



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

From King College to King's County - Tennessee College Students Volunteer at CAMBA

In an unusual twist for Spring Breakers, 23 students of King College Tennessee arrived in Flatbush Brooklyn Monday for a week of volunteering at CAMBA. CAMBA, an organization serving over 35,000 clients in the surrounding Brooklyn area is facing dire budget cuts as proposed by Governor Paterson.

“We are pleased and incredibly honored to host the students from King College that travelled all the way to Brooklyn to help our community,” said Executive Director Joanne Oplustil. “This month is World Hunger Month. Not only have they helped organize the donations, but their work in our facilities and our shelters and their warmth and generosity are gifts that will continue to give.”

The volunteers painted facilities at the nonprofit, helping with dinner service at the homeless shelters it runs, documenting some of the 125 programs at CAMBA and organizing the inventory at CAMBA's Shona Art Gallery. They also communicated with various Brooklyn small businesses, schools and individuals in Flatbush that are involved in the CAMBA Annual Donation Drive.

The Flatbush, Park Slope, Greenpoint and Brooklyn Heights communities also have been extraordinarily generous.

Small businesses participated in CAMBA's Annual Drive which collected food for the food pantry and books for the clients in shelters. Previously the CAMBA's food pantry served 5000 individuals a year, however **in 2008 there was an increase of over 900% in use**. Food items being collected for the pantry include but are not limited to:

Rice • Beans • Fruit • Vegetables • Pasta • Canned Tuna/Salmon • Canned Chicken • Canned or Dried Milk • 100% Fruit Juice • Cereal • Peanut Butter

Small Businesses that provided drop off locations for the drive were:

Flatbush Food Coop
Park Slope Food Coop
Sycamore Flower Shop & Bar

Bobby's Dept. Store, 1616 Church Ave.,
United Commercial Bank, 1801 Church Ave.
Children's Corner, 1101 Church Ave.
Modell's, 2120 Church Ave.
HJ Edwards Accounting, 1701 Church Ave., Suite 206

Alumna of King College and CAMBA Director of HomeBase shelter services, Melissa Mowery organized the spring break event with her former coach and educator Susie Toomey and her son Chris. "We are grateful that King College chose CAMBA to share their deep commitment to community and those deep in need", said Mowery. "We are fortunate in that King College students chose to spend their Spring Break helping our community for a second year in a row. We look forward to sharing this experience and many more in the future."

ABOUT CAMBA

1720 Church Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11215

Who We Are - CAMBA is a non-profit agency that provides services that connect people with opportunities to enhance their quality of life.

What We Do - CAMBA offers integrated services and programs in: *Education, Economic Development, Family Support & Youth Development, HIV/AIDS Services, Housing & Housing Services and Legal Services.*

Who We Serve - CAMBA serves more than 35,000 clients. Many New Yorkers face daily hurdles such as chronic homelessness, HIV/AIDS, language barriers, domestic violence, necessary job skills, and more. Since 1977, CAMBA has responded to community needs by creating individualized service-oriented programming.

Our Staff - CAMBA's multi-faceted dedicated staff of over 1,000 speaks more than 40 languages and serves residents of diverse ethnic backgrounds. Fifteen percent of our employees are also former clients, which allow us to truly connect with those we serve.

Where We Are - CAMBA's programs are run from more than 50 locations in New York City, mainly in Brooklyn, including more than 15 school-based programs. Some of our facilities are open 24/7.

Our Results - Our experience shows us that, when provided with services and supports that are meaningful and culturally relevant, CAMBA's clients can make tremendous contributions toward building their own lives and their community.

For Further Information contact:

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