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Local Non-Profit Brings Fun and Learning to Neighborhood Children

Hope House Detroit, a Michigan based non-profit organization located on Detroit's East Side, offers supplemental learning opportunities and mentorship to the children in the surrounding community. Weekly programs include individual events for young men and young women, a literacy program, a computer lab and a program for pre-school age children.

Hope House Detroit's mission is based on a desire to form sincere, lasting relationships within the community it serves. Gary and Becky Gentry purchased and renovated a home in a Detroit neighborhood in order to be closer to their home church with an eagerness to be more active participants in the local community. Hope House Detroit began as a casual meeting place for the young men of the community, and eventually grew to offer multiple programs for the children and youth of the community.

"The whole reason we're here is to honor and respect the kids; that they would know that they are created in the image of God with gifts and talents and potential to bring glory to God," said Becky Gentry, co-founder of Hope House Detroit. "We didn't come here to change everything; we came here and lived in the community. We brought ourselves to the community the same as our neighbors do."

Today, Hope House Detroit offers children in the community programs such as "Guys Group," a weekly event that starts with breakfast and usually ends with a game of basketball, "Thank God It's Girls Club," a weekly event that brings young women of the neighborhood together for mentorship and fun, "Read Around the Block," a literacy program for grades one through five, as well as a computer club where children learn basic computer skills and a program for pre-schoolers.

Hope House Detroit relies on interns and volunteers to operate the weekly events, to offer one-on-one time with the children of the neighborhood, and to provide supervision for larger events, including summer programs and special events. Hope House Detroit offers an internship program in collaboration with local colleges, including Rochester College, that allows interns to live and serve in the neighborhood.

ABOUT HOPE HOUSE DETROIT Founded in 2010, Hope House Detroit offers supplemental learning opportunities and mentorships to the children in the surrounding Detroit community. The mission of Hope House Detroit is to encourage and inspire local children to reach their full potential by forming sincere, lasting relationships while building reading, writing and computer skills.

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