

**I thought everyone might be interested in what the agencies and participants had to say about this past July 2010 CAM CAMP:**

**Thank you notes from Agencies:**

NAIC  
Norman Addiction Information & Counseling

Hi Donna,

I want to thank you so much for what CAM did for us recently. The garden area looks incredible. The kids and their adult leader were awesome. They worked so hard! I was very impressed. As a non-pro-fit, we count on the generosity of volunteers and appreciate you very much. People who come through our doors are hurting and feel a lot of shame. Having a welcoming environment is critical for the healing process. Thanks for helping us provide help and hope.

Teresa Collado  
Executive Director

Donna and all CAM supporters, I would like to say a heartfelt "Thank You" to the guys and gals that came to Our Sisters' Closet (YWCA Resale shop supporting the battered women's shelter) a couple of weeks ago. This amazing group of kids and moms came into our back room and "got busy." They knew exactly what to do in sorting donated items for our upcoming sidewalk sale. These kids (and moms) were efficient, respectful and so very willing to do what needed to be done. I truly respect your mission and look forward to working with you again in the future. Thank you for a job well done.  
Sincerely,

Cindy Reynolds, Director of Our Sisters' Closet Resale Shop  
YWCA Battered Women's Shelter

Oh Donna, meant to tell you that YES, great report, as always. Our people love working with CAM. Always our best volunteers. Please tell the kids they get another A+.

Karen  
HUGS coordinator

Donna,

I just wanted to let you know that this group of volunteers you sent out today was WONDERFUL!!!

- They treated our participants with respect, calling them by name or Ma'am/Sir.
- They were kind and showed interest in our participants.
- They complimented the participants work.
- They were positive, had a good attitude, and really connected with our participants.
- They were not hesitant to jump right on in.

I got some good pictures too. When I load them onto my computer, I'll try to remember to send you some!

THANK YOU SO MUCH for this wonderful opportunity!!

## **Jennifer Voss**

Full Circle Senior Adult Day Center  
Life Enrichment Director  
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### **From a Parent's point of view:**

I have two teenagers who regularly volunteer with CAM, and this past CAMp I was able to take my two younger children along a couple days. If it is an activity they can do - like an assembly line at the Food Bank, younger children have a blast working alongside teenagers. Both my little kids thanked me for taking them to CAM. My teenagers have busy schedules, and it can be difficult to fit CAM in, but they're always glad they did. Even if the work is difficult, ultimately it is a refreshing experience because we're created to be involved in God's work and it is satisfying in a deep way. We come away, grateful for what we have, encouraged from spending time in the Word, enriched by the folks we've met, and blessed by being a part of serving others. And, we've created some new shared memories and stories to tell as we're often stretched out of our comfort zone (dead mouse!). Anita J.

## July CAMp overview~

This past July 14-17, 2010, we had 23 people join us at McFarlin Methodist Church.. Wednesday night we all met after our own church service, as usual, and we played a fun game led by Zoe Young (a member of our YAC team). She had us divide into groups of two. Then we made a family tree (of random people) that connected the two partners as long lost relatives. It was a lot of fun and several of us found out that we are related to Will Smith! We also went over the expectations for the CAMp.

### **Morning Quiet time:**

The morning devotion time is one of my favorite parts of CAM; this is a time that I get to spend one-on-one time with my Heavenly Father. I get to talk to Him about anything: the previous day, the day about to get started, or just things that have made me happy, sad, or mad. I really grow closer to God through prayer and scripture. In this particular CAMp Donna gave participants the option to review particular scriptures that CAM has found valuable to represent CAM's mission, or to read independently what they felt the Lord was guiding them to study. If you would like a list of those verses please ask and Donna will definitely send you one! Melissa M.

### **Volunteer time:**

On Thursday, the group was split into two smaller groups. My group went to *NAIC* (Norman Alcoholics Information Center). We cleaned out flowerbeds and planted flowers. I have to give my team props! They did AWESOME despite the heat.! I know I had fun, especially inventing special names for our flowers. Once we had beautified their yard, the group headed over to *Full Circle Senior Citizens Day Care*. . It is a daycare center for the elderly who can't take care of themselves and need a place to go while their family works. Many of them live with children or grandchildren. We split into separate activities helping the clients paint ceramics, play table games, and paint the ladies nails. The youth enjoyed talking with everyone and hearing their personal life stories. I have a feeling everyone's favorite part of the day was "working out" with the participants. It sure was a blast! Abi H.

The second group went to *Parent Assistant* and the *YWCA's* thrift shop, "*Our Sisters' Closet*." *Parent Assistant* is a non-profit organization whose goal is to prevent child abuse. They have parenting classes and help young parent learn how to function in a positive manner with their children. CAM helped sort and clean toys, and picked-up trash around the parking lot. At the *YWCA's* "*Our Sister's Closet*," they sorted and hung up clothes for their thrift store. The money raised at the thrift shop goes to help abused and battered women get back on their feet.

On Friday, everyone went to the *Food Bank*. We formed an assembly line and filled boxes that will be distributed to those that are facing an emergency, like the flooding &

tornado OK recently experienced. We filled 672 cases, which weighed 33.1 pounds each. This amount of food will feed 17,110 people. They did amazing!

On Saturday, one group went to *HUGS* and worked on several projects that will be sent to troops overseas. Our group helped to make the actually “HUGS,” which are coolers that can be wrap around their necks, after getting them wet. They have special beads in them to keep troops cool for hours and hours! They honestly save lives over there where it gets above 107 degrees everyday! We had several kids learn how to use a sewing machine while there!

The Father's Business is a non-profit organization that collects donations of clothes and food for people in need. Volunteering there was fun as well as rewarding. After we finished sorting through all the clothes and hanging them up we went through and picked out the craziest outfits to wear like pink and blue 4 1/2 inch heels!! ( You have to go to the picture sections to see the outfits!) We also had a chance to meet and interact with Donna, the operations director. She was a very hard worker and I was happy to be able to help her. While we were there, we found out that she has a rare disease that causes serious pain in her ankles and part of her cartilage and ligaments turn to liquid,, making her bones very easy to break. We prayed over her. She said she could feel something coming out of each one of our fingers as we prayed. This was a very moving experience and proof of God's power present today in our lives. We all knew it was the power of God touching and healing her. It was absolutely amazing! Donna also told us that she was feeling less pain! Praise the Lord!!! Megan M.

### **Devotions:**

Every evening we had a devotion run by a kid in CAM. (To lead devotion you have to be in CAM's leadership group- YAC-Youth Advisory Council) Before we start the devotion, we worship. Christina and Jerry were awesome! We had three great topics at this CAMp.

Thursday, Abi H. led a devotion on being persecuted for Christ's sake. We had a great discussion and everyone had some great input. Most of the participants could relate to a time where they had been persecuted for Christ's sake. This is not an easy trial to endure, but the group decided it could be beneficial for those that are persecuting if we set a Christ like attitude in return.

Friday night's devotion was presented by Alysa H. I enjoyed all the evening devotions, but this one stood out the most to me. We were talking about God's trust, and we all got in this big discussion. Should we trust God? How do we trust Him fully? Does God even trust us? That was a big stump for us! Does He trust us? It was so cool to see God answer this question for us the very next morning during our quiet time. God led Mary to Job 4. I encourage you to go read it and find out for yourself! It will tell you! This provoked a lot of discussion and soul searching. It was really cool to get everyone's opinion and then find the truth in scripture.

Saturday evening was full of surprises. A Texas group came in to stay at the church for a week. They were a little early so they joined us for some games. We were able to share

some of our experiences with them, as well as them with us. It was awesome to see God moving in people from another state! Meagan J. led a wonderful devotion on 2 Peter 1:4-8. She took us through the steps of becoming a fully equipped follower of Christ, beginning with faith and ending with loving EVERYONE. It woke all of us up and showed us that it is a lot harder than it sounds. Each of us needs to strive to become more like our Daddy. Evan M.

Overall, it was another unique and wonderful CAMp! Even after eleven years of hosting CAMps, we still have “firsts.” This year was the first time that we had a whole van full fall asleep ON the WAY to the work site. That little catnap must have worked, because they were able to give 100 % once we started working! I can’t wait to see what kind of adventures God will send us on in August! Make sure you sign up before it’s too full!!!

Donna Hooper  
Executive Director