The Rising Sun: October 2015



# 4th Annual Notre Dame Football Outing!



This past weekend, on a picturesque fall Saturday, 25 Horizons for Youth students had the opportunity to take in an incredible college football game-day experience at the University of Notre Dame.

Our 4th Annual Notre Dame Football Outing included one extra special surprise: a visit from the players during our pregame visit inside Notre Dame Stadium! Accompanied by former ND All-American running back Reggie Brooks, our students had the chance to play catch on the field, pose for pictures, and even try on some of the equipment! During the surprise visit from the team, our students were invited to join in on the pregame prayer before having the opportunity to seek autographs and pictures with their favorite players.

Thanks to the generous support of OMI Industries, our lucky students—joined by mentors, parents, and Horizons for Youth staff—enjoyed a chartered bus ride from Chicago to South Bend, a traditional tailgate, a campus bookstore gift card, and tickets to the game to watch the Fighting Irish triumph over the Navy Midshipmen.

# Founders Find Ways to Stay Involved



## Horizons for Youth

Scholarship Mentoring Community

Nearly 25 years after helping create Horizons for Youth, three of our founding members have not lost their passion for serving others through our program's mission.

Steve Derks, along with his wife, Laura, will serve as Co-Chairs of the 16th Annual *On Cloud Nine* gala. "Laura and I are very proud to celebrate 25 Years of helping kids, and we are honored to stand alongside Kent during this meaningful year for *On Cloud Nine*," says Steve. "We are humbled to serve in our new roles as Co-Chairs and look forward to working with the Barnett family and the entire Horizons for Youth community to make the 16th annual *On Cloud Nine* the best one yet."

Fellow founder Patrick Collins has taken the lead on an important initiative in celebration of our 25th anniversary. "When we first started Horizons for Youth 25 years ago, we never could have imagined that the program would change this many lives," says Patrick. "I am thrilled to help ensure that the extraordinary impact of the organization's first 25 years is exceeded by that of the next 25 years."

While the contributions of founder Mike Murdock often consist of behind-the-scenes projects, he continues to make a tremendous impact in every aspect of our program. Whether it's by orchestrating special opportunities for our students, donating unique items and services, or supporting our families privately, Mike is constantly finding new ways to make a difference. "I'm inspired by the amazing people in this community," says Mike. "It's the parents, students, and volunteers that make this such a wonderful family."

Horizons for Youth prides itself on the fact that so many of our supporters become lifelong members of our community and there is no better example than this trio of founders. While they may prefer to deflect attention, they all deserve special recognition for their long-term support of our families and mission. Please help us in thanking Steve Derks, Patrick Collins and Mike Murdock for 25 years of selfless dedication to Horizons for Youth!



### Horizons for Youth in the News!



This special event also received some great media coverage. Click on the link below to learn about the story behind this annual trip, and to see just how much fun our students had this weekend:

Click **HERE** to view the story!

#### Click below to follow us on social media!







Scholarship. Mentoring. Community.

### Save the Dates!



16th Annual On Cloud Nine **February 6, 2016** Revel Fulton Market | 1215 W Fulton Market



5th Annual No Ordinary Evening April 23, 2016 **Navy Pier Grand Ballroom** 

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