



March 2009

## **IGNITING FLAMES OF HOPE**

*'And I myself will be a wall of fire around it,' declares the Lord, "and I will be its glory within.'*

*Zechariah 2:5*

### **Expansion News**

We are greatly looking forward to the official opening of our newest location in West Davie! God has been gracious to us and has provided the means for cleaning, organizing, and setting up our newest center. Our very first Open House is taking place on Monday, March the 9th and we expect that new students and some of their parents will attend. We have already had parents from the neighborhood approach us with questions regarding our program, as they all agree that their teens need something like what we have to offer, not only to keep them off the streets, but to provide them with homework assistance, community service opportunities, and a way to relate with their friends in a positive environment.



### **A Month of Fun**

We have had a variety of events for our youth in the month of February. On the 7th, we took some students to Horsegate. The day began with a Bible study before going outside for the rest of the activities. Each student that went had a great time as they rode horses, chatted with their friends, played some paintball, and ate tasty food from Scruby's BBQ. With Firewall's expansion, we hope that we will be able to take more youth to these kinds of events to unwind and spend time with their friends outside of the center.





Youth Director Jorge

Being that Valentine’s Day was right around the corner, Firewall had its first Poetry Night on Thursday the 12th. Several brave students signed up to read their very own poems. The event was a huge success as we set the mood with lots of Valentine’s decorations and candy. We prepared the room for a banquet following the event, and Open Door Ministry served everyone a delicious dinner consisting of

chicken, rice, and beans. Just when everyone thought that the last person had recited their poem, one of our volunteers, Mr. Steve, Janeth, and Pastor Andy dressed up as “Boca Betty,” “West Side Willy” and “East Side Eddy” to represent



our three Firewall locations. With the “bling bling,” the baggy clothes, and the “gangster” beat that we picked out, the students had a blast as they watched us perform a rap battle written by Mr. Steve himself. Jorge concluded the night with effective videos that illustrated the meaning of true love, the love that Jesus Christ has for us.



The very next day, the Firewall girls had a Valentine’s banquet hosted by Cesia and Rachel who cooked spaghetti, meatballs, and desert for dinner. Cesia taught a lesson on friendship with others and most importantly with God, beginning the events of the night. On top of this, cards for each individual girl were written, encouraging them to



follow God and to set goals for their futures. The music was cranked up and the girls had fun just taking pictures and eating dinner. Events are going to continue to be planned, as it is an effective way of ministering and mentoring these young girls as they move ahead in their lives.

### We Need Your Help!

With Firewall’s expansion, your support is even more important to us. The number of students that we minister to and educate is going to increase substantially within the next few months, and every dollar that you provide is going directly toward ministry, to provide these youth with the education and God-focused message that they need to have successful futures. Thank you to all who faithfully support us and may God continue to bless you!



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