



**United Neighborhood Centers  
of Northeastern Pennsylvania**  
[www.uncnepa.org](http://www.uncnepa.org)

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UNC Celebrates Project Hope Summer Camp's 38<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Scranton, PA - July 1, 2008 marks the 38<sup>th</sup> year of providing a unique summertime experience for children residing in Lackawanna County. It is a day with no worries. It is a day filled with fun. It is a day to relax. Most importantly, it marks the first day of summer camp.

Since 1970 United Neighborhood Centers of Northeastern Pennsylvania (UNC) has been providing community youth with summertime adventures at Project Hope Summer Camp located at Camp St. Andrew in the endless mountains of Tunkhannock, PA. The camp has 550 acres, including fields, woods, pool and lake to entice, entertain and educate campers ages five to twelve.

According to Sharon Brittingham, UNC director of community youth programs, "Project Hope is an opportunity for our campers (and staff) to learn about and experience the natural world around them and discover how we are all connected. It is also an opportunity for us to discover our dormant skills and abilities lying just below the surface waiting for that perfect challenge to bring them out."

From July 1st to August 1st, community youth travel to Project Hope Summer Camp, Monday to Friday, with many activities at hand, including:

- Archery
- Arts and Crafts
- Boating
- Sports such as basketball and volleyball
- Kayaking
- Swimming
- Music
- New Games

- Adventure Learning Course, which offers a 38' climbing and repelling wall, the zip line and several other activities.

Project Hope also assists children who are at risk of falling behind during the summer months to maintain their grade level through the incidental-learning program, supplied by the Scranton School District. This partnership is geared for a child who needs to improve on a particular subject. The Scranton City School District enables certified district teachers to help children with the subjects of reading, spelling, math, writing and science. These classes do not take the place of summer school, but assist children who need additional support.

This year UNC will be offering its Leaders in Training Program (LIT) on-site, which is geared for youth ages 13-15. LIT is a youth leadership program that produces productive citizens and creates leaders of our future.

Over 500 low-income/at-risk community youth will experience five weeks of summer fun they normally could not afford or have the means to attend.

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\*\*\* Your presence is requested to experience the first day at Project Hope Summer Camp. Photo and interview opportunities will be available.

### **Background**

UNC is a private, not-for-profit, grass-roots United Way agency that offers direct and general advocacy services for youth, singles, families, and senior citizens in combination with programs that foster independence and self-sufficiency. UNC's mission is to work together with neighbors to provide services and create opportunities which empower individuals and build strong interdependent communities. Now through several locations, UNC offers a broad range of social, recreational, nutritional, and educational programs for children, teens, families, and senior citizens. UNC continues to embrace the settlement house vision to aid in the solution of problems at the neighborhood level.