

Accomplishment. Satisfaction. Pride....

...feelings most of us take for granted. For a couple hundred inner city teens a sense of accomplishment, satisfaction and pride will be completely new – and life changing.

“The first day I learned a very important lesson that will benefit me for the rest of my life. I learned when trying to accomplish a goal, do the best you can, regardless of what others around you are doing. I learned to stay focused no matter if you come in first, second or third place because it’s not always about who’s first, its about getting the job done.”

“...as we elevated into the mountains I began to think I was unstoppable, I felt as if I was at the top of the world. At that point in time I realized there was nothing I couldn’t do.”

- Cierra Stanford, BCM participant

Dear Sally,

I am working with two friends, Rudy McEntire and Jason Richtor to provide funds for 10 teens to participate in a profoundly life changing program. Big City Mountaineers (BCM), a 501(c)(3) non-profit, (<http://www.bigcitymountaineers.org>) addresses the need to provide meaningful mentoring experiences for urban, at risk youth. BCM provides this mentoring experience coupled with the unique and challenging recreational experience of an 8-day backcountry wilderness education trip. The program positively impacts teen’s beliefs with regard to environmental awareness, age and ethnic diversity, and self-esteem. As a result of the relationships formed with inspirational adult role models, these teens become better equipped to make critical career, educational, and lifestyle decisions.

In the words of the participants:

“If I can make it up that hill, (10,000 ft summit) I can do anything.”

“Life is like these hills. You hit your high point and your low but you look into yourself to draw strength and carry on. If I ever hit another really low point in my life I can draw on my self confidence and within myself to bring myself up again.”

Discipline, perseverance, team work; attributes these teens are taking back to their communities by sharing what they learned and encouraging others to look inside and draw on what they didn’t know was there.

If you have ever been inspired by an experience in the wilderness, if that experience taught you something about yourself and your abilities, if it was grueling and shaped you for the better, please consider making a financial contribution to send an urban, at-risk teen to Big City Mountaineering.

You can do that by clicking on the following link and sponsoring Jason Richter who will be participating in The Summit for Someone benefit climb, a fundraising program to benefit the teen participants of Big City Mountaineers.

<https://ssl.charityweb.net/summitforsomeone/Olympus/JasonRichter>.

Your contribution will provide a profoundly life-altering experience as expressed by a former participant like this:

“Some of the most important things I learned were how to adjust to unfamiliar environments, face fears, and not complain about a situation, just make the best of it. A goal to me isn’t about how fast you complete it, or having the fewer problems, it’s about setting your goal and applying yourself. For so many years I tried to keep up with everyone else, not realizing I was going too fast. I’ve learned to follow my own heart and do what works best for me.”

If you are inspired by what you have read, please consider acting now by clicking on the link above and making your contribution. We are in the final leg of generating funds, which we would like to receive by July 31st. Thank You!

Be well,

Sherry McKillop
Rudy McEntire
Jason Richter

P.S. Although the website indicates a financial goal of \$3500 our actual goal is \$5000. With that amount we can send 10 teens to BCM. Thanks so much!