



Hintonburg resident Ab Sobeha Adamu says the highlight of his Youth Leadership Camp experience was working at the Rochester Heights Playground and painting a huge mural with the 12 other participants. Photo by Fauza Mohamed

Best Experience of My Life!

By Lortie Marlow, Hintonburg Economic Development Committee

The Hintonburg Economic Development Committee (HEDC) would like to give a big “shout out” to Maddison Hickey, Melissa Bristol and Fauza Mohamed, Child and Youth Workers with the Somerset West Community Health Centre. These cool chicks operated the Youth Leadership Camp 2010 last summer in Rochester Heights. They contacted the HEDC to see if any youth from the Hintonburg Hip Hop and Breakdance programs would be interested in attending.

SWCHC and the HEDC have been teaming various programs and events over the years for youth and families in Hintonburg, Mechanicsville and Centertown. The Youth Leadership Camp 2010 was perfect fit for Ab Sobeha Adamu, a 12-year-old

from Hintonburg. The free program is open to youth 13 to 18 but SWCHC knew Ab from his volunteer work teaching breakdance at one of their programs and were confident he had the maturity.

This program provided him with First Aid and CPR certification, 40 hours of volunteer hours and taught his skills for leading children's activities! Ab exclaims it was the best experience of his life even if he is only 12-years-old.

When asked what the highlight of this program was for him, he says working at the Rochester Heights Playground and painting a huge mural with the 12 other participants. He enjoyed it so much he asked his parents to let him attend the unveiling of the mural weeks later as he was so proud of what his group had accomplished.

Each member of the group also were given gift certificates in recognition of their hard work. Ab received a \$50 gift certificate to Chapters which he used to purchase school supplies. Ab's parents, Adam and Azeb Adamu, were amazed at the quality of the program offered free of charge and the leadership skills he developed. They would also like to formerly thank Maddison, Melissa and Fauza, SWCHC and the sponsors of the Youth Leadership Camp.

There are some amazing programs available through the SWCHC operating in Hintonburg, Mechanicsville and Centertown. Check them out at: <http://swchc.on.ca/programs-prog-guide.php> and “like” their Facebook page. They definitely have fans with this family and HEDC! Keep up the good work!