



UrbanPromise
CHARLOTTE

First Week of UrbanPromise East!

The hallways of Cokesbury buzzed with excitement, laughter, and chatter last week as UrbanPromise launched its newest site in East Charlotte! I'm so happy to present.... Camp Hope!

We welcomed 60 students from Idlewild Elementary- all came in with sparkling smiles, eager eyes, and hearts filled with joy. Leading our campers are 18 StreetLeaders coming from East Meck, Independence, and South Meck.

Our StreetLeaders leaned into their mission of making UrbanPromise a second home to our students and quickly set out to create bonds with our campers. By the end of the week, our campers made themselves at home- having nicknames for one another, claiming pride to their teams, and laughing freely at each other's antics. On Thursday, our last day of program for the week, one of our campers told a StreetLeader, "I wish I could live at UrbanPromise. I would never leave."

We ended our first week of camp with hearts filled with anticipation for the adventures in the year to come. I'm grateful that our campers have naturally developed a sense of home and trust with our StreetLeaders and staff. My prayer is that as they grow to love one another, they may also grow in HOPE- hope for their futures, their families, their friends, their community - as they are reminded everyday with our chant, "We have Hope!"

Thank you for your support, prayers, and excitement for UrbanPromise East! None of this could happen without you!

Faithfully,

Erika

