



November 2003 Work In Progress Update

Dear Friends,

The two things that I want to report to you took years of prayer and waiting. And today (written on 10/16), here they are ... in fact today these two visions melted together.

The new health clinic building opened today on our site at The Neighborhood Center. Their first "patients" were the pre-school children from our very own HeadStart program. The 16 children, all four- year-olds, left their classroom, walked down the sidewalk, past our ball field, crossed the driveway safely and walked into the beautiful brand new medical facility to have their health screening. I wanted to ask, how did this marvelous thing happen? Clearly, it is beyond all we could have



asked or thought. Twelve years ago when the clinic was only a vision in the minds of a very few ... and four years ago when we began to dream about a true partnership with HeadStart ... we couldn't have fully imagined today, not really. Twelve years or four years don't feel like much today. It feels more like a miracle.

Thank you for your commitment to us in every way...prayer, financial support, and volunteering. God is blessing children and families as a result and lives are being affected and changed because of it.

Loving you,

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Kit



The Neighborhood Christian Clinic

History: Around four years ago, a decade long dream came true. A Christian medical clinic opened its doors to serve the medically underserved of Phoenix. This clinic developed through prayer and the hard work of a combination of medical professionals and city workers aligned with Neighborhood Ministries and two local churches. The Neighborhood Christian Clinic became a separate non-profit organization from Neighborhood Ministries at that time.

Today: The old location for the clinic was a set of converted apartments next door to our previous location on McDowell Ave. Today, a brand new 5200 square foot state of the art medical clinic is open on the south end of The Neighborhood Center. It is beautiful and gigantic compared to the facility of the past few years. It also contains two dental chairs which is a brand new addition in this clinic.



HeadStart and our “wrap around” program

History: It became apparent some time ago that part of our holistic approach to loving children includes the pursuit of education. Early intervention plays a key role in the educational success for any child.

Two years ago we started a one-day-a-week preschool where children from mothers in our teen mom program, Mom’s Place, spent the day playing and learning. We loved this program, and dreamed about a time when we could offer it on a daily basis. Well, that day has come.

Today: This last July we opened a classroom for our 3 and 4 year olds. This HeadStart program is run by the City of Phoenix. In our partnership with the City, we at N.M. will be providing extended programming that is Christ-centered, filled with prayer, songs about Jesus, and Bible stories.

HeadStart provided all kinds of materials, the teachers, and curriculum. You can imagine what we felt like as we discovered the boxes and boxes that were being delivered daily to the Center by the city. We were overwhelmed with all of the supplies, books, tables, chairs, toys, markers, paints, music, crayons and even puppets. It is an amazing sight to see today as the tiny tables and chairs are now set up and are occupied daily with the smiling faces of the angels we have loved. The children now get to come daily to the place they recognize as home, as safe, as love and now as “school”.