

Oasis School 2 Summer Program Teaches Crucial Skills



Children learned about knights and chivalry at Medieval Times.



Paterson Public School 2 kids experience their first trip to Broadway, and for many, New York City.

Fifty-one low-income Paterson Public School 2 children got daily classroom instruction, led by certified teachers, for five weeks throughout July and into August. The program gave these kids invaluable summer learning time—proven to have a positive impact, especially on children performing below grade standards. This could not have happened without your support.

The children honed their skills in math, reading, and writing. On most days they walked to Oasis from School 2 to work in Oasis classrooms because School 2 has no air conditioning.

But classroom instruction was not all!

The kids took weekly field trips to places such as the

Liberty Science Center, Medieval Times, and The Bronx Zoo. They went to Broadway and saw Aladdin, they saw The Lion King in a movie theater, and they went bowling. They took a yoga course and participated in hands-on science activities. They were given free books.

The field trips and activities were more than just summer fun: Paterson has very little public recreational space and few summer programs available. The experiences (which donors supported) provided children with skills, knowledge, and new experiences that give them an advantage at school. This program helps low-income kids succeed academically.

Thanks, donors, for making this happen for these kids!

A Message from Executive Director Jennifer Brady

We served a record number of impoverished women and children this summer, and we could not have done so without your support!

The Carl's Kids Summer Camp offered 170 inner-city children long days of outdoor play. Ten Paterson teens worked their first full-time jobs, with your help and the help of the Taub Foundation. Fifty-one low-income kids participated in a daily summer program that boosted their reading and math skills.

We taught ESL courses to record numbers of women and cared for their babies. We offered impoverished women a stress-management fitness program that many found life-changing.

It was our busiest, most impactful, and most meaningful summer yet. Thank you for making it possible—and stay tuned for the fall!



Octavia Redmond and her son, Camari

One day I asked God to change me and I was uprooted and planted right here at Oasis. Oasis made due on the promise to provide a safe haven for me and my son.

Octavia Redmond: Grateful for What Donors Make Possible

Octavia Redmond is one of Oasis' most recent success stories. When Octavia found Oasis in January 2019, she had been struggling with multiple challenges. "I first arrived at Oasis to fill a void and find a job," she says.

Her motivation for finding employment and putting her life on track: "I wanted to make sure I had a plan for my son." The baby had just turned one.

Octavia completed two courses as part of the Oasis Works program and very successfully completed an Oasis internship. She is now actively pursuing full-time employment.

"Oasis became a place where I could express myself, my truth, and my vulnerability."

"There was inspiration all around," she says. "I just had to believe."

A life-long poet with a powerful way with words, Octavia has begun to craft a career as a motivational speaker. She developed a workshop series that motivates women to overcome barriers and accomplish their goals and delivered the series at the Lighthouse Pregnancy Resource Center. It was well-attended by women seeking to overcome the problems of poverty. "Let's get it done, let's set a date, let's succeed," she advises.

Octavia will be a featured guest on the Wake Up with Marci morning television show (WLNY 10/55), to air on October 12.

Octavia's goal is to support and encourage women who have confronted roadblocks like those she has encountered.

"We are more than enough," she says. "We are women empowered."

Low-Income Teens Get Job Training at Carl's Kids Summer Camp

Ten teenagers worked their first paid job at Carl's Kids Summer Camp, and their lives are forever changed by the experience.

Ada (right) is a Paterson rising senior and an aspiring teacher. She says:

I gained more patience this summer. An understanding of why kids behave the way they do. I have learned that every action a kid takes has a reason behind it and when they trust you, they tell you what their reasons are. You can see how a kid changes from the start of camp until the end.

For example, there is Joel. At the start of camp he wouldn't cooperate. A few weeks into camp, he told me that his father died. Then I understood. Sometimes he comes in mad but when he sees me, he smiles. He talks more now. Camp helps kids.

Also a rising senior, Abbey wants to be a neurosurgeon. She says:

I love the idea that the Oasis kids get to connect with kids from the Wyckoff YMCA. They meet all these kids who have a different background and a different upbringing, and they learn so much about each other. If they didn't come to camp, these kids wouldn't get a chance to talk to so many other people.

When you grow up in the inner city you don't get to talk to people who aren't like you—and then when you go to college you are bombarded with all different kinds of people. Camp prepares you for that.

Thanks to our donors, and to the Taub Foundation, for support of the First Jobs program and the Carl's Kids Camp. These young women—future teacher and neurosurgeon—have learned, grown, and changed through this program.



Adalizabeth Ojeda and Abbey Brooks learned job skills as paid at the Oasis First Jobs program. Thanks donors!



Oasis Kids Cheer Larry Grogin, Running Across America

Larry Grogin kicked off his run across America on the morning of July 19, at McBride Field in Franklin Lakes. Grogin presented Oasis with a \$50,000 donation at the launch and has promised more to come as he runs across the country!

This effort has been supported by an amazing team of volunteers, including high school interns, corporate supporters, and dedicated individuals.

We are grateful for this support! Go Larry!

CHANGING LIVES, ONE WOMAN AND CHILD AT A TIME.



Amazon volunteers help after school.



Melanie Anagnos sponsors an ice cream truck for Oasis campers.



BD and KPMG volunteers organize games for summer campers.



Capital One volunteers organize teen party and donation.

Time, Talent, and Treasure. We Thank You for What You Give.

Oasis is blessed with kind and generous friends who joyfully offer their gifts to the women and children we serve. Above are just a few of the wonderful people who have most recently served the poor at Oasis. We cannot possibly mention all of you but please be assured that we are grateful for all you do.

The Sun Shines on 5th Annual Hudson Farms Event

More than 50 Oasis supporters enjoyed a beautiful day in Sussex County on Thursday, September 20, shooting clay targets at the exquisitely landscaped Hudson Farms Club in Andover, NJ. The annual event raises funds for Oasis programs. Next year's event is scheduled for Thursday, September 17. Join us in 2020 for a day of fun, networking, and target practice!

Check out more photos from the picture-perfect day at: [Facebook.com/OasisPatersonNJ](https://www.facebook.com/OasisPatersonNJ)

