



**Dear Potential Donor,**

**Imagine a place where people live with little hope for the future.** Imagine a place where tents replace houses, suitcases replace dressers and sterno cans replace stoves. Imagine a place where there is no running water, no electricity, no public sewer system, little food and little protection from the elements. Can you see it? Can you imagine such a place? Now imagine this place not in a 3<sup>rd</sup> world country or in some distant, far removed land, but right here in America, in our own back yard.

Right now, in America, in the City of **Camden, NJ** is a place called **Tent City** where people live in the conditions I just described to you. In fact, the residents of **Tent City** had to endure one of the worst winters on record last year with over 78" of total snowfall in a tent or makeshift hut. In the land of opportunity, opportunity seems to have passed some of us by. Never heard of Tent City? You're not alone. Most people don't realize that this level of abject poverty exists in America, but it does; and whether we see it or not, it continues to exist and grow in scale.

There is hope. There is a group that does see "it", that sees this city of tents and hovels and has a plan to do something about it. **The Nehemiah Group** is a not for profit 501c3 CDC (Our Federal tax ID # is 01-0620263 and our DLN # is 17053251307019) that is committed to serving the underserved. We have seen Tent City first hand, we have spoken to the people who live there and heard their stories. Who they are and what they have to say will shock you. It shocked us and motivated us to action and you may be just as surprised as we were to learn just who is living in Tent City. It's not the den of drug addicts and mental patients that some will make it out to be. When we interviewed the residents, we found college educated chefs, ex-military vets with 20 years of service and other young professionals, who like many Americans, were only a check or two away from life on the streets.

It was the media's continuing coverage of the people of Tent City that spurred local pastor and business man Amir Khan to action. He is the founder and president of the Nehemiah Group. Amir saw the video on Tent City and stayed up to 4am on Sunday night watching every single video piece available. He was so moved that he devised a plan to pull on resources from his church (Solid Rock Worship Center), the Nehemiah Group, the private sector and personal money to get the residents of Tent City out. On Thursday, May 6th at 11am, the people of Tent City are moving out! They will be taken to appropriate housing after an overnight stay at a local hotel where they will be pampered and refreshed. The "mayor" of Tent City has repeatedly asked for one year, just one year to help them get back on their feet. Well, thanks to a collaborative effort between Amir Khan, his CDC, city, county and state agencies, they'll get just that. During that year, they will be trained, educated and given whatever resources necessary to help them reenter society.

We can't rescue these people alone. We need your help. Please consider donating all that you can, as quickly as you can, to this important rescue project. For monetary donations, please see our website at [www.nehemiahgroup.org](http://www.nehemiahgroup.org).

Checks can be made payable to "**Tent City Relief Fund**". You can bring your gift to ANY TD bank branch in the nation or it can be mailed to TD Bank. C/O: Tent City Relief Fund, 55 S. White Horse Pike, Stratford, NJ 08084. We also want you to know that 100% of your donation will go to the relief efforts of the residents of Tent City, Camden. In fact, we will post a financial disbursement statement, audited by a local accounting firm, so that you can see your tax deductible donation at work. Every penny will be accounted for because every penny counts.

**Volunteers are needed to help with the move!** If you are able, join us tomorrow, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 9am at Tent City (it is located off the #5 exit of 676 heading towards the riverfront.) For more information, please call our office at 856-309-9002.