

August 26, 2005

Learning the Ropes at **Camp Incredible!**

A generous grant makes a camp for fourth and fifth grade kids possible, and helps Alegent Health employees live out the Mission in everyday life.

In early August, nine Spingview Elementary students were given a unique opportunity to go to summer camp on the Immanuel Medical Center campus. These fourth and fifth graders were hand-picked by school administrators for the first ever Camp Incredible!, a two-week day camp put on by Immanuel Behavioral Services staff to help build self-esteem and peer relationships.

"Through the camp experience we watched the kids blossom from shy, timid, introverted and focused on themselves to enthusiastic, motivated, taking leadership roles, working as a team and acting self-confident," said Terri Khan, operations director of the Partial Hospitalization Program at Immanuel and Mercy Hospital.

Camp Incredible! was designed specifically for kids who could benefit from positive role models, were experiencing a transition or going through a difficult time in their lives. Daily activities included a low ropes initiative centered on teaching relationship-building skills and following directions. Campers were also treated to art class and day trips to the zoo, bowling and horseback rides. This was the first time Camp Incredible! was held, through a grant by The Lozier Foundation. Two full-time recreational

therapists, a behavioral tech and of an art therapist served as camp counselors for the entire two-week camp. For these Alegent Health employees, putting on the camp proved a worthwhile experience and way to live out the Mission.

"When you work for a faith-based organization, it's great when you can bring the Mission and Commitments to life," said Jen Carlson, writer for the Alegent Health Foundation. "Camp Incredible! was an excellent opportunity for Alegent Health employees to team up with our corporate community and provide a worthwhile experience for these kids."

At the beginning of the second week, the kids put on a program for Alegent Health CEO Wayne Sensor and presented him with a picture they had made. Already plans are being made for next summer's camp.

"It takes one or two experiences to create a ripple effect in a kid's life which can impact their future in a positive way," said Khan. "I'm proud to say Camp Incredible! is one of those experiences."

community asset



Don't Forget to Check out **ShopAlegent**

Employees now have the ability to purchase Alegent Health gear online. Employees can access ShopAlegent by clicking on the ShopAlegent tab located in the left navigation area on the homepage of MyAlegent.

Rotating merchandise from polo shirts to socks, coffee mugs, beverage containers and lawn chairs is available through the ShopAlegent program.

Start Shopping Today!



Miniature Horse Makes a **Therapeutic Visit to Senior Residents**

Emma Hassler smiles as she gives a love pat to Lucky Boy during a recent visit to the Immanuel Fontenelle Home. Lucky Boy is a miniature horse who is a registered therapy animal with Sunrise EquiTherapy of Eagle, Neb. Equine therapy is similar to pet therapy. Patients are able to pet the horse and brush him.

Animals tend to have an amazing effect on people and this is an innovative way to connect with patients who love animals.

