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Greetings Friend of Charleston Promise Neighborhood!

As summer winds down, we are winding up here at CPN! We have been hard at work planning wonderful programs and events for the 2016-17 school year. Great things are in store for the Neighborhood! Be sure to visit our table at the First Day Festival on Sunday, August 14th at 1 p.m. at Liberty Square to learn about our initiatives for this school year and find out how you can join the Promise. Don't forget to follow us on our new Instagram account @CharlestonPromiseNeighborhood, and keep up with us in real-time on our new blog www.chspromiseblog.wordpress.com.



CPN CEO Sherrie Snipes-Williams reads to CPN and Metanoia students at Freedom School.

CPN Helps Plant Seeds for "My Brother's Keeper" Grassroots Movement

Friday, July 22nd kicked off the first annual *My Brother's Keeper* Camp at Charleston Southern University. Sixty young men, all rising 7th, 8th, and 9th graders, joined volunteers from the City of Charleston, SPAWAR Systems Center Atlantic, Office of Naval Research, Charleston Southern University, Ladies Enriching the Community, Charleston Promise Neighborhood, Charleston Youth Leadership Council, Trident Technical College Advance Cyber Forensic Education, Google, NUCOR Steel Berkeley, Naval Health Clinic Charleston, and Charleston Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc to spend the weekend learning about goal setting, work ethic, and the importance of remaining true to your values. The young men participated in hands-on learning opportunities including an engineering workshop, a



"handyman" tutorial, and a class on tying a neck tie. The Summerville Police Department spoke to the group about career opportunities and mutual respect between citizens and law enforcement. They were also engaged in numerous team-building activities, facilitated by the Charleston Southern University football team. A few football players gave inspiring speeches about the importance of education, and the young men were "all-ears" hearing these successful college athletes give testimonials. The entire group put their neck-tying skills to the test as they got dressed up for a formal dinner, and then ended their night having "guy time" on the video game bus. The next day, the boys had the opportunity to listen to guest speakers and were presented awards. The event was a huge success, and CPN is proud to have been a partner! Stay tuned for a special [blog](#), guest written by one of the MBK SPAWAR volunteers!



Welcome CPN's Newest Board Member, Shannon Praete



Shannon Praete, who recently joined the Board of Charleston Promise Neighborhood, is no stranger to leadership and service positions. A graduate of "Leadership Charleston" and a "40 Under 40" Award Recipient, Mrs. Praete fills her days serving as the Grants Administrator for the City of North Charleston, reviewing grants for the US Department of Agriculture, and running a private grant consulting business. Her passion for service is evident in her involvements with non-profit organizations including the Junior League of Charleston, Trident United Way, HALOS, and the Lowcountry Homeless Coalition. Aside from her impressive

professional accomplishments, she is also a wife (Hampton) and a mother (Lily, 12; Charlotte, 9). Welcome, Shannon!

CPN Staff are Guest Readers at Mary Ford's "Freedom School "

We were thrilled when our friends at Metanoia invited us to be guest readers at their Freedom

School program! CPN believes in going the extra mile in all we are asked to do, and this was no exception. CPN CEO, Sherrie Snipes-Williams and CPN Director of Operations, Jill Hulslen set the stage for an exciting and interactive performance by CPN Staff our rendition of the book, Spice and Little Sugar by Megan Waldrep and Melissa Nelson. Sherrie read the part of the older sister and Jill read the part of the younger sister while CPN Director of Development and Marketing,



Courtenay Fain and CPN Community Engagement Program Manager Radia Heyward acted out the respective parts. The skit included bicycles, bows, and hugs. The Freedom School students were very pleased, and were laughing along with our Staff. The book focused on seeing the importance of sibling relationships and how to appreciate them, even when times get tough. After the skit ended, students had an opportunity to ask our Staff

about CPN, career advice, and questions about our own siblings. It was a terrific way to spend the morning and we certainly hope to have this opportunity again!

Farewell to our AmeriCorps VISTAS

We said, "See you later" to two of our AmeriCorps VISTAS on Friday, July 22nd.

Ashton Basar and Bree Williams worked tirelessly for the past year to help CPN impact children in our Neighborhood on numerous levels. Both girls not only completed their full year of service with us, but also volunteered as mentors with Reading Partners (a partner in our Expanded Learning Time initiative). They will be sorely missed. To read more about their year of service at CPN, [click here](#).



VISIT OUR WEBSITE

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sherrie Snipes-Williams".

Sherrie Snipes-Williams, CEO
Charleston Promise Neighborhood
843-647-6209



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