

RELEASE IN PART B6

From: H <hrod17@clintonemail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 19, 2011 8:37 PM
To: 'Betsy.Ebeling [redacted]'
Subject: Re: The closing of Jamal Place

What a sad commentary about our values today. I sound more curmudgeonly everyday but it is hard to see the clock being turned back on so much that matters, especially poor kids. Oh well, I can only hope the tide turns soon.

From: Ebeling, Betsy [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2011 01:13 PM
To: H
Subject: FW: The closing of Jamal Place

HDR: the email below from Ann Deuel just breaks my heart. Our association with Ann and Jamal Place started in 1995 when she called me asking to invite you and WJC during the '96 convention to attend an ice cream social for Jamal Place. Maggie and I actually visited the then very new Jamal Place and decided it was too small for your visit; however, our involvement: Kathy Burgess, Ernie and Katie Ricketts and so many other friends only increased with time. Department of Human Services and general revenue funding cuts have been brutal and, I guess, inevitable given the present budget problems (a mild term) in Illinois. Hope you are well,

B

Betsy Ebeling
 Illinois Department of Human Rights
 100 W. Randolph Street Suite 10-100
 Chicago, Illinois 60601

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From: Ann Deuel [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2011 11:18 AM
To: Ebeling, Betsy; 'Bob Alexis'; 'Constable, Burt'; brownmomenin [redacted] 'Brian Murphy'; 'Bruce & Suzi Niemi'; bmelman [redacted] 'Brian Starr'; 'Phil Jackson'; clagolder [redacted] clemens [redacted] 'Carol Staszkievicz'; 'Cindy Solorzano'; coreydf [redacted] 'Daniel Facchini'; dtrice [redacted] dellicarpini [redacted] 'D'Anna Pawlenko'; 'Deborah H Telman'; 'Ford, Beth'; gayle [redacted] 'George Drost'; 'Joyce Pfennig'; hgrey [redacted] kbebling [redacted] 'Lu Bailey'; lindasnyder [redacted] Msimeon [redacted] mdw [redacted] 'Michelle - mc2 Communications'; MMartire [redacted] 'Mark Schroeder'; m2wyatt [redacted] 'Matthew Wyatt'; m3wyatt [redacted] 'Telman, Nigel'; 'Phil Horn'; rmindell [redacted] randi [redacted] repartturner [redacted] 'Bob Brennan'; 'Sharon Pines'; 'Thomas, SC (Sherri)'; timalbores [redacted] tracethewaugh [redacted] tiggerrules [redacted] terry.falk [redacted]

'Vipond, Jean'; vabmirage [redacted] Jzalukos [redacted]
Subject: The closing of Jamal Place

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Hello everyone,

I wanted to let you know, officially, from me that that Jamal Place closed its TLP program effective 3/21/11. While we will still be a 501 c 3 organization until I finish closing the programs, no more kids will be served by our organization. The legislative neglect of appropriate and adequate funding for the past 11 years, combined with the impact the recession has had on individual and corporate giving, has taken its toll on this small agency. Over a 16 year time span, Jamal Place has met its mission having helped many young men become "educated, caring and responsible citizens". I have a hard time telling people because everyone's kind words make me cry—but I am getting better...it is not an every five minute occurrence anymore—but the kindness of others can start can start the tears flowing...something that I don't like to do.

The board of directors, staff members, volunteers and I are very proud of the fact that Jamal Place closes with an 80% high school graduation rate (when the city rate is about 52% and the DCFS ward rate is 40%). Fourteen percent of our graduated youth have gone to college or the military and we have had a 44% employment rate of minority teens over the past decade (when 17% is the national average for the same population over the same time period). Nearly 70% of the youth Jamal Place served were able to move on and grow positively in their next placements and nearly 80% of those youth remain in contact with the agency for guidance, resources and just to keep in touch. Lastly, we have been blessed, (over the past 16 years) to have no young man in our care killed or seriously injured, and there has never been a scandal associated with our operation. I think these are remarkable achievements (and significant outcomes) which speak to the dedication, care and commitment of all those involved with the organization. Over the years, I have been greatly touched by the kindness and generosity so many people have shared on behalf of our kids, and I have been grateful for your support and encouragement.

I have asked "Where is God in this outcome?" While I know He is present (and carrying me right now) I have had a tough time letting go and trusting that everything will work out. There has not been a minute in my life over the past 18 years (from the idea of Jamal Place to the placement of the last young man) that I haven't given the organization everything I had personally and professionally. So many of the boys have called and asked if I am o.k...just the fact that they are thinking about someone else means that we succeeded in helping the kids form healthy attachments to adults who care. I ask that you keep all of the generations of the kids we served, my staff members and me in an occasional prayer.

For those who made a donation to our Spring Appeal prior to the decision of Jamal Place closing, I have deposited your gift. Anyone who has sent a donation post our decision, I have notified and asked if they still wanted to make the donation to help us get our final expenses addressed in the closing. We still have our tax exempt status until I dissolve the nonprofit corporation, so all gifts are tax deductible as allowed by law.

Lastly, I hope, for the sake of all of the children and young adults in care, that the state legislators start to understand and fund the essential activities that allow youth to thrive and that DCFS gets a clue about what is truly important to help an abused or neglected kid have a chance for a future. Without such understanding, our youth will always struggle with the devastating quartet of mental illness, homelessness, prison and/or death.

This is my "Footprints" moment...I will let you know when God's miracles intervene!

Take very good care and thank you for all of the support you have shown our mission.

Ann

Ann G. Deuel
Executive Director
Jamal Place, Inc.

[Redacted]

Personal e-mail: [Redacted]

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