

Bob's Kids is Beczak Environmental Education Center's scholarship fund that financially assists children who could not otherwise attend Beczak programs. The name honors Bob Walters, Beczak's first Executive Director and "champion of the river" whose dedicated service continues on Beczak's Board. **Bob's Kids** was inaugurated at Beczak's 20th Anniversary Celebration in May 2010, and sponsored twelve children to Beczak's *Summer Adventures* that same year. If you wish to make a donation please contact Clifford Schneider, Executive Director, at cschneider@beczak.org / 914.377.1900 x 15.

A LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friend,

Because you are an environmental advocate, I know you'll be interested in the story of how a handful of people touched twelve young lives with the transformative power of fresh air, river exploration, and time in nature.

It began at Beczak Environmental Education Center's 20th Anniversary Celebration in May 2010, when we announced **Bob's Kids**, a scholarship fund for children who could not otherwise attend our programs. A handful of people like you donated.

As a result, Shaun, Patrick, Emmanuel, Angelique, Kishan, Vance, Christina, Angelo, Melanie, Erick, Amy and Melina were able to attend Beczak's *Summer Adventures* on full scholarship.

Many are children of recent immigrants. When we registered them we had to go through a translator. Some were from single parent families; others had a parent that had been laid off. In all circumstances, attending a program like Beczak's *Summer Adventures* would have been out of the question without the financial support of **Bob's Kids**.

Beczak Environmental Education Center's goal is to teach children about the Hudson River Estuary—the spectacular river in their backyard with life of all kinds in its waters—and to let them succeed at things they never even tried before, like hiking, kayaking, or fishing. These days, when the average child spends five to fifteen hours a day on "screen time," it's vital to connect children to nature and I want to invite you to become our partner in this important work

We have completely depleted the **Bob's Kids** fund, which, of course, is exactly what it's meant for. But children come to Beczak's weekend and school break programs all year long, and we receive a steady stream of requests from parents, social workers and teachers asking if there's a way we can make these opportunities available to children whose families could not afford them.

It's for this reason that I'm asking you to support **Bob's Kids**.

On behalf of all of the children you'll connect to the wonder and joy of the natural world, thank you.

Sincerely,

Cliff Schneider
Executive Director

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