



# ODYC Gazette

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**June 10<sup>th</sup>- School's Out  
Pizza Party**

**July 29<sup>th</sup>- Last Day of  
ODYC for the summer**

**August- ODYC Closed for  
preparation for 2010-  
2011 school year**

## *Help Needed:*

-Currently, we need a few more male volunteers to help with activities and crowd control on Thursday nights.

-In September, we hope to split students age appropriately, with Elementary and Middle School night on Mondays, High School night on Thursdays. In order to do so, we need more volunteers on Mondays, preferably male volunteers.

-We are in immediate need of 1 volunteer who could come in from 5:45-8PM (or longer, if desired) Thursday nights to help with student sign in to better document how many students we are influencing. In order to do this, we need one committed individual to greet students as they come in and mark that they are present, check IDs, and have new students fill out info cards.

- We are in need of board members- especially a treasurer. A job description will be available soon.

## School's Out!

It seems like just yesterday we were welcoming the students into Open Door for the 2009-2010 school year, and now the year is over! It has been quite a school year. I am overwhelmed at the amount of students we have seen throughout the fall, winter and spring. We have witnessed a lot of change in the kids, and it has been such a pleasure to grow with them! We have several students who are about to graduate, those who have been coming to Open Door since they were in middle school, some who have been coming for just a few years. They are all amazing kids, and we will miss them very much! Of course, the door will always be open to them! Our staff has grown to love all these students so we hope to see them when they are home on breaks from school, if they are going elsewhere. We're blessed that some of them have chosen colleges nearby, so we hope to get to see them more often!

We always see a drop off in attendance through June and July. I've heard students talking about their trips to New York, Puerto Rico and elsewhere to visit with family and friends. Please remember these students in your prayers. But just because there are not as many students coming in these months, doesn't mean we don't have fun during the summer! Special meals and events will be planned, just as they are while school is in session! Keep your eyes and ears open for what is being planned and we hope to see you come out to serve these students! As always, we love when church members visit and see what Open Door is like!

## A Very Special Occasion

I am so very proud of my staff here at Open Door! They really step up to the plate to serve and love these students! Recently, one way that they did this was by purchasing tickets to see Michael Vick speak at the Convention Center. Originally scheduled for April 29<sup>th</sup> (a Thursday, which would have meant we would have to close because of lack of staff!) the date was changed to Wednesday May 5<sup>th</sup>. I'm not a big fan of football, but knowing Jordan Steffy (the talk was in support of the Children Deserve a Chance foundation) I knew it would be a good night. I was so excited to take some of our guys to see Michael Vick share what has happened to him and how he has changed!

What I received that night was an overwhelming moment of thanks. The five guys we took were so thankful, as was I for the ability to attend with them and three staff members. We were able to bond with the guys on a different level than we do on a typical Thursday night. I will never forget this night simply for the time spent with them. I know we're not all going to remember what Vick spoke about, or the fact that the guys were able to get his autograph. But the staff will remember those thank you's that were offered, and the guys will remember that we took our time and our money to give them opportunities they wouldn't have had otherwise! It was an unbelievable evening, and I'm looking forward to more events like this!