About the Harriet Tubman Housing Complex

The Harriet Tubman Housing Complex is a not-for-profit housing project jointly owned by Smith Metropolitan A.M.E. Zion Church and Poughkeepsie United Methodist Church, and supported by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The Harriet Tubman Academic Skills Center first started out as a story hour for the inner city children living at the Harriet Tubman low income Housing Complex. From that a growing need was seen to start a tutoring program. In September 1997, the Tubman Terrace Tutoring Program was founded in Poughkeepsie, New York. Since its inception, the program has gone through several name changes until our current name.

We have received funding from the following foundations and organizations:

- NYS OCFS and Dutchess County Youth Bureau
- Dyson Fdn.
- Entergy Fdn.
- Gannett Fdn.
- Stewarts Holiday Helping Hands
- Ronald McDonald House Charities
- TD Banknorth
- JC Penney 4H Afterschool Funds
- City of Poughkeepsie Youth Initiative
- Poughkeepsie United Methodist Church
- New York State Child and Adult Food Care Program
After School Connections

A free 10 month homework and academic enrichment center for 65 children in grades K-8. The program is open Monday through Friday from 2:45 until 5:30. Staff members and trained volunteers supervise the children, provide homework assistance, academic enrichment and conflict resolution skills. Our multimodality approach incorporates the academic needs of the children and provides them with a variety of learning experiences that makes their learning more meaningful and relates to their everyday life experiences.

Our mission is to bring about a lasting improvement in the educational and social lives of our inner city children. We recognize the restricted mobility of our inner city families and strive to provide the children in these areas with the skills, understanding, and self-assurance to succeed and remain hopeful about their academic and social futures. We seek to demonstrate that early intervention is effective in raising academic achievement levels.

Our goals are to:
1. Provide a safe, warm, and caring environment
2. Enhance children’s academic achievement
3. Encourage and support good citizenship
4. Facilitate positive relationships between school, families, and communities
5. Help working families

Tubman Summer AllStars

A free 8 week summer reading and math enrichment program for children going into grades 1 – 6. Our program benefits all children by:

1. offering an extended learning opportunity to prevent summer learning loss
2. providing a safe summer learning environment
3. enhancing academic skills
4. improving social skills
5. making new friends

Our goal is to prevent summer learning loss from one school year to the next.

Special Programs

On Friday afternoons, we offer special programming. Currently our children can choose:
1. Dance
2. Cooking
3. Arts & Crafts
4. Gardening

During the summer we offer basketball and cheerleading. Outside groups such as Bridgebuildres and Girl Scouts come in and offer teambuilding. We also participate in ongoing activities at the local library and go ice skating at the local civic center.

How You Can Help

Volunteer: Giving two hours of your time a week can make a big difference in the lives of our inner city youth. You can help them with their homework or just listen to them.

Make a Donation: “Tubman’s Great Kids” need your support to make them safe. Private donors and corporations are urged to make a tax deductable donation.

Provide equipment and materials: A wish list is available upon request.

Spread the Word: Tell all your friends and colleagues about the work we are doing for our inner city children in providing them with a safe, warm, caring and enriching environment.

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