

Johnson & Johnson's "Day of Caring" with CHS of NJ's Positive Impact Afterschool Program



October 7, 2011 – What an incredible day for our kids at Washington Elementary School! The afterschool program this afternoon was such a success because of the enormous energy and enthusiasm that was brought to the event by the energetic and creative volunteers from Johnson & Johnson. The children who participate in our program had been looking forward to "Fun Friday" all week long. It was clear by the joy on their faces that they were having an amazing time and the face painting not only transformed their faces, but transformed their spirits!

The donated playground equipment, building sets and other supplies were a hit, and continue to be enjoyed by the children. But beyond these donations, having time and attention of the volunteers for the afternoon was a treat for the children - a true gift. CHS of NJ Positive Impact program supervisor Louise Shabazz wrote of "Fun Day" at Washington Elementary School:

"I would like to thank ... the wonderful volunteers of J & J for giving of their time and many talents to the students of the Positive Impact Afterschool Program. I believe the great equalizer in life is exposure to new things and experiences. The J & J Fun Day exposed our students to wonderful volunteers who not only brought entertaining games, but volunteers who shared in a fantastic day of fun with the kindergarten through third grade students of the Positive Impact Afterschool Program. Most of the students of Washington Elementary are living below the poverty line and it is a difficult task for parents to pay the monthly fee to keep the students in the program, but the parents understand the value of the program. A lot of these parents do not speak English and they need the Positive Impact staff to help their children with homework. The Positive Impact program exposes the students to different activities that they would not otherwise have access to, activities such as tennis, culinary creations, gingerbread workshops, Positive Spotlight, etc.... Parents and even the school administrators and teachers appreciate all that Positive Impact does to equalize the lives of the Washington students who are underserved and undereducated."

CHS of NJ is thankful to have the continued support of Johnson and Johnson, and the folks from the Internal Medicine Group. Together we are saving children's lives and building healthy families!

