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**PRESS RELEASE**

**CAMDEN PEACE GAMES RETURNS FOR 9<sup>TH</sup> YEAR OF UNITY,  
SPORTSMANSHIP, AND COMMUNITY CELEBRATION**

**CAMDEN, NJ** — Mayor Victor G. Carstarphen, alongside Camden Community Partnership (CCP) President & CEO Dana L. Redd, Camden County Commissioner Al Dyer, and a host of community partners and local leaders, are proud to announce the return of the 9th Annual Camden Peace Games, a vibrant, two-day celebration of peace, pride, and positive engagement through youth basketball and community connection. The free, co-ed event will be held on **Saturday, July 26 and Sunday, July 27** at the **Rutgers–Camden Athletic & Fitness Center**, bringing together families, neighbors, and young athletes from across the city.

The Camden Peace Games continue to serve as a powerful symbol of unity, empowering Camden’s youth through fun, structured play while uplifting the city’s strong sense of community spirit.

“The Camden Peace Games are more than just a weekend of basketball, they’re a celebration of who we are as a city,” said Mayor Victor G. Carstarphen. “Each year, I’m inspired by the energy, the sportsmanship, and the incredible support from our community. It’s a moment to highlight our youth, strengthen our neighborhoods, and stand together with pride in Camden.”

Now in its ninth year, the Camden Peace Games will feature:

- **Saturday, July 26 starting at 10:00 a.m.**
  - *All Skills & Drills Basketball Clinic* (ages 10+)
  - First rounds of the Camden Peace Games Tournament
- **Sunday, July 27 starting at 11:00 a.m.**
  - *The War Room Basketball Clinic* (ages 6–8)
  - A 16-game knockout-style tournament, concluding with the championship game on Sunday at 5 p.m., where players will be awarded by Mayor Carstarphen and the Philadelphia 76ers Hype Squad.

Organized in partnership by the City of Camden, CCP, Camden County, P.A.R.K. (Providing Alternate Resources for Kids), and numerous dedicated organizations, the Peace Games continue to grow as a signature summer event. In addition to basketball, attendees will enjoy live music, free food, games, giveaways, a bounce house, face painting, and access to local community resources, all at no cost.

“Camden Community Partnership is honored to be part of this powerful tradition that brings together people of all ages,” said Dana L. Redd, President & CEO of CCP. “The Peace Games represent the best of our city – youth engagement, neighborhood pride, and the shared goal of creating safe, joyful spaces for everyone in Camden. Let’s come together to cheer, connect, and celebrate all that makes Camden strong. See you on the court!”

“This event is about creating memories, building bridges, and making sure our kids know they are supported and celebrated,” said Camden County Commissioner Al Dyer. “The Peace Games bring joy and unity to the heart of the city and reflect Camden’s rich basketball legacy and community resilience.”

The event is proudly supported by Champion Sponsors which include:

- EMR USA Inc
- Suburban Disposal
- Seaside Waste Services
- NFI Industries
- Philadelphia 76ers
- Rutgers University-Camden
- CHAA

The Peace Games are also supported by a wide network of partners and sponsors including:

- Camden Community Partnership
- City of Camden
- Camden County Police Department
- Camden County Parks Dept
- Camden Special Services District
- American Water Charitable Foundation
- Brown and Connery
- CAMcare Health Corporation
- The Michaels Organization
- ResinTech
- ReWorld Waste
- Wellpoint
- Volunteers of America

“P.A.R.K. is proud to once again stand shoulder-to-shoulder with our community partners to deliver an unforgettable weekend,” said Lance Fussell, representing P.A.R.K. CMD. “This is about investing in our youth, celebrating their talents, and showing them that peace and teamwork are values worth living by.”

“Playing in the Camden Peace Games means a lot to me because it’s a chance to show what I can do on the court and represent my city with pride,” said Cairo Rivera, Camden resident and tournament participant for numerous years. “Knowing people from all over come to watch just motivates me even more.”

“I’m thankful for this opportunity because the Peace Games bring the whole community together,” said Monet High, a Camden resident and sophomore at Gloucester Catholic High School who will be participating in her second Peace Games tournament. “It’s fun, safe, and it makes me proud to say, ‘I’m from Camden!’”

The Camden Peace Games are a signature event of Connect the Lots Camden, an initiative of Camden Community Partnership that brings dynamic, free programming to neighborhoods throughout the city. Connect the Lots creates safe, welcoming spaces where residents can gather, play, and thrive.

To learn more about the Camden Peace Games and other upcoming Connect the Lots events, visit [www.ctlcamden.com](http://www.ctlcamden.com) or follow @CTLCamden on Instagram and X.

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