



# CHILDREN OF THE CITY

CHANGING THE CULTURE OF POVERTY THROUGH EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

## BOWLING WITH THE GIANTS... A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

Children of the City scored a touchdown at this year's annual David Tyree Charity Bowl with New York Giants players, and other special guests. The event was held Tuesday, June 7th at the beautiful upscale venue Lucky Strikes on the corner of 42nd Street and 12th Avenue, Manhattan. Among the renowned names in attendance were our beloved Odell Beckham Jr. (joining us for the second year in a row), Olivier Vernon, Rashad Jennings, and Triple Crown Jockey Victor Espinoza. The event was full of excitement as guests bowled with players, enjoyed a delicious gourmet spread, placed bids on their favorite auction items, and enjoyed down time with friends and colleagues. Our guests experienced a win/win night as they aided the plight of inner city children, and at the same time had an enjoyable evening with the Giants players, including JT Thomas, Tavarres King, Leon McFadden, Darian Thompson, BJ Goodson, and Jerrel Adams just to name a few. The NY Giants players likewise enjoy coming out to support this event and Children of the City as together we endeavor to change the culture of poverty. "With 33 years of proven results, we can see the difference this organization has made, and we are determined to continue to see lives, and communities transformed," shares Executive Director Joyce Mattera. To view more of the highlights of that night go to our website and keep a look out for news on our next event with the NY Giants.

[WWW.CHILDRENOFTHECITY.ORG](http://WWW.CHILDRENOFTHECITY.ORG)

*Children of the City would like to recognize and thank the official event sponsor Generoso Pope Foundation, and each of our generous lane sponsors: EastGate Equine Sanctuary, AIG, Krislen Management Company, Censtar Energy, Ellington Management Group, NY Giants, Guy Carpenter, Cliff Keeling, RHCR Law, and Partners Reinsurance.*



## MAKING CHRISTMAS BRIGHT

Christmas is just around the corner, and we rejoice in the joy of the season. As you reflect on the gifts you have been given during this holiday season, we ask that you join us in making a difference in the lives of those most in need. Every Christmas, supporters, volunteers, and staff come together to ensure that the children from struggling families receive a gift for the holiday. Here are ways you can partner with us:

- Volunteer at one of our Gift Wrapping Parties on Wednesday December 14th & Thursday December 15th @ (6-8pm)
- Join us at our Christmas Event on Saturday December 17th where you can be a part of the gift distribution (call our office for details 718-436-0242 x 117).
- Make an donation online at [www.childrenofthecity.org](http://www.childrenofthecity.org)

Our goal is to make the holiday special for our participants, and their families despite the financial instability in their households.

Contact our offices at: 718-436-0242 x118, email [office@childrenofthecity.org](mailto:office@childrenofthecity.org) to volunteer, or for additional details on these upcoming events.



## OUTCOMES FROM OUR BACK TO SCHOOL EVENT

Children of the City hosted our 3rd Annual Back-to-School Backpack giveaway on Tuesday, September 6th. Volunteers, parents, and children joined us as we supplied backpacks filled with school supplies including pocket folders, composition notebooks, pens, pencils, crayons, erasers, glue sticks, loose leaf paper, a ruler, scissors, colored pencils, and a pencil case. These items allowed our students to be prepared for the upcoming school year, and put them on track for success in their classroom and studies. We were able to give away a total of 154 bags which was an increase from the prior year in which we gave away 139 bags. This was possible thanks to our sponsors (Gordon Rees LLP, Amalgamated Bank), partners (Affinity Health Plan, Cru), and individual donations from faithful supporters. We thank our sponsors, partners, and supporters for continuing to come along side us, as we make a difference in our community. Each year as you support us in our goal of changing the culture of poverty we are enabled to reach more families, and afford them opportunities to see their children excel academically.

*Sponsored by:*





## SUMMER PROGRAM

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Children of the City's Summer Program did it again, helping struggling students raise their reading and math scores. Children who attended showed a considerable increase in their reading levels, rather than experiencing the usual loss of retention most students do over the summer months. Serving in a community that is plagued by failing grades, lack of adequate support, and a 50% High School dropout rate, we are consistently encouraged by the outcomes of our summer program. Focusing in on the observed needs of this underserved community and aware of the plethora of challenges these families face, we are intentional in designing our summer program to overcome the obstacles to their future success. Our organization is the only one within the community to offer underprivileged children from poor families the intensive academic support they need over the summer months with documented outcomes.

## DAVID WHITE-SUCCESS STORY

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David is a smart but often frustrated boy. When he first came to our program years ago, he could not read or write. He was constantly frustrated with his own shortcomings which in turn affected his behaviors. Much of this was brought on by the instability of his home life. David is a child of a broken home and a bitter custody battle with a mother that came close to ending her own life. He is a young boy who has suffered far beyond his years. It could be seen in his attitude, where he was consistently angry. Sometimes he had violent outbursts that he directed towards himself such as stabbing his hands with his pencil. It also showed in his academic life where he was often observed putting himself down and giving up at the slightest mistake.

While David has been tutored at COC he has progressed and shown great strides in his academic life. Through patience and encouragement, he has become far more confident in himself often doing his work independently with little supervision. When he is faced with new problems he has demonstrated his newfound will by no longer giving up, but actually seeking help from his tutors and even sometimes figuring it out on his own. The anger and frustration has gradually been replaced with confidence and determination.

Children of the City staff has not only helped David, but has also come alongside his mother with counseling, advocacy in court, and a support system to provide her the encouragement and guidance she needed to make progress with herself and her son. David's family life shows signs of stabilizing. All in all, David is well on his way to a far more fulfilling life than he was before he came to Children of the City.

