

LEADING WITH KINDNESS AND SWEAT



Lindsay Zambino,
Summer Staff Leader

Time at camp is just so special. Words that come to mind are unforgettable, energizing, life-changing and so valuable. Where else do you put together inner city kids, Christ loving counselors, a camp ground, family-like cabins, fun chants, crazy skits, sports and activities? The culture and atmosphere created at ISC is like no other place. When serving at ISC you really do gain a family. The ministry of Inspire Sports Camps is important because every kid is reached and impacted in some way during this time. Seed planting can seem difficult sometimes, not always seeing immediate fruit, but God promises His word won't return void.

“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to

me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.” Isaiah 55:10-11

**[campers]
receive the time
attention, and
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to them.**

At camp this year this one ten year old boy was very angry at the lunch table. He thought two boys across from him were whispering and talking about him. He was visibly steaming and worked up and said if

CONTINUED ON PG. 2

Director's NOTE

The love and hope of Jesus were on full display all summer long. This teenage camper's quote speaks to the eternal impact that was made this summer: “I found out how much I am loved and that so many people at this camp know how I feel, how it feels to be broken and an outcast. When I got here I was broken, now I am leaving feeling like I am pieced back together... I will now try to no longer do things my way, but follow the way of Jesus.” It is amazing to witness what God has done and continues to do through Inspire Sports Camps, but I wholeheartedly believe it is just the beginning!

Breaking News... I am very excited to share that this September I began serving as the full-time Executive Director of this ministry. Earlier this year, it became clear that God was calling me to step out and obediently trust Him to lead and provide for this next chapter. It has already been one of the most challenging, humbling, yet encouraging experiences I've ever had; and we're just getting started! My family and I know that we are not taking this step alone, and we covet your prayers. Please continue to pray for our leadership team, and the entire ministry as I step forward in this new role. We can't wait to see what God has in store!

Kurt Schwarz
Executive Director

IN THIS ISSUE:

Kindness and Sweat	1
Director's Note	1
Counselors' Corner	
Dazhon Miller	2
Clarimar Segarra	3

LEADING WITH KINDNESS AND SWEAT

CONTINUED FROM PG. 1



it weren't for God he would have punched them already. This simple statement just gave me so much joy because it showed he had been listening to the messages at Club. He had all this anger built up and was used to pouring it out against other people and using physical violence, but in this moment he knew there was a better way. He knew the way he usually reacted was wrong and that there has to

be another way to resolve his anger.

Inspire Sports Camps is effective because of the atmosphere created at camp where campers are without their phones and distractions of everyday life. It is a chance for them to be who they are away from negative influences and experience Christ like love from the counselors around them. So they hear the good news of Jesus Christ and also are able to receive the time, attention, and care of their counselors showing Christ to them.

One girl at camp was sent to me because she was in trouble with her counselor. Since I didn't know her I spent time asking questions and hearing more about what she was feeling. She probably expected to get yelled at but instead I showed her love in that moment. To continue the conversation I went to basketball where I knew she would be

Counselors' CORNER



Dazhon Miller

Marist College

Major: Communications

During my time at Inspire Sports Camps, I've met tons of genuine people and got to make lifelong friendships with them. Being a counselor during my stay wasn't easy by any means, but seeing my campers give their lives to God and change their lives for the better was all worth it. Growing up, I never had any siblings to be responsible for or to mentor, but I always wanted to. Inspire Sports Camps helped me become a big brother to my campers. Still to this day I keep in contact with my campers as if I knew them my whole life, and I can't wait to see them next year. The ISC experience definitely changed my life forever!

“ISC is edifying, life-giving and so special for campers.”

LEADING WITH KINDNESS AND SWEAT

CONTINUED FROM PG. 2



and I had the chance to play against her there. Connecting through sports and sweating together a lot of times allows us as counselors to earn the right to speak truth to these campers. For the last day or two whenever I saw her she would sit near me and give off such warmth. Before getting on the bus to go home she sought me out and gave me a hug before leaving. It's amazing what kindness can do to someone who appears cold and uncaring. And it just reminds me of the truth that God's kindness is meant to lead us to repentance.

The sacrifices made to get to camp and the time spent year round putting

together all the pieces of camp is so worth it. ISC is edifying, life giving, and so special for campers and for counselors as well. What a blessing it is to serve the "least" of these. Some campers may be raised by just their grandmom, some may feel forgotten with 6 other siblings, some may have anger and behavioral issues, with such hurt and brokenness inside. We have all experienced the healing and peace of Jesus Christ in our brokenness and hurt living in a fallen world and to be able to pass along such treasured truth to inner city kids is a privilege.

Counselors' CORNER



Clarimar "Mars" Segarra
Liberty University
Major: Biomedical Sciences

This summer as I was driving 10 hours from Columbus, Ohio to Red Hook, New York I asked God "Why are you taking me so far for just a camp?". After the first night of staff training, where I heard Kurt talk about the vision of Inspire Sports Camps, I knew that God had called me to ISC with a very special purpose. Being at ISC for three weeks this summer was a life-changing experience.

The first week of camp I was given a very tough group of girls and I honestly had no idea what I was doing. I remember sitting in Club on sin night almost in tears because everything had gone wrong, asking God for direction and wisdom to reach my girls. To my surprise, Tuesday night was our best small group and the girls understood why we need Jesus. On Thursday night, I saw the same girl that "hated worship" sing "Set a Fire Down in My Soul". Seeing the transformation from Sunday to Friday was something that grew my faith to the next level; knowing that my girls' eternity had changed was extraordinary!

THANK YOU!

You make ISC a reality for inner-city young people all across the Northeast.

On behalf of the campers, staff, and our entire leadership team we “Thank You” for your relentless prayers and generous support.



*If you would like to make a donation to ISC and sponsor campers for 2019, you can do so with the attached “**Sponsorship Letter**” or by clicking on the “**Support**” page at: www.inspiresportscamps.com

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