



New Song Urban Ministries

loving God, loving our neighbors

december 2004

NEW SONG HONORED BY ANNIE E. CASEY FOUNDATION!

In November New Song Urban Ministries was selected to receive an unrestricted award of \$500,000 (to be paid over five years) from the Annie E. Casey Foundation as a part of FAMILIES COUNT – MARYLAND. New Song was selected along with six other nonprofit organizations throughout Maryland to mark the tenth anniversary of the Casey Foundation in Maryland.

According to the press release, "FAMILIES COUNT – MARYLAND celebrates extraordinary organizations that improve the odds for our state's most vulnerable children... innovators that strengthen low-income families and communities... The recipients are being recognized for their effectiveness in helping families acquire the confidence, capacity and opportunities they need to succeed. FAMILIES COUNT - MARYLAND embraces a simple principle: Children do well when their families do well, and families do better when they live in communities that support them. 'We will change the future of our most at-risk children only when we change the present for their parents,' says Douglas W. Nelson, president of the Casey Foundation."



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MAYOR O'MALLEY VISITS NEW SONG!

Mayor O'Malley visited New Song Academy in October. During a tour of the school led by Assistant Director Jane Johnson, the Mayor visited students in their classrooms, observed violin lessons and talked with directors and teachers of the school. Ms. Kathleen's third grade class (photo left) asked the Mayor if he is going to run for President.

In November the Mayor joined Sandtown Habitat for a house dedication with the Baltimore Ravens on the 1400 block of Presstman Street. Co-Executive Director LaVerne Stokes presented him with a plaque of appreciation for the City of Baltimore's contribution of 134 vacant houses and lots for our rebuilding effort, a \$1.1 million value!

NEW SONG AT CCDA CONFERENCE IN ATLANTA



Twelve members of New Song attended the 16th annual Christian Community Development Association conference in Atlanta with a focus on “Living the Kingdom Now: Restoring Communities in the Name of Christ.” We were encouraged by evening plenary sessions with speakers from urban areas all over the country, morning Bible studies with Dr. John Perkins (including singing led by our very own Elder Harris!), and workshops/seminars by others working in communities across the U.S. in housing, education, jobs, addictions counseling/care, health care and the arts, just like us. Other highlights included a trip to Martin Luther King Jr.’s church and memorial, dinner together with lots of laughter, conversation and buffalo wings, and wonderful fellowship.

BALTIMORE RAVENS HUDDLE IN THEIR HOMETOWN



Sandtown Habitat for Humanity was thrilled to host the NFL and United Way Hometown Huddle with the Baltimore Ravens for the fourth consecutive year. The event focused on completing 1422 Presstman Street for Robin Edwards and her family. The morning of November 16th was warm and sunny as a couple hundred of us gathered in the 1400 block of Presstman Street to work together and celebrate all that is going on. Members of the Baltimore Ravens joined Habitat staff and volunteers from the United Way, M&T Bank, and other groups to continue the rehab work on several homes on the block including demolition, framing and painting on the inside and landscaping and the planting of trees on the outside. Partnership is the key to rebuilding a neighborhood, and this event epitomized effective partnerships. Thanks to all of our New Song partners!

New Song **Urban Ministries** is ...

New Song Community Church • Sandtown Habitat for Humanity • New Song Community Learning Center • EDEN Jobs • New Song Family Health Services • New Song Arts • and in Partnership with Newborn Holistic Ministries

1300 North Fulton Avenue • Baltimore, Maryland 21217 • Phone 410.669.3309 • Fax 410.523.3015 • www.nsum.org