



Hosanna House Inc. ♦ Wilkinsburg Community Center of Western Pennsylvania

To Whom it may Concern,

In the early 1990s, Hosanna House was able to purchase the abandoned Horner Middle School, which is located on Wallace Avenue in the heart of Wilkinsburg. In 1996, Hosanna House, Inc. - Wilkinsburg Community Center of Western Pennsylvania officially opened its doors. Through community funding and the help of more than 500 volunteers, this 4-story, 125,000 square foot building was completely renovated over an 11-year period from 1995-2006. In 2003, the Sherwood Event Center property was acquired to meet the need for summer recreational programs. This property is a 14-acre facility featuring a large swimming pool, tennis courts and basketball courts. Sherwood is also available for public rental on weekends and during the week after 5:00pm. The rental income is used to support Hosanna House's programs and services.

Today, Hosanna House impacts the lives of over 35,000 people each year. On any given day, as many as 1,000 community residents come into the center to receive or deliver services. Both of facilities have pools which are the only ones in the community of Wilkinsburg.

We support Play.CLOH.org's efforts to expand aquatics education throughout the region. We see this effort as a positive addition to student's lives and something that is necessary as extracurricular activities are sparse in some communities. Hosanna House anticipates Mark Rauterkus continuing to lead this effort within the Greater Pittsburgh Area.

Sincerely,

Leon E. Haynes, III  
Executive Director