

# McGivney MATTERS

**Yes!** I would love to support the McGivney Community Center and help make a difference in the lives of hundreds of families each year.

I would like to contribute:

\$1,000   
  \$500   
  \$250   
  \$100   
  \$50

Other amount:

Name:

Address:

City, Town:  State:  Zip:

Email:  Phone: (  )

My check is enclosed (made payable to the McGivney Community Center)

Charge my:  Visa  MasterCard  American Express

Account:  Exp. Date:  Code:

Signature:

Please mail to: McGivney Community Center, P.O. Box 5220  
Bridgeport, CT 06610-0220



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The McGivney Community Center  
338 Stillman Street  
P.O. Box 5220  
Bridgeport, CT 06610-0220



# McGivney MATTERS



**Where Kids Come & GROW!**

## 2015 Summer Newsletter

### McGivney's Mission:

To provide stimulating and enriching programs that foster academic success and self-esteem.

### McGivney's Vision:

- Support each member to develop their individual strengths by incorporating multiple strategies to achieve desired outcomes.
- Challenge youth to gain knowledge, skills, and attitudes that prepare them for adulthood.
- Encourage youth to demonstrate a positive identity through responsibility, teamwork, and self-efficacy.
- Offer opportunities for youth-adult partnerships.

### Thank you FCCF!

We would like to thank Fairfield County's Community Foundation for their generous \$20,000.00 grant to support McGivney's Summer Camp program. FCCF's support allowed us to hire outstanding instructors and counselors that were daily mentors for our campers. In addition, their grant provided camp supplies (from gym equipment to art supplies), supplemented field trip fees and allowed us to print the highly anticipated Summer Camp Yearbooks. We are incredibly grateful for FCCF's support of our educational and enriching Summer Camp.



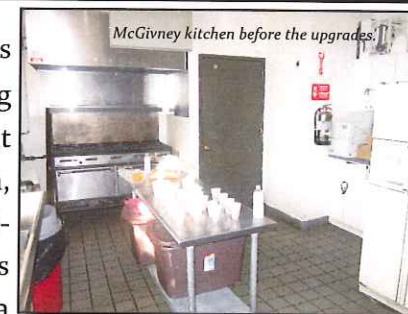
Summer Camp math enrichment.



The upgraded McGivney kitchen!

### New Kitchen Brings Cooking Classes

McGivney is proud to announce that the kitchen is now open for use! Many thanks to Board members Donna Bria and T.J. Lanese for their hard work in renovating McGivney's kitchen! Increased counter space provides a new learning environment for our kids. McGivney members will learn about the art of cooking, nutrition, kitchen safety and etiquette in this brand new classroom. Our members are incredibly excited to be able to cook new foods and be able to eat what they create! This year, we will be starting a new Celebrity Chef program in the kitchen. Once a month, a community leader will join us in the kitchen to share a recipe and a meal with our members. This collaboration will teach our members a new recipe AND expose them to a new professional in their community. Please let us know if you would like to make a difference and be a future celebrity chef!



McGivney kitchen before the upgrades.

**Putt for McGivney**



Event Chairs Craig Rosenberg, Terry O'Connor, Rob O'Connor and Jeanne Mathews with the McGivney Cup.

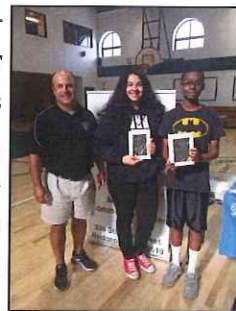
The First Annual McGivney Mini Golf Night was a great success! The McGivney gymnasium was transformed into an 18 hole mini golf course and nearly 36 teams battled for the first place prize- the McGivney Cup! Food, drinks and friendly competition made the night one to remember. We are incredibly proud to have been able to host such an exciting and energy driven event right here at the McGivney Center. Supporters were able to take tours of the Center and see the many facility improvements that have been made over the past year. Additionally, this event raised nearly \$5,000.00 to support McGivney's educational programs. Thank you to everyone that participated! We are already looking forward to next year!

**ASP Celebration**



Heidi and Perla show off their participation ribbons!

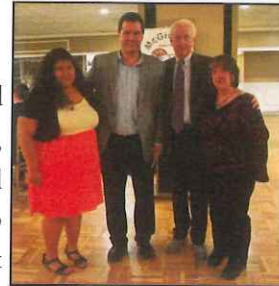
After School Program 2014-15 was a great success! Each day, 84 members were able to participate in tutoring, gym, arts & crafts, game room, computers, Youth Council, Friday Clubs and more! From the first to third quarter, 58% of members improved academically by at least one letter grade. In addition, 47% of members received all A's and B's in the third quarter as compared to 40% in the first quarter. On the last day, families joined us to celebrate the successful year. Over cake and ice cream, awards were presented for Honor Roll, attendance, exceptional performance in enrichment and the 8th grade boy and girl Role Model of the Year!



Joe DeSabella, Program Director, presents Aryanna and Jeremiah with the Role Model of the Year Award.

**Annual Auction & Dinner**

McGivney's largest fundraiser, the Annual Auction & Dinner, was held on May 7, 2015. Guests enjoyed dinner, drinks and exciting silent and live auctions to celebrate another year of great programs at McGivney. Maelis Sanchez, Youth Speaker, shared that McGivney taught her to enjoy learning. Angie Staltaro was awarded the McGivney Volunteer of the Year for the countless hours that she dedicates to further McGivney's mission and impact. We cannot thank Angie enough for her dedication to the youth of Bridgeport. This year's Keynote Speaker was Tom Moore, Quinnipiac University Men's Head Basketball Coach. He spoke of the importance of safe and structured out-of-school spaces and stated that McGivney erases the feeling of not having a future and instead provides hope. Further, he said that this hope saves lives and that none of us should underestimate that. Thanks to all of our sponsors, volunteers and attendees, more than \$38,000.00 was raised to support McGivney's educational and enriching programs. Thank you to everyone that made this event so successful!



Maelis Sanchez, Youth Speaker; Tom Moore, Keynote Speaker; Terry O'Connor, Executive Director; Angie Staltaro, Volunteer of the year.

**Vazzy's Gives Back**



Players enjoy the day!

On July 27, 2015, despite the morning's ominous weather, the sun came out and 136 golfers enjoyed Vazzy's 21st Annual Charity Golf Tournament. Players enjoyed 18 holes at Mill River Country Club, great food, drinks, a raffle, prizes, and exciting live and silent auctions. Angel Rosario, youth speaker, shared his story of the positive impact that McGivney has had on his life. The event raised nearly \$20,000.00 to benefit the many educational and enriching programs provided by the McGivney Center. Thank you to all the golfers, sponsors and volunteers that made this great day possible. We also want to thank the Vazzano family for making a great difference in the lives of our McGivney Community Center members on the East Side of Bridgeport.



John Vazzano, Board of Directors, and Terry O'Connor, Executive Director, thank the players for their support!



Angel Rosario, Youth Speaker, Terry O'Connor, State Representative Christopher Rosario and Joel Rosaio enjoy the evening.

**Tennis for McGivney**

Thank you so much to Amy Christenson and Jennifer Rosenberg for organizing the First Annual Tennis for McGivney Tournament held at the Trumbull Racquet Club! Complete with food provided by Vazzy's, drinks provided by Trumbull Liquor Center, great silent auction items and many matches of tennis- a fabulous time was had by all! We cannot thank Jen and Amy enough for all of their hard work and planning of this great event. Tennis for McGivney was a great success, raising almost \$2,000.00 to support our Summer Camp. Thank you to everyone that participated in support of McGivney!



The participants pose at the end of the event!

**Summer FUN**

McGivney Summer Camp 2015 was a blast! The 7 week camp began on June 22 and ran through August 7.

Campers participated in gym, arts & crafts, game room, performing arts, team building, outside time, literacy and math daily. Special events included "Wacky Water Day", "Tie Dye Day" and "McGivney's Got Talent". Campers were also able to participate in tennis at Central High School and a number of field trips including Connecticut's Beardsley Zoo, a Bridgeport Bluefish Game, Basketball Hall of Fame, an IMAX movie, Lake Quassy and Lake Com-pounce. Campers were able to build confidence, make new friends, and prepare for the coming school year! Thank you to all of you that supported our Adopt-A-Camper Campaign. Because of your support, every child was able to attend regardless of family income. Your generous support ensures that Bridgeport youth have a safe space to learn and grow during summer break. A great time was truly had by all!



**McGivney's New Bus**

Thank you to the Norma F. Pfriem Foundation for the \$60,000.00 grant to heat and air condition our building's lobby and to purchase a new bus! A bus will present many new opportunities to our members. We will be able to bring the kids on more educational and recreational field trips across Connecticut all year long. With transportation, we will be able to collaborate with more organizations to provide even more enrichment activities that our members may not receive elsewhere.



**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Stump the Schwab-** Monday, Nov. 16, 5:30 pm at Marisa's Ristorante in Trumbull!



Think you know sports? Test your knowledge against the best! This is a great night of sports trivia, dinner and drinks that all can enjoy! \$600 per team. All proceeds benefit the McGivney Center and Shehan Center.

For more information, please call (203) 333-2789, visit our website ([www.mcgivney.org](http://www.mcgivney.org)), friend

McGivney Staff or like McGivney Community Center on Facebook, and @McGivneyCenter on Twitter and Instagram!