

partnership



winter 2011-2012



Jericho Chairman Bill Beattie, left, and Executive Director Carrie L. Amos present the 2011 Good Samaritan Award to Rev. Dr. Wilson Goode for his Christ-centered impact in service to at-risk children.

Good Samaritan Award given to Dr. Wilson Goode

Jericho Partnership presented its inaugural Good Samaritan Award to Rev. Dr. W. Wilson Goode, Sr., for his work as organizer and director of the Philadelphia-based Amachi program, which pairs mentors with children of incarcerated parents.

Since it began 11 years ago, the program has spread to more than 100 cities and 6,000 churches, and more than 100,000 children of prisoners have been mentored.

“Dr. Goode’s work with Amachi embodies Jericho’s vision and mission of mobilizing others in service to the at-risk population,” said Carrie Amos, Jericho’s executive director.

Goode, former mayor of Philadelphia, was recognized at Jericho’s annual “Evening of Trans-

formation” gala Dec. 2 at the Matrix Corporate Center, Danbury, where he was keynote speaker. Jericho’s founder and chairman, Bill Beattie, presented the award (See Page 2).

“I’ve heard and read about Jericho Partnership, and I thought I’d be here to encourage you,” Dr. Goode said. “But I’ve been inspired by what I’ve seen, by what’s happened in this community.

“If we could replicate this across the country, we could build a mighty Kingdom work of the Lord,” he said.

The annual award recognizes those making a significant Christ-centered impact serving at-risk populations. •

Girls’ mentoring program gets underway

The Naomi Mentoring Project for at-risk girls is underway! And inaugural director Michelle Ross has no doubts about its needs and goals.

“A positive adult role model is an absolute necessity for a lot of at-risk girls out there,” said Michelle. The 12- to 17-year-old girls who will be in the program need mentoring through a host of potential negative decisions and lifestyles that would put them at risk of flunking out or dropping out of school, substance abuse and “getting involved in other negative avenues,” she said.

“We want to link at-risk adolescent girls with mature Christian women who will help develop the girls academically, socially, men-

(Continued on page 5)

\$250,000 matching gift through March 31

A generous supporter will match all financial gifts and pledges to Jericho Partnership up to \$250,000 that are received by March 31, 2012.

That means your financial gifts through that date will be doubled. As always, all of the gifts, pledges and match go directly to ministry, none to Jericho administration.

For more information about this special matching gift or for any questions about Jericho finances, contact Michael Ronan at michael@jerichopartnership.org.

Scan this code on your mobile device for more information about supporting Jericho financially.





From the Chairman



Bill Beattie

GOOD SAMARITAN 2011: REV. DR. W. WILSON GOODE

Before I tell you about the man Jericho honored December 2 as our “Good Samaritan of 2011,” let’s recall the parable in which Jesus tells us about “who is our neighbor.”

Jesus answered by telling a story. “There was once a man traveling from Jerusalem to Jericho. On the way, he was attacked by robbers. They took his clothes, beat him up, and went off leaving him half dead. Luckily, a priest was on his way down the same road, but when he saw him he angled across to the other side. Then a Levite religious man showed up, and he also avoided the injured man.

“A Samaritan traveling the road came on him. When he saw the man’s condition, his heart went out to him. He gave him first aid, disinfecting and bandaging his wounds. Then he lifted him onto his donkey, led him to an inn and made him comfortable.

In the morning, he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, ‘Take good care of him. If it costs any more, put it on my bill – I’ll pay you on my way back.’

“What do you think? Which of the three became a neighbor to the man attacked by the robbers?”

“The one who treated him kindly,” the religion scholar responded.

Jesus said, “Go and do the same.”

Luke 10:30-37, The Message

Leadership challenge

In 1999, as outlined in a book by Byron Johnson, “More God, Less Crime,” a concerned group in Philadelphia determined to test the effectiveness of mentoring as a way to help the most at-risk children in our population,

the children of prisoners.

Purposelessness is a predictor of deviant behavior in kids, and children of incarcerated parents often have no purpose due to the absence of a parent or parents in their lives. Mentoring by a caring adult has been proven to develop positive behavior, moral commitment and achievement goals in otherwise purposeless lives.

The challenge for Philadelphia in reaching out to the children of incarcerated parents was identifying the children, marshalling large numbers of mentors, developing an organization and providing the resources to mentor hundreds of kids most people walk past on the road to Jericho.

This leadership challenge was taken on by Dr. Wilson Goode.

Four neighborhoods

Dr. Goode, a former mayor of Philadelphia and a pastor, was willing to stop and reach out to the most at-risk children of the city. His heart went out to them, just as the Good Samaritan had reacted on the Jericho Road. The Amachi mentoring program was born and Dr. Goode brought immediate credibility to the program. The community embraced the Amachi motto, “People of faith mentoring children of promise,” and the hard work of collaboration was begun.

Dr. Goode targeted four city neighborhoods, recruited ten churches within each neighborhood and challenged each church

to identify ten adult volunteers from their congregation to mentor. The 42 original churches participating in Amachi ranged in size from 100 to 1,000 and included a wide range of denominations. Within two years, 517 children were being mentored by Amachi mentors.

Eleven years later, the power of the Amachi program and the God we serve is obvious. There are more than 350 Amachi-modeled programs in more than 100 U.S. cities partnering with 6,000 congregations. More than 100,000 children of prisoners have been served.

Mentoring works

In addition, the value of mentoring for the at-risk child has been confirmed through clinical and anecdotal outcomes that Public/Private Ventures, a research and evaluation organization, has made available. It is now proven through the leadership of Dr. Goode that mentoring is not only Biblical and an extension of the Good Samaritan principle, but that it *works* in the lives of the most at-risk kids in our communities.

We’re pleased to have honored Dr. Goode as our inaugural recipient of the Jericho Partnership Good Samaritan Award. •

Bill Beattie is founder and chairman of Jericho Partnership.

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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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Carrie L. Amos

A TRANSFORMATION STORY

People ask me on a regular basis what transformation looks like to Jericho and what resources are needed to see transformation happen.

My answer is that we believe transformation is relational, and that the most significant relationship we can invest in is with Jesus. Our ability to serve others begins with this life-changing, transforming relationship. I'd like to share a story with you that speaks to the transforming power of God working through Jericho Partnership.

Not more than four months ago, a young lady, "J," walked into the Jericho Samaritan Center on Rose Street looking for help, support and guidance. She said she needed someone to talk to, that she was facing several major life-decisions. You see, it was a few days before that J had been released from prison, and she was pregnant with her fifth child.

J's first four children had been removed from her care – the first two were adopted after lengthy stays with a few different foster care families; the younger two children were living with a state-appointed foster care family.

Seamless work

After listening to J tell her story, I took a deep breath, prayed silently for wisdom and discernment, told her we could help, and began calling several Jericho partners. **Hopeline Pregnancy Resource Center** offered immediate medical, material and counseling support;

Christian Community Outreach Ministries offered a plan for case management and intensive outpatient rehabilitation treatment; **Partnership pastors** were called upon to pray without ceasing; and **Bethany Christian Services** offered birth plan and adoption counseling and support.

The Partnership worked so seamlessly together during a very short period of time that

God's transforming power was evident through these covenantal relationships. In late November, I attended a placement gathering and watched as J placed her newborn baby into

the arms of a loving Christian family. J indicated that she wanted her child to have the gift of a family, while she gets her life "back on track."

J will continue to receive treatment and supportive services as the pieces of her life come together and as the power of God continues transforming her day by day. Her newborn son and his new family will receive multiple supports and prayer as they embark on their new journey as a family.

God's grace and favor are evident in and through the Jericho Partnership. I am so thankful to serve with each ministry and congregation partner, volunteer and staff!

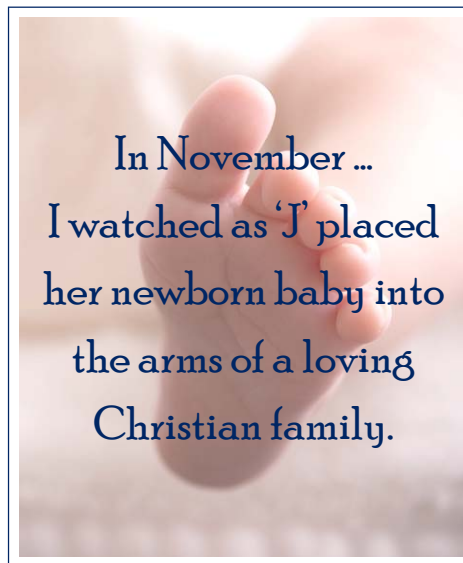
Called to do more

There are many stories like the one I've just shared about how God is working through Jericho to transform lives, families and communities for His glory. We believe He is calling us to do more. With the help of a matching gift of \$250,000, extended through March 2012, we have an opportunity to take a significant and necessary step forward in this coming year. We raised nearly half of this amount at our December

gala, and my prayer is that we would raise the additional funds in these difficult economic times as we continue to serve our neighbors in need.

I invite you to join us on this journey of transformation and give a special year-end gift in celebration of all that God wants to do through the Jericho Partnership in our great city! •

Carrie Amos is executive director of Jericho Partnership.



Jericho grants \$3.3 million to ministries

Ecclésiastes 4:12 tells us that “three cords are not easily broken,” and that’s good news for Jericho Partnership, its ministry partners and its volunteers.

“I’ve been thinking about Jericho’s motto – ‘Mobilizing Ministry, Transforming a City’ – and I see three cords that must intertwine to achieve the goal of transformation,” said Carrie Amos, Jericho’s executive director.

“Jericho’s cord is mobilizing, creating avenues through which resources are channeled,” she said. “Our supporters’ cord is word-and-deed ministry and financial support. God’s cord is transformation, transforming each of us, those we serve, and the city itself.”

Gospel power

“Put those three unique but interdependent cords together and we have collaboration,” she said. “Not only are we better together, but only together can we accomplish the impact we all long for.”

Those three cords of collaboration are at work in Jericho’s Christ-centered Spring Street Ministry. Earlier this year Jericho began mobilizing its ministry and church partners and volunteers to work with residents, property owners and those who frequent Spring Street to link them with Jericho or community services and resources.

In less than ten months, God’s transforming power has produced subtle but visible changes, bringing hope to a neighborhood with a past of drugs, crime, prostitution, homelessness and decay.

“God has called this Partnership to serve our Danbury neighbors in need,” Carrie said. “In these economic times, it’s all the more important to bring the transforming power of the Gospel to the lives and neighborhoods of Danbury.”

Increased grants

To that end Jericho will distribute \$3.3 million in annual grants to its ministry partners this year, a

12 percent increase over last year’s grant funding.

“The needs in our community are great and growing in these troubled and uncertain economic times,” Carrie said. “Jericho partners reach more than 2,300 at-risk children, youth and adults with short- and long-term, sustainable services, and these increased grants will help us reach even more people.”

“We are not a means of temporary relief for hurting people,” Carrie said. “We have a long-term model of transformation, connecting our neighbors with immediate support and longer-term follow-up care by linking them with ministry and community support and resources, prayer support and partner churches. Why not be part of this profound transformation of lives, families, streets, neighborhoods and the city itself?” •

Jericho ministry partners

These Christian organizations serve more than 2,300 people from the city’s at-risk communities:

- Amos House.** A residential facility for homeless families transitioning to self-sufficiency.
- Athletes of Christ.** Portuguese- and English-speaking sports ministry provides youth summer soccer camps and an annual 5K walk/run in downtown Danbury.
- Bethany Christian Services.** The state-wide office of the nation’s largest adoption agency provides adoption and foster care services.
- Brotherhood of Christ.** A mentoring and fellowship program for men.
- Christian Community Outreach Ministries.** A broad-based ministry offering support and resources to individuals and families in crises.
- Highways and Hedges.** Provides a downtown community food pantry and case management services to those affected by HIV/AIDS, substance abuse and homelessness.
- Hopeline Pregnancy Resource Center.** Offers free counseling and accurate information about all pregnancy options, material resources and ongoing support.
- Jericho compassionate ministries,** including free backpacks, free clothing and household items, Thanksgiving dinner and take-home dinner-in-a-box, toiletry/care kits for area shelter guests, and community-wide days of service.
- Jericho homeless shelter.** Overnight shelter for up to 16 men each November through April.
- Pathways Danbury Youth Ministries**
 - **Naomi Mentoring Project.** A one-to-one program to develop at-risk girls into mature Christian women.
 - **Pathways Academy.** An educational center for middle-school-aged boys with goals to help close the city’s achievement gap and high-school dropout rates.
 - **Pathways Danbury.** A mentoring program for at-risk boys from sixth grade through high school.
 - **S.A.Y. Yes!** An after-school, tutoring and enrichment program for youth.
- Samaritan Health Center.** Free pediatrics clinic for uninsured children from birth to 18.
- Young Life Danbury.** Programs, activities and fun for youth, helping them navigate through life.

Jericho church partners

These 20 metro Danbury congregations serve together with ministry partners to offer hope to Danbury’s at-risk communities.

- All Nations Baptist Church,** Danbury
- Cambodian New Life Evangelical Church,** Danbury
- Christ the Shepherd Presbyterian Church,** Danbury
- First Assembly of God,** Brookfield
- First Congregational Church of Ridgefield**
- French Speaking Baptist Church,** Danbury,
- Higher Ground Ministries,** Danbury,
- His Vineyard Christian Fellowship,** Bethel
- Immanuel Lutheran Church,** Danbury
- Lighthouse Ministries Int’l,** Danbury
- Mountain Church of God,** Brookfield
- Mount Pleasant AME Zion Church,** Danbury
- New Hope Baptist Church,** Danbury
- New Hope Community Church,** Newtown
- New Life Community Church,** New Fairfield
- St. Paul’s Lutheran Church,** Danbury
- Trinity Christian Tabernacle,** Danbury
- Victory Christian Center,** Danbury
- Walnut Hill Community Church,** Bethel
- Wilton Baptist Church,** Wilton

Girls' mentoring underway

(Continued from page 1)

tally and spiritually so they come into the full knowledge of Jesus Christ as Savior," she said.

Michelle has been developing plans since November to recruit mentors and mentees. Her goal is at least one mentoring pair in place by January, and a minimum of five to seven pairs by the end of 2012. But "I think that number will be much higher," she said. In time "I hope to double or triple that number" until at least 50 girls are being mentored by 50 adults Christian women.

A heart for girls

Michelle is finalizing her plans for recruiting both girls and mentors. She'll be contacting the public school system, social service agencies, and city churches and parents to find adolescent girls who need a positive adult role model.

Those adult women, she said, must be mature Christians able to meet a mentee at least once a week for one or two hours, who have a heart for adolescent girls, and are willing to commit at least two years of working and walking with the girls. "Hopefully the commitment will follow their mentee right through high school graduation."

"I think I'll be able to find them anywhere," Michelle said of the mentors, "in churches, those with professional backgrounds, stay-at-home moms, women who are not mothers but have a parental instinct – anyone who has the time to dedicate to the girls."

Freedom in Christ

Michelle is a family enrichment specialist with the Danbury Re-

gional Child Advocacy Center until the end of December, is the mother of a 20-year-old daughter, and was part-time direc-

tor since 1998 of Jericho ministry partner Highways & Hedges. She's pursuing a bachelor degree in psychology from the University of Bridgeport and is a certified substance abuse counselor.

This past January, Michelle began Real Talk, a monthly group for young women between the ages of 18 and 25 that meets in Jericho's Rose Street building. "We deal with the issues young women deal with and open the Word of God to see that there is an answer to their problems there," Michelle said. "If they want freedom, they can have it."

"I really have a heart for women of all ages," she said. "I want to see women whole and free and to know that their answer is in Christ. I really feel honored that God picked me to do this." •



Michelle Ross

More info

The Naomi Mentoring Project is part of Jericho Partnership's Pathways Danbury Youth Ministries, which is composed of three other programs: Pathways Academy for middle-school-aged boys, Pathways Danbury mentoring program for at-risk boys, and S.A.Y. Yes! after-school, whole-life tutoring program for boys.

For more information about the girls' mentoring program, contact Michelle at 203-205-0962. To volunteer, e-mail volunteer@jerichopartnership.org. •

Samaritan Health Center goes digital

Jericho partner's Samaritan Health Center patient records will soon be plugged into the 21st Century, thanks to a Christmas gift from members of Walnut Hill Community Church in Bethel.

The gift of \$12,000 or more will go towards buying and installing an electronic medical records (EMR) system to replace the clinic's paper, color-coded patient folders – more than 1,200 of them that will need to be transferred to the new system. But with the electronic system, the staff will be able to quickly find patient records on the clinic's computer or a laptop, add and update medical information from the visit, and send prescriptions directly to a pharmacy.

The EMR system will put the clinic on a par with the surrounding medical community and increase its capacity to serve more patients.

"I'm hoping it will be up and running by June," said Eva Tan, the clinic's director.

The gift is part of the Walnut Hill's annual "Little White Boxes" Christmas Eve special offering.

A clinic board member asked Eva in October to make a wish list for the clinic's most pressing needs, and the EMR system was at the list's top. Second was financial help to buy malpractice insurance for clinic volunteers.

Samaritan Health Center – a Jericho partner since 2008 – is the city's only free pediatrics clinic. It has cared for more than 1,200 children since it opened in December 2008, averages more than 1,450 patient visits each year, and averages 100 free immunization shots a month. •

Spring Street transformation underway

When Jim Wiley was assigned as Jericho Partnership's Spring Street Ministry coordinator this year, "I never saw the people who live there." He saw the homeless waiting for the soup kitchen or shelter to open, the occasional prostitute or drug dealer, but not the residents.

"It was a closed street," he said, as residents stayed indoors to lock out the drugs, crime and prostitution. Parents wouldn't even let their children play outside in broad daylight.

But a spring and summer of Jericho volunteers, prayer teams, candlelight vigils, teen youth group missions and others are changing that. "People know we're neighbors," said Jim. "They're noticing something different about the street."

The drug dealers, prostitutes and their customers are likely still there, as are the homeless. But now when Jericho staff and volunteers walk through the neighborhood in warm weather, residents are sitting on their porches or sprucing up their yards even though most are renters. "I see hope where there used to be despair," Jim said, attributing the change to "the Spirit of God at work."

Volunteer shortage

Residents can see the promise of transformation through the presence and efforts of more than a half dozen volunteer outreach teams for prayer, street cleaning, seniors outreach, evangelism, case management and facilities management to spruce up and maintain St. Paul's Lutheran Church, where the ministry is quartered.

But "we never have enough vol-

unteers," Jim said, especially now that colder weather may chill enthusiasm for ministry. "The whole concept of transformation is starting to pick up momentum, and we want to schedule a couple of volunteer events on the street each week to deliver a weekly presence," even through the depth of winter. "But we need double-digit numbers of volunteers in each team to do that."

When a nor'easter cut power to thousands of homes in late October, Jim discovered the Spring Street Ministry serves a wider area than just the neighborhood when it opened a warming center and shelter, after city officials confirmed the need for additional services.

"We took the wrestling mats off the gym wall, set up a coffee pot, brought a TV and some CDs into the gym, and set up some cots," he said. Over four days, more than 40 people found shelter there, with many staying overnight.

"People were very appreciative of our being open, making shower facilities available, of being able to hang out in the kitchen and knowing Jericho could be an option if some type of disturbance happens again," Jim said.

"It was business as usual for Spring Street Ministry," he said, "just being there when people are in need." •

City does its part in transformation

When Jericho Partnership launched its Christ-centered Spring Street Ministry earlier this year, it was uncertain how long it would take for both spiritual and physical transformation to take hold.

It took less than ten months for both to begin.

In October, Danbury's Mayor Mark Boughton announced a three-year program to improve the street's sidewalks, lighting and overall safety to create a better environment on "one of the most challenged neighborhoods in the city."

The mayor said a \$50,000 Community Action Block Grant would fund initial improvements – replacing sidewalks along a short commercial stretch, trimming or removing trees and bushes, and adding video cameras that give police headquarters a live look at any illegal activities on the street.

Over the next three years and with additional block grants, the goal is to "really spruce up the neighborhood" with new sidewalks and street lighting along the length of the street to "create a safer environment for residents, soup kitchen clients and volunteers," he said. "We're looking for some real, positive changes."



Danbury mayor Mark Boughton explains improvements the city will make to Spring Street in the next three years.

Volunteer opportunities

Looking for something to do to shake off winter's cabin fever? Why not help in the transformation process, making a difference in people's lives on Spring Street? For more information or to sign up, e-mail volunteer@jerichopartnership.org.

Volunteers make dinner a success

When Dana Perez was looking for volunteer opportunities for Rogers Park Middle School honor students, she knew where to start: Google.

“I Googled ‘Thanksgiving dinners in Danbury,’” the guidance counselor said, “and Jericho Partnership was listed.”

Dana rounded up 20 Rogers Park students to serve at Jericho’s Nov. 22 turkey dinner for 378 guests and to distribute “Boxes of Love” – frozen turkeys and all the trimmings – for nearly 100 low-income families. But the students went the extra mile and did a food drive as well.

“They collected 25 turkeys and boxes of stuffing, instant mashed potatoes and canned vegetables,” said Crystal Perkins, Jericho’s director of operations. And the 20 teens from Rogers Park joined 60 other teens who also volunteered at the dinner – 20 from Boy Scout Troop 9 at St. Gregory the Great Church in Danbury, 20 from the ConnCAP/Upward Bound program at Danbury High School, and 20 from Jericho’s Pathways Danbury Youth Ministry.

The teens joined another 80 volunteers, including translators from the Hispanic Center and Danbury Nuevo Horizonte Spanish Seventh Day Adventist Church, and State Sen. Michael McLachlan.

This year’s annual dinner was in the gym at Jericho’s Spring Street Ministry. “We had much more space to spread out and be comfortable,” Crystal said. “And it helps to have a kitchen on site. Before, we had to prepare everything in advance and then transport it” to Jericho’s smaller room on Rose Street. •



State Sen. Michael McLachlan, right, helps serve Thanksgiving dinner at the annual “Boxes of Love” event at Jericho’s Spring Street Ministry Nov. 22. Sen. McLachlan’s turkey drive at Danbury’s North Street A&P a week before netted 30 turkeys, part of the nearly 100 frozen turkeys and fixings volunteers donated for the annual dinner and boxes of Thanksgiving dinners for low income families.



Teens pose for a photo in front of a “Big Day of Serving” banner on Oct. 15. More than 550 teens from as far away as New Hampshire gathered in Danbury for a work day coordinated by Pastor Mike Jenkins, student ministries pastor at Jericho partner New Life Community Church in New Fairfield. Jericho helped with logistics and project planning for the ministry of Group Magazine. Pastor Mike expects more than 700 teens next year.



It's a Date!

Call 203.791.1180 for more information about any of these events.



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JANUARY

- 11** 12:00 p.m. Prayer Furnace
13 Rose Street, Danbury
- 16** Martin Luther King Day
Jericho office closed

FEBRUARY

- 8** 12:00 p.m. Prayer Furnace
13 Rose Street, Danbury
- 11** 7:30 a.m. Pathways Danbury Call-to-Action Breakfast
Stony Hill Inn, Bethel
- 20** Presidents Day
Jericho office closed

MARCH

- 14** 12:00 p.m. Prayer Furnace
13 Rose Street, Danbury
- 29** 5:30 p.m. Jericho Easter Event
44 Spring Street, Danbury
- 31** End of \$250,000 match

APRIL

- 6** Good Friday
Jericho office closed
- 11** 12:00 p.m. Prayer Furnace
13 Rose Street, Danbury

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Crystal Perkins named Jericho director of operations



Crystal Perkins has been named to the newly-created position of director of operations for Jericho Partnership. She had been operations manager since January, 2010.

Her primary responsibilities will be supporting the Jericho volunteer department, working with ministry partners in identifying and filling volunteer positions, and supporting the executive director.

Crystal joined Jericho in September 2008, as manager of accounting and finances.

Sue Stanhope joins clinic staff



Sue Stanhope has become a part-time paid staff member at the Samaritan Health Center after volunteering at the free pediatric clinic from a few months after it opened in December 2008.

A registered nurse, she is a certified general pediatrics nurse, completed her nursing training at American University in Washington, D.C., and has a bachelor of science in nursing degree from the University of New York State.

10 boys need mentors

Ten at-risk boys are on a waiting list for the Pathways Danbury mentoring program. Now all they need is ten men to step up and commit to mentoring the boys over the next few years, joining the 38 men and mentees already in the program.

Mentors, said Pathways Danbury's director, Mark Lounsbury, "must be over the age of 25, a committed follower of Jesus Christ, established with a local church community, and willing to devote one to two hours a week over a two-year period." But "roughly three-quarters of the guys stay with their young man until he graduates from high school," Mark said.

For more about the program, e-mail volunteer@jerichopartnership.org.