc. • 13 Rose Street • Danbury, CT 06810 • Phone: 203.791.1180 • Fax: 203.791.1675 • E-mail: info@jerichopartnership.org • Web site: www.jerichopartnership.org

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Serving Together



Carrie Amos

FINDING WAYS TO REACH YOUTH WITH GOD'S LOVE

For many, summer is a season of spending time with family and friends, strengthening relationships. We at Jericho have done the same; strengthening our relationship as a team as we empty ourselves into His work.

God calls us to follow Him wholeheartedly and invest in the lives of His people. The sobering reality about the worldview our youth hold (see Bill's article on preceding page) has brought us to this question: How can Jericho facilitate effective engagement of youth in our community so their knowledge of and love for God increases?

One way is by creating more opportunities for youth to engage in service, since an ingredient in spiritual growth is expressing one's faith through (volunteer) service. Together as a Partnership, we are developing opportunities for youth in our community to serve while being served.

For example, we worked with four youth interns with the city's Summer Youth Employment Program, worked with several youth in our back-to-school backpack bash, hosted a summer youth mission trip where metro Danbury middle and high school youth served across the Partner-

ship (at the local soup kitchen, painting, delivering care items to the city's elderly, landscaping), and worked with partnership pastors to develop youth devotionals and prayer walks.

One middle school youth who attended the mission trip writes, "Thank you for taking so much of your time to help us serve in Danbury and for diving into Scripture with us. It has been awesome and I feel as if I have taken one step closer to God." To God be the glory! •

Carrie Amos is executive director of Jericho Partnership.



Growing Together



Michael Ronan

S.A.Y. YES! MATCHING FUND

ADanbury area family with a passion for education agrees with us that a 50 percent high school graduation rate for our Danbury at-risk students is not acceptable. Because God blessed this family financially, they have become cheerful givers and asked us to establish a matching fund for construction of the 2,800-square-foot S.A.Y. Yes! Center for Youth Development at 13 Rose St. (see Page 1 story.) The family asked to be anonymous to ensure that God be glorified.

Here's how the match works: Each dollar you contribute to Jericho Partnership by Nov. 27, 2009, that is restricted to the S.A.Y.

Yes! Building Fund will be matched, up to a total matching fund of \$50,000. Because Jericho's administrative costs are covered by foundation support, 100 percent of your donation will go to the building fund. Ask if your employer will match your gift for even greater impact.

The S.A.Y. Yes! Center will provide five classrooms and a computer lab large enough to serve a growing corps of 50 middle school and high school students who are striving for academic excellence and growth in Christ. These will include our Pathways Danbury mentees. The doors will be open through-

out the year, and after-school homework and one-on-one remedial tutoring will be provided by volunteers and paid staff.

This is a perfect opportunity to be part of permanent change in the lives of our youth. Please check out the construction project, which is on schedule for a Thanksgiving opening.

To donate, please contact me at 203.791.1180, ext. 229 or michael@jerichopartnership.org. •

Michael Ronan is treasurer and director of development at Jericho Partnership.

Jericho receives ECFA accreditation

Jericho Partnership Inc. has been accepted by the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA), an accrediting organization for Christian nonprofit organizations that adhere to the Council's "Seven Standards of Responsible Stewardship."

The standards include financial accountability, transparency, sound board governance and ethical fundraising practices. To view ECFA standards in full, go to www.ECFA.org and click on the "Standards and Best Practices" button.

"We are pleased that Jericho Partnership meets the strict ECFA accreditation standards," said Michael Ronan, Jericho's director of development and treasurer. "Accreditation tells our donors, partners, and the general public that our financial dealings are open, Biblical and ethical."

ECFA provides accreditation to leading Christian nonprofit organizations that each year demonstrate compliance with ECFA standards. Jericho's independently audited financial and other reporting information are available on ECFA's Web site. Click on the "Member Search" button, and then type in "Jericho Partnership." •



*A higher standard.
A higher purpose.*



Nate Coony (left) and Jazmin Pryce (right) from the New Life Community Church youth group in New Fairfield, prepare pancake batter at the Dorothy Day soup kitchen in Danbury along with a soup kitchen volunteer. The two were part of 15 teens and four leaders on two, week-long mission outreaches to Jericho Partnership ministries from New Life and Walnut Hill Community Church in Bethel during the summer. The teens slept in Jericho's Rose Street facility, had meals with Jericho-related families, and did everything from delivering flowers to local nursing homes from local florists they contacted to organizing the food pantry with Community Action Committee of Danbury to painting at Hopeline Crisis Pregnancy Center to making toiletry and care kits for the city's homeless.

Volunteer opportunities

Looking for an opportunity to make a difference in an at-risk life in Danbury? Here are some current needs at Jericho Partnership and its ministry partners. For more information or to volunteer, contact the volunteer department at 203.791.1180, ext. 257, or volunteer@jerichopartnership.org.

Board members and committee members for several partner ministries.

Mentors. Pathways Danbury mentoring program needs 15 Christian men each willing to make a long-term commitment to mentor an at-risk boy from middle school through high school graduation.

The program has five students who need mentors and ten more on a waiting list.

Drivers for Pathways Danbury on Thursday evenings from Jericho Partnership's 13 Rose St. facilities to the boys' homes in Danbury following Bible study, which generally ends around 7:30 p.m. About an hour is needed to bring the boys home in Jericho's 11-passenger van. No special license is needed, and drivers will be on Pathways' insurance.

Welcome desk. The hospitality ministry for the Rose Street facility needs volunteers to answer the phone, greet people and direct visitors to the right location.

Meal and snack preparers for Pathways Academy, our middle-school-aged boys learning academy; Pathways Danbury mentoring program; S.A.Y. Yes! after-school tutoring center; and Young Life teen outreach.

Good News accompanies backpacks

Jericho Partnership's third annual backpack event gave 180 city youth a school backpack they wouldn't have been able to afford. But something more valuable was given away — the Gospel — and several children committed their lives to Christ during the late August event at Jericho's 13 Rose St. facility.

More than 60 volunteers from Jericho partner congregations took part. "It was a total success," said Carrie Amos, Jericho's executive director. "The building was wall-to-wall kids, families and volunteers, and the Lord's presence was palpable."

Volunteers from Lighthouse Ministries in Danbury read stories about sharing Jesus' love to third through fifth graders, while volunteers from Faith Church in New Milford read it to younger children in another room. Brookfield's Assembly of God volunteers taught "Jesus Loves the Little Children of the World" in sign language, while those from Christ the Shepherd Church in Danbury were building guides.

Hot meals supplied at a generous discount by Elmer's Diner in Danbury were served by volunteers from Immanuel Lutheran Church in Danbury and Walnut Hill Community Church in Bethel. High school-aged volunteers mingled with the kids talking about youth programs they could plug into. New Hope Baptist Church and Young Life volunteers kept kids busy with games, and backpacks were handed out by volunteers from Western Connecticut State University.

Donations of food, snacks, school supplies and materials came from Target, Big Y, Wal-Mart and individuals — including some children. •



Danbury children learn "Jesus Loves the Little Children of the World" in sign language at the third annual backpack event in late August. A total of 180 school backpacks were distributed, and several children committed their lives to Christ.

Homeless shelter to open Nov. 8 for winter months

Jericho Partnership's overflow homeless shelter at 13 Maple Ave. will open on Sunday, Nov 8, and remain open seven nights a week through next April. The shelter accepts homeless men for overnight stays when Danbury's other three shelters are full.

A new component this year will be breakfast and a devotional three days a week for the 16 homeless men who stay overnight at the Jericho shelter. Christian Community Outreach Ministries across the street from the homeless shelter will provide the breakfast and the devotional.

The shelter's volunteer needs include at least 20 men able to commit to staying overnight at the shelter at least once a month

— a total of about six times for each man during the winter. The shelter opens at 6 p.m. and closes at 6 a.m. the next morning, and one male volunteer is needed each night.

Other volunteer needs are folks willing to help organize the shelter with general cleaning, washing and drying bed sheets and blankets (the shelter has a washing machine and dryer), making beds and preparing donated snacks.

For more information about the shelter and its needs, or to volunteer, contact us at volunteer@jerichopartnership.org or 203.791.1180, ext. 257. •

First fundraiser event for Jericho

(Continued from page 1)

spiritual transformation following his resignation as governor in 2004. Jericho is pleased he has agreed to share his story of personal transformation at this event.

The evening begins at 6 p.m. with hors d'oeuvres catered by Two Steps Downtown Grille and a silent auction in the theater's lobby, where displays by Jericho's ministry and church partners will be on view.

The fundraising event will transition to one of the theater's auditoriums for special presentations and music, prayer, and testimonies of lives transformed through Jericho's nine ministry partners.

Pastors from Jericho partner congregations will speak and pray at various times during the event. The evening is scheduled to end at 8 p.m.

"The purpose of the fundraiser is to support Jericho's nine ministry partners," said Michael Ronan, Jericho's director of development. "Jericho and its partners are about transformation, and this event will provide an opportunity to generously support those ministries."

The fundraiser is limited to 400 invited guests. For ticket prices and more information about sponsoring invited guests, contact Michael Ronan at Jericho Partnership at 203.791.1180, ext. 229, or michael@jerichopartnership.org.

Prayer: the critical ingredient

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To help build Jericho's foundation of prayer, Barbara is recruiting "prayer warriors" from among the several hundred Jericho volunteers, and from Jericho's ministry and church partners. "I can't even tell you how many intercessors we'll eventually have," she said. "We have a huge pool of people, and many churches already have established prayer ministries."

Those intercessors will be linked together not only in prayer but electronically through e-mail prayer chains and a new prayer request section under development on Jericho's Web site (jerichopartnership.org).

They'll be able to meet together for prayer in Jericho's redesigned Wilberforce Chapel at 13 Rose St., and can be part of prayer teams for intercessory prayer walks to "place the soles of our feet out into the community itself by employing our principal weapon of spiritual warfare – prayer," she said, quoting from C. Peter Wagner's book, "Praying

with Power."

"I know God wants Jericho to succeed, to have individuals and the community be impacted by His goodness," she said. "We have so much power when we're united in prayer and united in agreement with God's plan for our community."



Summer youth missionaries prayer-walk along Kennedy Avenue in downtown Danbury in July.

Prayer walking

One of the stones being built into Jericho Partnership's foundation of prayer is "prayer walking" in downtown Danbury – an intentional walk with several intercessors to pray for and bless people in the city.

"We have a set 'Jericho Walk' that starts at Jericho's Rose Street facility and touches other parts of the city, including the Dorothy Day soup kitchen," said Barbara Wibling, volunteer prayer coordinator. Adam dePasquale, a pastor at Walnut Hill Community Church, planned and mapped the Jericho Walk.

As teams walk along city streets, they pray quietly for people they see or who are in buildings, including the city's police headquarters, Danbury Hospital and city hall. "Prayer walking is a wonderful way to be in tune with the Lord and seeing the people he wants to transform."

Other prayer walks will include praying on-site through Jericho's facilities and those of its nine ministry partners. "We can really impact this city if we are interceding for it," Barbara said. "We are praying for hearts to change, for people to be transformed through the love of Christ."

For more information on prayer walking or on becoming an intercessor for Jericho and its partners, e-mail Barbara at prayer@jerichopartnership.org.

S.A.Y. Yes! gets a new home

(Continued from page 1)

their everyday life and Someone they can depend on," Perkins said.

The expanded program is the "missing link" in the one-on-one Pathways Danbury mentoring program, she said. "This completes the process of helping kids develop spiritually, scholastically and with life skills to be successful in the world."

But the program is even more. "A lot of kids come because it's a safe place where there's someone to greet them when they get out of school, someone to give them a snack and listen to what's going on in their life," she said.



"It's kind of like we have private tutors. If we don't understand, they don't stop until we do. This is what makes it so unique and special."

James Harrington

Too few volunteers

The program, which currently meets in Jericho's multi-purpose room, has two certified teachers to help the boys with homework, and volunteers to help with particular subjects. "It's not really one-on-one tutoring because we have too many students and not enough volunteers," Perkins said.

Volunteer tutors build a relationship with a student over a period of time, she said. "Our goal is to have the kids do the best they can."

This year the program offered summer school, and 21 boys attended the sessions. "We decided to help the kids get ahead before the school year started and to keep them working on their academics," she said.

Volunteers needed

Here are some of the needs for the S.A.Y. Yes! program:

- **Tutors.** Volunteer tutors must be able to make a longer-term commitment to the program in order to build trust-relationships with the students.
- **Classroom helpers and life-skills facilitators.**
- **Drivers.** No special license is needed to pick up the students at Danbury High, Henry Abbott and the city's two middle schools and drive them to Jericho's Rose Street facility. Drivers are on the program's insurance.
- **Preparing and delivering snacks.**
- Also, the new tutoring center has a need for **computers, reference books and supplies, a full-sized refrigerator and a microwave** oven. New equipment would be appreciated.



"This program is getting me ready for my senior year ... and I'm even learning about the Bible, too. We go on fun trips and went to the Capitol building and met our governor, Jodi Rell. We went to New York to visit a Wall Street bank ... and went to the Statue of Liberty, too."

Jonathan Ortega

Each Friday of the summer program was Career Day, opening the possibility of college and careers with field trips. During the school year, Fridays will be reserved for life-skills training, workshops, art and drama activities and more. Bible study takes place on Thursday evenings.

Word-of-mouth

The new center will have five classrooms and a multi-purpose room to help meet the growing demand for the program. "We constantly receive calls to help kids with the after-school program," Perkins said. "Parents call and tell us they've heard about S.A.Y. Yes! and what a vital part it plays in kids' lives. I guess they're hearing it from other parents, by word-of-mouth."



"I think the best thing about it is that we get to work on our weak spots in our academic [subjects]. Also, we learn about teachings in the Bible. We learn about current events and other things that relate to our lives, and that can help us make better choices."

Jermaine Barker

Recently a parent came to see Perkins to ask if her daughter could be enrolled in the program because "she had heard so many wonderful things about it," she said. "But this is a boys-only program because we're trying to make a difference in a young man's life. We need to motivate our young men, and if we can make a difference in their lives, it will roll over to the ladies." •



"This program keeps me from staying at home and being a couch potato, and it keeps me off the streets and doing who knows what. I also have fun seeing all my friends and learning and preparing for school. I am lucky to be in this program."

Elijahwon Harris



MOBILIZING MINISTRY ...
TRANSFORMING A CITY

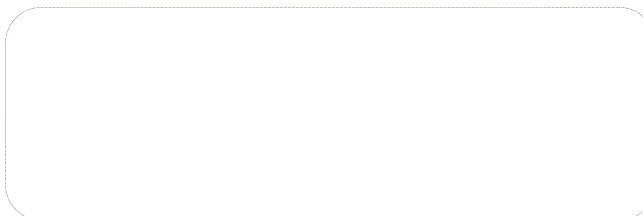
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Quiana Scott of Danbury, a Western Connecticut State University senior majoring in social work, is interning with Jericho Partnership this academic year.

Quiana will be at Jericho and its ministry partners 16 hours a week, including working with Pathways Danbury boys in the S.A.Y. Yes! whole-life after-school program to teach communication and life skills.

Her passion is to work with adolescent girls after she graduates, she said. We're delighted to have this young Christian woman with us.



Staying e-connected with Jericho

Why not try these e-ways of keeping in touch with us:

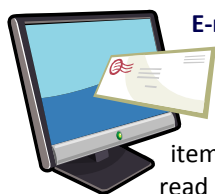
YouTube. Check out Jericho partner Christian Community Outreach Ministries' YouTube video via the Jericho Web site at www.jerichopartnership.org. On the home page, click on "News," then on "New from CCOM."



E-mail. Want information on how to volunteer? E-mail us at volunteer@jerichopartnership.org.

Need information about donations to Jericho or its partners? E-mail Michael Ronan at michael@jerichopartnership.org.

Have other questions? E-mail our general e-mail box at info@jerichopartnership.org.



E-newsletter. We e-mail our one-page postcard, "Just a Minute with Jericho," every month or so. Its short news items and brief stories can be read in a minute or two. E-mail

info@jerichopartnership.org and we'll add you to our e-mail list.

Prayer. Do you have a prayer request? E-mail it to prayer@jerichopartnership.org, and our prayer volunteers will be notified of your confidential need.

E-Pay. Don't feel like writing out a check to make a tax-deductible donation to Jericho Partnership? We can receive PayPal credit card donations via a link on www.jerichopartnership.org. On the home page, click "Get Involved," then "Give."



Web site. Visit and re-visit our Web site, www.jerichopartnership.org, to learn more about Jericho and its ministry partners.

Phone. Call us workdays between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. at 203.791.1180.

Jericho Calendar

Take note of these activities:

- **youngMOMS group** — Weekly meetings at 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday through Nov. 11 for young moms' friendship and growth. Call 203.207.4673.
- **Hopeline Walk for Life** — Saturday, Oct. 3, 8:30 a.m. at Harrybrooke Park, New Milford and Calvary Evangelical Free Church, Trumbull. Call 1.800.203.4673 or visit www.supporthopeline.org.
- **Walnut Hill Community Church Golf Classic** — Monday, Oct. 5, Golf Club at Oxford Greens. \$160 per golfer; proceeds will benefit Pathways Academy. To register, call 203.775.8309 or CGoodwin@unimin.com.
- **Amos House 20th Anniversary Celebration** — Sunday, Oct. 11. Hats off to Amos House and its transitional living program! Call 203.791.9277 to make reservations.
- **Pathways 13th Annual Call to Action Breakfast** — Saturday, Nov. 7, 7:45 a.m. at Stony Hill Inn, Bethel. For Christian men interested in mentoring. Call 203.205.0962.
- **Jericho Overflow Homeless Shelter opens** — Sunday, Nov. 8. Pray for the men who will use our shelter this winter.