

Camden Youth Group Builds Boats Along with Character

by KYW's David Madden

Three newly built rowboats were set afloat for the first time along the Cooper River on Saturday morning; the culmination of a six week summer project for a Camden faith-based youth organization. They're called "Faith", "Hope" and "Promise"; the three small, wooden crafts that are certainly a far cry from the ship building that used to take place along the Camden waterfront. But Jim Cummings, director of the Urban Promise program, says this is more about building character: "We could have built coffee tables this summer. But there's just something about a boat. A boat can take you places you've never been before." "It gave me a goal in life, because I really wanted to know how to build boats when I got on one." He's learned a craft that he'll take with him for life to share with his kids and made some friends along the way. The boats will be auctioned off to raise money for the group so they can build more of them next summer.