

EDITOR'S Note:

Reaching Out

There are so many great things going on in our communities, but so much of it has not reached the pages of the Maryland District Newsletter. So, at a recent meeting of coaches and

organization representatives, we asked a few of the attendees had they read the newsletter's most recent edition. Some had but many had not visited the District website to open the document. We also asked them to describe one of their organization's activities that could possibly be featured in the newsletter.

We were delighted to receive so many awesome responses that we requested they send us an article along with photographs or allow us to interview the individual who lead the effort. An outstanding response came from Angela Boston of Baltimore United Thrill.

Their athletes, coaches and parents reached out to the homeless; a population in our society that is highly visible, but one that we often look away from, look down upon or summarily dismiss. We don't venture close enough to learn how or why they don't have a permanent address or a regular means of a meal, a warm bed and clothing or the protection and safety of a family.

While on any given day in Baltimore City there are more than 2,000 people who are homeless, Baltimore United Thrill rolled out the welcome mat to give more than 100 of the area's homeless a little love, clothing, and a much needed meal. A recent article in the Baltimore Sun reported that seven of the most prominent candidates for Mayor agree that addressing homelessness is a priority. We hope homelessness remains a priority when the new Mayor takes office.

Thank you Angela and Baltimore United Thrill for helping those in need; for significantly contributing to yourr community, and for helping your athletes look past the misconceptions and stereotypes of the homeless to see that they are born of a lack of exposure and understanding.

As we anticipate more great responses, we will improve our means of communicating with you. In addition to continuing to post the newsletter on our website, we will also email it directly to your mail box. If you know other coaches, parents, athletes, or volunteers who would like to receive our newsletter, please have them send us their email address and we'll add them to our mailing list.

Thanks!

McCarroll Nole,

Editor

Baltimore United Thrill Lends A Helping Hand

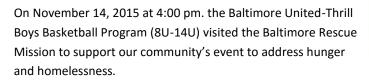


By Angela Boston

National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week (H & H Week) is held each year to raise awareness,

combat hunger and homelessness in communities, and bolster the national social movement to end these social ills. It is held during the week before Thanksgiving, which is a time for us all to think about what we are thankful

for. It is also a perfect time to share our compassion with our neighbors who are experiencing hunger and homelessness, and actively work towards a world where no one is homeless or hungry.



Not only did the players and parents bless some unfortunate individuals with food (sandwiches, drinks, chips, snacks, etc.) and clothing (pants, socks, jackets, shoes, shirts, etc.), parents and players were blessed as well.

During the distribution, one young man mentored to our boys how fortunate they were to have a program like Baltimore United-Thrill.

He explained that disobeying and being disrespectful to his family led to him becoming homeless. He also described how his bad behavior impacted his schooling and his decisions in life.

This man was speaking from his heart with valuable life lessons and experiences. This successful event demonstrated how our humanity towards others truly exemplify how blessed we are to have each other!



















Maryland District Milestones:



Robert L. Guy

Eastern Shore Hurricanes

President and Coach for the Eastern Shore Athletics Organization. On March 5, 2016 Robert was honored by the 100 Men of Distinction, an organization that honors "the Past, Present, and Future" of African-American Men across the Eastern Shore of Maryland.



Noah Lee

Maryland Hoopmasters

Honors Ingenuity Student at Roland Park Middle School who attended the Idea Summit with Ingenuity Project 2016. Noah is a Junior Honor Society member and has been accepted to Polytechnic Institute for Fall entry.



Rasheed Muhammad

Train 2 Win

Assistant Coach Muhammad was recognized as the Top Manager in Baltimore for Shoe City. He received the Top Salesman Award, the Marketing Partnership Award and the Inventory Control Award at the company's banquet on March 13^{th.}

8-Under Boys Basketball National Tournament Comes to Maryland!

The Maryland District Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) has partnered with Wicomico County Recreation, Parks and Tourism to host the AAU Boys Basketball National Tournament for eight year olds and under. The tournament, which will be held July 5-10, 2016, will be the first national championship to be held in the Maryland District.

A \$100 discount and free practice time will be given to early registrants. Local teams that play in the Maryland District Tournament will receive an additional discount to participate in the National Tournament. All games will be played in one location-under one roof and teams will receive discounted lodging. Need more info? Call 410-340-0635 TODAY!