



"Fostering Educated and Involved Young People"™

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Education in Action is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to empowering young people to be informed and active leaders in their communities.

Special Edition Newsletter – 2010-2011 Lone Star Youth Leadership Council



"Leadership in Action"™

From the Founders

Education in Action is proud to announce the Lone Star Youth Leadership Council program's highest rate of participation since its inception nine years ago. One hundred forty-seven outstanding young student leaders successfully completed program requirements for the 2010-2011 Council. Members represented 70 school districts, two charter schools, five private schools and one university. This special edition newsletter

highlights each of these students and their accomplishments as members of the 2010-2011 Lone Star Youth Leadership Council.

Program and Purpose

Each year outstanding student leaders are nominated by their educators to participate in spring break and summer Lone Star Leadership Academy programs. Upon completion of these leadership programs, alumni are invited to join Education in Action's alumni organization, the Lone Star Youth Leadership Council to receive a structured and guided opportunity to continue their leadership training during the school year. This year's lessons focused on identifying members' leadership strengths and developing their communication, listening and presentation skills. These skills were honed and put into action through service projects which members were responsible for creating and leading in their communities with the end goal being for members to improve the lives of those around them. Project requirements included finding a teacher/sponsor, creating a project action plan, incorporating the assistance of at least two peers and documenting projects in a portfolio.

Members that successfully complete program requirements also have the opportunity to return to the Lone Star Leadership Academy as Youth Facilitators. Youth Facilitators mentor younger students participating in the Lone Star Leadership Academy and receive additional leadership training during the program.

The Education in Action staff commends the accomplishments of the 2010-2011 Lone Star Youth Leadership Council. We look forward to their participation in future Education in Action programs and to watching them grow and achieve throughout their educational careers and beyond.

Jennifer Pasteur
Executive Director & Founder

Monica Hayes
Media Director & Founder

"This year's Lone Star Youth Leadership Council is a fascinating group of 147 students ranging in age from 6th grade to a freshman in college. Members are active in school including athletics, student council,



Carolyn Markle,
Alumni Coordinator

honor society, cheerleading, pom squad, band, orchestra, 4-H Club and many other school groups. In addition, most participate in activities outside of school including church, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and other service organizations. Members also maintain high scholastic averages, a program requirement.

Membership in the Lone Star Youth Leadership Council is no small undertaking, especially when these students' already busy schedules and academic standings are taken into consideration. This year, members completed three leadership lessons and created and led a service project for a cause or group for which they were passionate.

The service projects are very gratifying and are great learning experiences for the students. They feel a real sense of accomplishment when they contribute to solving problems by helping others. While learning lessons that will last a lifetime, they are making positive contributions to our society and we ALL benefit.

The students and I are always amazed at what one person can accomplish for the greater good. As the Alumni Coordinator, I am very, very proud of the hard work and accomplishments of these Lone Star Youth Leadership Council members. I hope you will be inspired as well."

2010-2011 Lone Star Youth Leadership Council (LSYLC) Members and Service Projects

Allen ISD

Aprotim Basu Roy, 7th grader, **Ereckson Middle School**, 1st Year Member

Project: Clothes for Allen Community Outreach - Tim recruited two fellow students to help him with a clothing drive to benefit the Allen Community Outreach program. He said, *"It was hard, but I'm glad I helped the community with my clothing drive."* Sponsor: **Ms. Marjorie Vaneskahian**, Director of Volunteer Services.

Matthew Klein, 8th grader, **Curtis Middle School**, 2nd Year Member

Project: Clothes for Kids - Matthew collected and donated clothing items to Catholic Charities for distribution to the needy in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. He said, *"I gained a greater sense of fulfillment and knowledge by helping my community."* Sponsor: **Mr. Nanni**, Teacher.



Tyler Trotter, 6th grader, **Rountree Elementary School**, 1st Year Member

Project: Knocking on Hope's Door - Tyler and four classmates collected \$200 worth of school and office supplies for Hope's Door, an organization that assists women and children who are victims of domestic violence. Tyler said, *"When I was at church, a man walked up and started talking about a women's shelter for domestic violence called Hope's Door. I was intrigued by his speech and I wanted to help, so my family and I talked about domestic violence and that helped me decide that these people need help."* Sponsor: **Mr. Daniel Pitcock**, Principal.

Beeville ISD

Sara Camille Casas, 8th grader, **Moreno Middle School**, 2nd Year Member

Project: No Name Calling Week - Sara educated and increased classmates' awareness of an issue that affects students nationwide on a daily basis – name calling. She sold black and red ribbon bracelets for students to wear as a reminder to think before making negative comments, raising enough money to buy 50 educational books for the library. She said, *"I learned an important lesson which can be summed up by Reverend Jesse Jackson: 'Never look down on someone unless you are helping him up.'"* Sponsor: **Ms. Darla Perron**, Teacher.



Birdville ISD

Catie Pool, 6th grader, **Haltom Middle School**, 1st Year Member

Project: Bake Sale for Kiva and Ronald McDonald House - Catie discovered a way to help two groups with one project. She and 10 volunteers produced special baked goods to sell as a fundraiser for Kiva (a non-profit organization with a mission to connect people through lending to alleviate poverty and create opportunity around the world) and the Ronald McDonald House. Bake sale donations were first loaned to Kiva. Then, as the loans were repaid, the loan proceeds were donated to the Ronald McDonald House. Catie said, *"I went through a slight mix-up with who was working with me and helping to provide the baked goods. Every bump in the road made me want to continue and be more of a leader and help everyone that I can."* Sponsor: **Mrs. Lannette Fraser**, Teacher.



Brazos ISD

Shannon Kahlden, 11th grader, **Brazos High School**, 4th Year Member

Project: 'Tis the Season - Along with her yearbook class, Shannon collected about twenty toys that were taken to the Fort Bend County Women's Center "Santa Store" which helps local families provide Christmas gifts for their children. She, her teacher and two of her classmates volunteered for the day helping the "store" pass out the toys. Shannon said, *"From my service project, I not only learned how to be a better leader, but I gained a better understanding for the hardships faced by many families and a new appreciation for what I have."* Sponsor: **Mrs. Tiffani Lopez**, Yearbook Teacher.

Brownsville ISD

Nadia Khan, 8th grader, **Oliveira Middle School**, 1st Year Member

Project: Nadia's Book Drive - Nadia gathered 1,161 new and gently used books with the help of family, friends, her school and other community members. Over 600 books were donated to the United Way Success By 6 Reading Program, an initiative committed to the promotion of reading to prepare young children for school and encourage a life of learning by providing access to educational activities. An additional 500 books were donated to the Friends of the Library program. She said, *"This has been a very rewarding experience for me. I had some challenges (many people now read books through their electronic readers, for instance) but I knew that I wanted to reach my goal and so I kept asking for book donations. I feel really good knowing I made a contribution to my community and now feel that I can accomplish anything."* Sponsor: **Ms. Rhonda Lewis**, NJHS Sponsor and Coach.



Education in Action thanks each individual who served as project sponsor for a Lone Star Youth Leadership Council member. Your time and support adds great value to the experience of these outstanding young leaders.



Lauren Rogers, 11th grader, **Hanna High School**, 3rd Year Member

Project: *Hope for Hanna* - Lauren's goal was to bring awareness to, and support for, teenage cancer patients at her school. **Sponsor: *Mrs. Mary Lou John, Librarian.***

Burleson ISD

Blake Bodin, 7th grader, **Kerr Middle School**, 2nd Year Member

Project: *Blankets for Cook Children's Trauma Unit* - Blake used his allowance to purchase supplies and then had help from his family to make 10 fleece blankets for Cook Children's Hospital Trauma Unit.

Blake said, "*The one setback I had during this project was I broke my arm and found it difficult to complete more than 10 blankets as well as being able to help tie them. My grandmother never lets me waiver and so with her help and help from my family, I accomplished my goal. My grandmother is a huge supporter of me academically and I love her. I enjoy helping others and it always feels good to give to others.*" **Sponsor: *Mrs. Mary Rogers, Grandmother.***



Caddo Mills ISD

Rylee Ipsen, 8th grader, **Caddo Mills Middle School**, 1st Year Member

Project: *W.I.N. Women In Need* - Rylee collected donations of clothing, shoes, blankets, a TV and toys which were donated to a local shelter for women and children affected by domestic violence. She said, "*I felt I had accomplished a lot when I finally gave that last box away. I felt good knowing some little girl will be wearing one of my dresses.*" Rylee's sponsor, Mrs. Dovee Taylor, said, "*I'm very proud at what my daughter has accomplished.*" **Sponsor: *Mrs. Dovee Taylor, Mother.***

Carroll ISD

Evan Clary, 7th grader, **Carroll Middle School**, 1st Year Member

Project: *Book Drive for Youth World Community Outreach Center* - Youth World Community Outreach Center in Dallas received 86 books donated through a book drive that Evan held at his school. He said, "*Giving these books to expand the library gave me a feeling that I was helping to broaden the students' education futures. It felt great to give back to the community.*" **Sponsor: *Ms. Rebecca Rosendahl, Teacher.***



Caroline Freden, 8th grader, **Dawson Middle School**, 1st Year Member

Project: *Christmas Colors for Kids* - Caroline and Megan Jorgensen, another LSYLC member, created 140 Christmas coloring and activity books that were donated along with packages of crayons to the Children's Medical Center of Dallas. In addition, they worked with 5th graders at another school to make 114 "Get Well Soon" and "Feel Better" cards which were also distributed to the patients. Caroline said, "*The accomplishment of this project makes me happy because I know that I helped to put a smile on the faces of many children who needed a smile the most.*" **Sponsor: *Mrs. Michelle Freden, Mother.***

Devan Freeman, 7th grader, **Carroll Middle School**, 2nd Year Member

Project: *Meals on Wheels Tarrant County* - Devan and her church school classmates at Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church collected several pounds of food, personal hygiene items and pet food for clients at Meals on Wheels Tarrant County. She said, "*The harsh winter weather caused my project to be less successful than I thought it would be. Class cancellations caused lower donations. After seeing the shelves at Meals on Wheels, I know that any contribution is greatly appreciated and my project will help several clients.*" **Sponsor: *Mrs. Colleen Horan, Church School Teacher.***



Megan Jorgensen, 8th grader, **Dawson Middle School**, 1st Year Member

Project: *Christmas Colors for Kids* - Megan and Caroline Freden, another LSYLC member, created 140 Christmas coloring and activity books that were donated along with packages of crayons to the Children's Medical Center of Dallas. In addition, they worked with 5th graders at another school to make 114 "Get Well Soon" and "Feel Better" cards which were also distributed to the patients. Megan said, "*This was a great and rewarding project. It was a lot of work and took lots of time, but, in the end, knowing that the books hopefully brightened some child's day, it was all worth it.*" **Sponsor: *Mrs. Michelle Freden, Caroline Freden's Mother.***

William Stone, 8th grader, **Dawson Middle School**, 1st Year Member

Project: *Diabetic Alert Dog Fund Website* - William updated his Diabetic Alert Dog Fund website by adding new pictures, rewriting the mission statement and adding more information about how these dogs assist people with diabetes. He said, "*I gained a sense of accomplishment for the good of the diabetic community and I learned a lot more about organizational skills.*" **Sponsor: *Mrs. Michelle Austin, Gifted and Talented Language Arts Teacher.***

Carrollton-Farmers Branch ISD

Christina Dobis, 6th grader, **Barbara Bush Middle School**, 1st year Member

Project: *Helping the Food Bank* - Christina organized friends and family to collect and package food donations for the local food bank. She said, "*I saw what other children did not have and was very grateful for my life.*" **Sponsor: *Mrs. Sarah Kelly, Teacher.***

Kathryn Martini, 6th grader, **Barbara Bush Middle School**, 1st Year Member

Project: *Holiday Boxes for the Homeless* - Kathryn invited several friends to help fill and wrap 101 gift boxes containing toiletries, pencils and other assorted items. Their gift boxes, along with another 800 gift boxes collected by other groups, were donated to The Bridge - a homeless shelter in Dallas. Santa was also on hand to pass them out. Kathryn said, *"I saw a different side of the homeless. They were very happy and nice to me and the rest of the volunteers."* Sponsor: **Ms. Miatta Wilson**, Director of Children's Ministries, First Presbyterian Church.



Lucy Santora, 7th grader, **Barbara Bush Middle School**, 1st Year Member

Project: *Sit, Stay, Love - Helping Others Heal* - Over a four month period of time, Lucy sent out 900 letters asking for orders for her special home-made dog treats. She then baked 4,000 dog treats (700 bags) to sell, raising \$3,220 for the SPCA of Texas - Compassion Connection. Lucy said, *"I was so proud to have done this project to honor my Shar Pei, Rex, who had recently died. The SPCA of Texas will use the money to fund training for animals to be part of therapy programs for senior citizens, nursing homes, retirement centers, rehabilitation centers and social service organizations in the Dallas and Collin County areas."* Sponsor: **Ms. Simone De Marco**, Marketing Manager, Essilor of America.

Clear Creek ISD

Jack Baumann, 8th grader, **Westbrook Intermediate School**, 3rd Year Member

Project: *Backpacks for the Homeless* - Jack gathered volunteers to assist him in assembling 15 backpacks and 30 ziplock bags with soap, deodorant, razors, etc. and donated them to a group that distributes items to homeless people. He said, *"This project made me a stronger leader by making me direct other people as to what I want them to do and how to carry out my project."* Sponsor: **Mrs. Mariane Bartos**, Leader, Church Junior High Group.

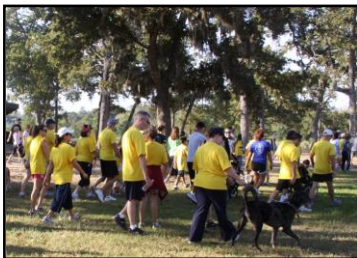
Jonathan "Mitch" Gaines, 7th grader, **Seabrook Intermediate School**, 2nd Year Member

Project: *Walk on the Wild Side* - Mitch and another LSYLC member, Connor Turley, hosted a family fun walk for the entire Clear Creek ISD district and raised over \$3,100 for the Living Materials Center. He said, *"I gained the experience of managing a large event and volunteers and other leadership skills. I was happy to make a positive contribution to my school."* Sponsor: **Mr. Christopher Lowe**, Teacher.



Kendall Palmer, 9th grader, **Clear Brook High School**, 3rd Year Member

Project: *Food Pantry Filling* - With a dozen high school friends and three work days, Kendall was able to stock the shelves of the newly built Mary Queen Food Pantry benefitting low income residents of southern Houston and Galveston. She said, *"Throughout this project I realized how lucky I am to have a roof over my head and food to eat. It made me not take for granted anything in my life."* Sponsor: **Ms. Chris Augsten**, Director, Mary Queen Food Pantry.



Connor Turley, 7th grader, **Seabrook Intermediate School**, 2nd Year Member

Project: *Walk on the Wild Side* - Connor and another LSYLC member, Mitch Gaines, organized a 5k fun walk, raising over \$3,000 to benefit the Living Materials Center. He said, *"I love animals. This project makes me so excited that this program will continue and other kids can experience the animals."* Sponsor: **Mr. Christopher Lowe**, Teacher.

Nick Winfield, 8th grader, **Westbrook Intermediate School**, 2nd Year Member

Project: *Food for Seniors* - Nick and three friends packed and delivered food boxes, Christmas gifts and decorations for Interfaith Caring Ministries to brighten the holidays for 80 local senior citizens. He said, *"I was a little nervous at first about delivering the packages, but it really made me feel good to be able to help and spread some Christmas joy."* Sponsor: **Mrs. Hildy Winfield**, Mother.

Alanna Winfield, 10th grader, **Clear Lake High School**, 5th Year Member

Project: *WAVE Survival Guide* - Alanna created an informational brochure for incoming Westbrook Intermediate 6th graders to boost their confidence and inspire them to strive for excellence at that school. She said, *"I learned from experience and felt like providing my insights would lead to others' success."* Sponsor: **Mrs. Hildy Winfield**, Mother.

Ryan Zimmerman, 8th grader, **Westbrook Intermediate School**, 1st Year Member

Project: *Lone Star Leadership and Marine Moms Support the Troops* - Ryan mailed 20 boxes of food and supplies to three Marine squads serving on the front lines in Afghanistan. He said, *"I learned that even with the toughest training, you still need the help of others."* Sponsor: **Mrs. Ruth Baxter**, Teacher.

Comstock ISD

Kaylin White, 9th grader, **Comstock High School**, 1st Year Member

Project: *Cupcakes for Courageous Teachers* - Kaylin recruited three volunteers and baked cupcakes for 19 staff members at Comstock High School to express gratitude for all that they do for the students and community. Kaylin said, *"I found volunteers to help, but at the last minute they got sick. I had to quickly find more volunteers which wasn't easy. I found out what being a true leader means which is to make decisions quickly and at the last minute in order to complete my project. It felt good to give back to the teachers who have given me so much throughout my school year."* Sponsor: **Mrs. Mary Dobbins**, Teacher/Counselor.





Conroe ISD

Sarah Meidel, 8th grader, **McCullough Junior High School**, 2nd Year Member

Project: Book Drive for Marcella Intermediate School - This was Sarah's second year to collect and donate several hundred books to Marcella Intermediate School's library to be distributed during Literacy Night. Many of these students and parents are learning English as a second language; this gives them another opportunity to practice speaking and reading English together. Sarah said, *"I feel I am making a positive impact on a community outside of my own. Working for this school makes me better appreciate my own family and community. I'm proud that my family reaches out to others who are not as fortunate."* Sponsor: **Mrs. Janene Fowler**, Science Teacher.

Coppell ISD

Sunkulp Ananthanarayan, 7th grader, **Coppell Middle School North**, 1st Year Member

Project: COLA T-Shirts - Sunny sold t-shirts and raised about \$3,000 to help create an outdoor learning area at his school. Sponsor: **Mrs. Mickey Pangrac**, Teacher.

Kendyl Cook, 8th grader, **Coppell Middle School West**, 1st Year Member

Project: Blankets for the Battered Women and Children - Kendyl and four friends donated 15 homemade blankets to the Family Place which provides temporary housing for abused/mistreated women and children. She said, *"It made me happy to know that I put a smile on someone's face, simply by taking a couple hours out of my day and putting in a little extra effort to do something that meant so much to someone."* Sponsor: **Ms. Missy Schliep**, Teacher.



Priya Desai, 8th grader, **Coppell Middle School North**, 1st Year Member

Project: Project Provide - Priya collected about 250 pounds of canned food for the North Texas Food Bank which distributes donated items to soup kitchens and families around the metroplex. She said, *"It really feels good to help. Even though it wasn't directly to the families, I could see the smiles on their faces when they would get the food we had donated. I learned to use my leadership skills better and become a better citizen of my community."* Sponsor: **Mr. Ajay Desai**, Father.

Noah Hendrix, 9th grader, **Coppell High School**, 2nd Year Member

Project: Youth Advisory Council for The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza - Noah developed his leadership skills organizing a Youth Advisory Council for the Sixth Floor Museum. Noah said, *"This project taught me how to setup, organize and lead a group of people for a civic organization."* Sponsor: **Ms. Sharron Conrad**, Curator of Education, Sixth Floor Museum.

Ryan Maloney, 10th grader, **Coppell High School**, 3rd Year Member

Project: Read with Ryan Audio - Ryan's project has assured that teachers and students involved in the Coppell Independent School District READ 180 Program have all the materials they need to continue in and expand this program. This project produced six copies each of 17 elementary level books developed and performed into audio books with follow along capability to the text version of the book. Ryan had 18 volunteers on his team who helped with reading, editing, burning cds, artwork and packaging the books. Ms. Bybee, the literacy coach, has also allowed all the teachers at Lakeside Elementary to check out these audio books to all students. Ryan said, *"I have personally seen how successful the READ 180 Program can be by watching my brother with audio books. He now has a love for reading he has never had before and if I can help other children love reading as I do then it was all worth it."* Sponsor: **Mr. Dick Attaway**, Teacher.

Cotton Center ISD

Abbie Burnett, 9th grader, **Cotton Center High School**, 3rd Year Member

Project: Operation Warmth - Abbie donated 50 toboggans, 70 pairs of gloves, 18 winter scarves and three jackets to people living at the Crisis Center of the Plains shelter. She said, *"I learned how to set goals and accomplish them. Also, asking people to help me made me a better leader. The feeling of helping other people was amazing."* Sponsor: **Ms. Sharla Straw**, English/Language Arts Teacher.



Dayton ISD

Mikala Smikal, 8th grader, **Woodrow Wilson Junior High School**, 1st Year Member

Project: Blankets of Hope - Star of Hope, a center for the homeless in Houston, received 78 blankets collected through a group organized by Mikala. She said, *"I was so glad I was able to help people who don't have as much as I have. It feels great knowing someone is sleeping warmer now that I have decided to do something about it. I gained a lot of joy from this project."* Sponsor: **Mrs. Jennifer Crizer**, Teacher.



Morgan Williams, 7th grader, **Woodrow Wilson Junior High School**, 1st Year Member

Project: Puppy-Dogs-R-Us - Morgan raised \$580 through donations for Puppy-Dogs-R-Us and the BP Fabric of America Fund. She said, *"I learned much about how to help organizations. I set a personal goal of raising \$500 and exceeded that amount."* Sponsor: **Mrs. Jennifer Crizer**, Teacher.

Donna ISD

Jeremiah Cail, 9th grader, **W. A. Todd 9th Grade Campus**, 1st Year Member

Project: *Supplies for Children's International Haven* - Through the help of volunteers and the community, Jeremiah collected over 1,000 school supplies, canned goods and toiletry and clothing items through donation boxes placed in every school in Donna ISD for Children's International Haven in Mexico. He said, "*Having all the schools on the same page and participating was one of my leadership goals. When a problem would come up, I used my leadership skills to handle the situation. Everything paid off for me, because, at the end of my service project, I knew the difference my community had made for all the children at Children's International Haven.*" Sponsor: **Mr. Daniel Graham**, Teacher.

Eanes ISD

Maddie Bitting, 9th grader, **Westlake High School**, 3rd Year Member

Project: *How to Save the Earth Presentations* - Maddie and fellow LSYLC member, Grace Robertson, created an eco-friendly PowerPoint presentation and quiz game which they presented to approximately 25 fourth grade students. She said, "*Though it was nerve-racking giving the presentation, I learned that sometimes facing your nerves can lead to better outcomes.*" Sponsor: **Mrs. Melissa Dupre**, Teacher.

Bonner Garrison, 9th grader, **Westlake High School**, 1st Year Member

Project: *Bringing Smiles* - Bonner organized a donation day and received 10 to 20 bags of clothing and toys to benefit Dell's Children's Hospital. He said, "*I have always enjoyed success and truly helping someone. I like to use the quote from John Wooden, 'Success is doing the best you are capable of doing', which basically means if you feel satisfied in what you do, then you have really achieved success. Doing this project really helped me understand success.*" Sponsor: **Mrs. Ashley Gilbert**, Hospital Staff Member.

Grace Robertson, 9th grader, **Westlake High School**, 3rd Year Member

Project: *How to Save the Earth Presentations* - Grace and fellow LSYLC member, Maddie Bitting, created an earth preservation PowerPoint presentation and quiz game which they presented to approximately 25 fourth grade students. She said, "*Presenting our PowerPoint was the most fun part for me because the kids were so open about learning new information and I learned how to speak so that other students would listen.*" Sponsor: **Mrs. Melissa Dupre**, Teacher.



Ector County ISD

Mikayla Ballew, 9th grader, **Bowie Junior High School**, 3rd Year Member.

Project: *Blankets and Hugs of Warmth* - Eighty residents of Sherwood Place Assisted Living Center received hand-made lap blankets and small gifts created by Mikayla and a group of her friends. She said, "*I learned that small gestures can make such a big difference to an elderly person and bring them such happiness.*" Sponsor: **Ms. Rebecca Tolbert**, World Geography Teacher.

Brianna Tutt, 7th grader, **Ector Junior High School**, 1st Year Member

Project: *Boosting Teacher Morale* - Brianna recruited three people to assemble notes and little gifts as a gesture of appreciation to the teachers at her school. She said, "*From all that I have experienced, this is one thing I am proud to be a part of. It helped me do something more for my teachers than just say, 'thank you'.*" Sponsor: **Mrs. Cathleen Tutt**, Teacher/Mother.

Fort Bend ISD

Kelsea Auguillard, 8th grader, **David Crockett Middle School**, 1st Year Member

Project: *Clothes for Kids* - Kelsea organized friends to help collect two very large boxes of clothing for needy children in the Fort Bend area. She said, "*Even though I had a rough start, I finished strong in the end.*" Sponsor: **Mrs. Erica Auguillard**, Mother.

Madison Taylor, 6th grader, **Baines Middle School**, 1st Year Member

Project: *Pet Drive for Humanity* - Madison led a group of 30 people in making posters to advertise the need for items to be donated to the Citizens for Animal Protection Shelter. She said, "*It just felt really great to be helping all of those homeless animals.*" Sponsor: **Ms. Nicole Capo**, English/Language Arts Teacher.



Fort Davis ISD

Kristin Wright, 9th grader, **Fort Davis High School**, 2nd Year Member

Project: *Wildlife Habitat* - Friends and family helped Kristin create a habitat for indigenous birds and animals at the Davis Mountain Education Center and then improved the beauty of the surrounding area by landscaping with plants native to the Chihuahuan Desert. She said, "*I learned it takes teamwork to accomplish a big goal. I certainly had plenty of help.*" Sponsor: **Mrs. Jennifer Turner**, Director of Marketing and Communications, Davis Mountains Education Center.

Fort Sam Houston ISD

Cole Kirchen, 7th grader, **Robert G. Cole Middle/High School**, 1st Year Member

Project: *Care for Cats of San Antonio* - Cole collected and donated \$250 to the Northwood Animal Hospital for the treatment of abandoned kittens and cats in his community. Cole said, *"I wanted to do something to help the abandoned animals in our community. I felt good about being able to support the work of Dr. Larry Woods. He is an amazing animal advocate."* Sponsor: **Ms. Kim Chandio**, History Teacher.



Frisco ISD

Kailani Gonzales, 7th grader, **Clark Middle School**, 2nd Year Member

Project: *Welcoming Students Transferring from Another School* - Kailani created welcome decorations and gave tours of the school for new and transfer students. She also mentored six newcomers via email and personal contact to make them feel welcome during the first semester of the new school year. Kailani said, *"I gained confidence in public speaking and being able to help others as they adjusted to their new surroundings. I enjoyed getting to know six new friends and one of the school counselors."* Sponsor: **Mrs. Alicia Cobb**, Counselor.

Rachel Shaver, 8th grader, **Richard L. Scoggins Middle School**, 1st Year Member

Project: *Hearts for a Cure* - During this project, the Friends of Rachel Club at school met and made origami hearts. The hearts were then donated to someone with cancer, to let them know that people really care for them and hope that they get better. Rachel said, *"When the person with cancer saw the hearts, their face lit up and they started to cry."* Sponsor: **Mr. Regan Roger**, Teacher.



Tori Stephens, 8th grader, **Clark Middle School**, 3rd Year Member

Project: *My Friend's House* - Tori raised money to purchase everyday things like clothes, food and toys and donated the items to My Friend's House. She said, *"Many of us have everything we need. We are like kings and queens, but are we going to just stand there and do nothing? It is time for students to stand up and make a difference in our generation."* Sponsor: **Mrs. Courtney Heitman**, Teacher.

Garland ISD

Josh Arey, 8th grader, **Brandenburg Middle School**, 2nd Year Member

Project: *Sprucing Up the Outdoor Classroom* - The Outdoor Classroom at Heather Glen Elementary School is ready for spring planting thanks to the weeding and cleaning efforts of Josh and a group of friends. He said, *"I really liked helping my former teachers enjoy their Outdoor Classroom."* Sponsor: **Mrs. Kim King**, Josh's Former 4th Grade Teacher.

Goliad ISD

Jessica Adams, 8th grader, **Goliad Middle School**, 1st Year Member

Project: *Coats for Kids* - Jessica enlisted National Junior Honor Society members to help her gather over 30 coats for kids that were distributed throughout the Goliad school system. She said, *"I learned how to organize people and was really proud of what we did."* Jessica's sponsor, Mrs. Amy Shedd, said, *"Jessica worked very hard on the project and I believe she learned a lot about helping others."* Sponsor: **Mrs. Amy Shedd**, Teacher.

Grand Prairie ISD

Thomas Bowen, 10th grader, **Grand Prairie High School**, 3rd Year Member

Project: *Heart for Haiti Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction* - With help from his youth group, Thomas served a full spaghetti meal for 200 people complete with salad, bread, dessert and drinks and raised \$4,500 to assist the No Place Like Home Orphanage build a housing complex for nine orphans. He said, *"After the earthquake, there were an estimated 50,000 orphans in Haiti. To describe the joy it gave me to help just nine of these would be impossible. I found that I got more out of this experience than the nine orphans in Haiti that I helped."* Sponsor: **Mr. Brian Loveless**, Pastor.

Grand Saline ISD

Cassidy Milam, 8th grader, **Grand Saline Middle School**, 1st Year Member

Project: *Helping the Helpless* - Cassidy and a few of her friends baked over 100 fresh food items for a bake sale that earned over \$600 to benefit the Van Zandt County Humane Society. She said, *"Even though I had to get up very early, I felt good after seeing the dogs and the reaction of Mrs. Whatley, the Van Zandt County Humane Society Director."* Sponsor: **Ms. Robert Reynolds**, Teacher.



Jenelle Milam, 11th grader, **Grand Saline High School**, 3rd Year Member

Project: *Gift Baskets for the Elderly* - Students in two classes at Jenelle's school donated items to create 22 Christmas gift baskets for residents of the nursing home who normally do not have many visitors during the holidays. Jenelle said, *"I have been doing my same service project for three years now and every year I enjoy going at Christmas time just to see the smiles on their faces. Taking gift baskets to the elderly puts me in the mood for the Christmas season for sure."* Sponsor: **Mrs. Kelley Clements**, FFA Sponsor.

Grapevine-Colleyville ISD

Taylor Jenkins, 11th grader, **Grapevine High School**, 3rd Year Member

Project: Grapevine Lake Clean-Up - Taylor and three friends spent the day at Grapevine Lake picking up trash and cleaning up around all the parks. Her project benefitted the community by making the parks look much cleaner and more inviting to visitors. She said, *"I learned that by lending a hand to my community and taking my time to pick up trash that it was contagious and I set an example for others to follow in my footsteps."* Sponsor: **Mr. Jimmy Thompson**, Basketball Coach.

Jeff Trimmer, 11th grader, **Grapevine High School**, 5th Year Member

Project: Canned Food Drive for Grace - Jeff collected and donated nearly 500 cans of food for Grace, the local food pantry, to benefit the less fortunate members of his community. He said, *"By giving a little of my time and putting forth some effort and determination I can help a lot of people."* Sponsor: **Mr. Scott Berry**, Pastor.



Greenville ISD

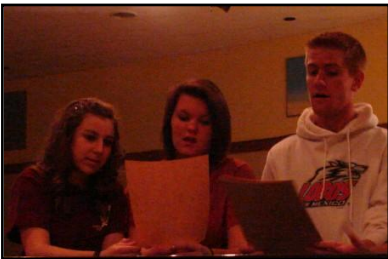
Ryan Bays, 7th grader, **Greenville Middle School**, 1st Year Member

Project: Books 4 Kids - Many children who might not otherwise have access to books now do, thanks to Ryan's donation of over 1,000 children's books distributed through Hunt County Shared Ministries, a social service agency serving Hunt County families in need of food and other basic necessities. He said, *"I am proud to live in a community that wants to rise to the challenge of improving the lives of others."* Ryan's sponsor, Mr. Wally Jeffers, said, *"Our goal at Hunt County Shared Ministries is to help Hunt County families 'Eat Well and Live Well.' Ryan's book project helps our families move closer to this goal."* Sponsor: **Mr. Wally Jeffers**, Executive Director Hunt County Shared Ministries.



Christopher Hazlett, 9th grader, **Greenville High School**, 3rd Year Member

Project: Special Olympics - Christopher initiated a project that will continue throughout his high school years; helping with various Special Olympics events and projects throughout the year. The major project this year was the Talent Showcase which raised over \$20,000 allowing Special Olympians to compete on all levels. Christopher said, *"Working with these talented kids helps me realize that we are all special in our own way and that everyone has the ability to lead."* Sponsor: **Mr. Heath Jarvis**, Principal.



Holliday ISD

Thad Douglass, 11th grader, **Holliday High School**, 3rd Year Member

Project: A Christmas Carol(ing) - Thad and fellow LSYLC member, Kyle Wilson, organized a group of high school students to sing Christmas carols at a local Retired Living Center, bringing some happiness to the residents and staff of the nursing home. He said, *"Although the day of the project involved one participant coming down with an illness and some parts were stressful, there is nothing like bringing joy to those who really need it."* Sponsor: **Ms. Delane Sewell**, Spanish Teacher/Choir Sponsor.

Kyle Wilson, 11th grader, **Holliday High School**, 3rd Year Member

Project: A Christmas Carol(ing) - Kyle and another LSYLC member, Thad Douglass, brought holiday cheer to a local Retired Living Center by organizing a group of high school students to sing Christmas carols for the residents and staff members. Sponsor: **Ms. Delane Sewell**, Spanish Teacher/Choir Sponsor.



Houston ISD

Lafayette Stephens, Jr., 7th grader, **Welch Middle School**, 2nd Year Member

Project: Socks for Seniors - 45 students from various school organizations assisted Lafayette in giving back to the community by collecting and distributing 125 pairs of diabetic socks, donated by Al's Uniforms, to the senior citizens at Westbrae Retirement Home. He said, *"My personal quote is: It is better to give than receive."* Sponsor: **Mr. Tim Warren**, Texas History Teacher.



Humble ISD

Molly McShane, 8th grader, **Riverwood Middle School**, 1st Year Member

Project: READ, EDUCATE and DISCOVER - Molly donated 550 books to Texas Children's Hospital with the help of her friends, her mom and her sponsor to help relieve the patients' hours of boredom and stress by having reading materials readily available to them. She said, *"I learned that even small acts of kindness are truly appreciated by those in need."* Molly's sponsor, Mrs. Laura Fletcher, said, *"I was honored and privileged to see Molly grow in love and compassion for others."* Sponsor: **Mrs. Laura Fletcher**, Church Youth Small Group Leader.



Irving ISD

Katie Overland, 7th grader, **Sam Houston Middle School**, 1st Year Member

*Project: **Helping Hands** - Katie made small blankets with fun patterns and donated them to Irving Cares, an organization that provides services to the needy and children who are in difficult circumstances. She said, "There were a lot of mishaps but it was a rewarding experience that I am glad I got to share with my friends. I believe that it made us all better leaders and people." Sponsor: **Mrs. Susan Candelaria**, English Teacher.*

Keller ISD

Zach Chase, 6th grader, **Trinity Meadows Intermediate School**, 1st Year Member

*Project: **Adopt-a-Teacher Program** - Zach and five friends organized and held a garage sale and used the proceeds to purchase approximately \$200 worth of books about the Yangtze River for his school library. He said, "You can accomplish great things when working together as a team. Hard work really does pay off. It felt good seeing the smile on my teachers' faces when the books were delivered to the school." Sponsor: **Ms. Leona Leckie**, 6th Grade Science Teacher.*

Tirthana Khedkar, 7th grader, **Indian Springs Middle School**, 1st Year Member

*Project: **Bully Beaters** - Tirthana and fellow LSYLC member, Samantha LaCoste, created an educational PowerPoint presentation on bullying for the 5th and 6th grade Junior Counselors Club members. She said, "This gave me a perfect chance to overcome one of my great fears and get better at one important leadership quality, public speaking. Aside from that, this is really something I am passionate about and feel that it is sometimes overlooked. This service project really gave me a chance to act upon a growing problem in our schools." Sponsor: **Mrs. Linda LaCoste**, Mother of Samantha LaCoste, LSYLC member.*

Samantha LaCoste, 7th grader, **Indian Springs Middle School**, 1st Year Member

*Project: **Bully Beaters** - Samantha and fellow LSYLC member, Tirthana Khedkar, created and presented an educational PowerPoint presentation on bullying for the 5th and 6th grade Junior Counselors Club members. Sponsor: **Mrs. Linda LaCoste**, Mother.*

Lake Travis ISD

Sarah McCormick, 9th grader, **Lake Travis High School**, 4th Year Member

*Project: **Service Recycling** - Sarah collected 12 bags of clothing and recyclable items which were donated to Safe Place and Ecology Action Station. She said, "It was a lot of fun to learn how to recycle and I hope it will make more people want to do it." Sponsor: **Mrs. Archie McHarg**, Teacher.*



Laredo ISD

Jacob McCoy, 6th grader, **M.B. Lamar Middle School**, 1st Year Member

*Project: **Coats for Families** - Jacob donated 20 coats to the local women's shelter. He said, "I learned that there are many families in need, and that the shelter always needs clothes for all ages, not just for the women." Sponsor: **Mrs. Magdalena Rodriguez**, Language Arts Teacher.*

Eduardo McCoy, 7th grader, **M.B. Lamar Middle School**, 2nd Year Member

*Project: **Feeding Our Homeless Furry Friends** - Several friends assisted Eduardo in collecting 50 pounds of dog and cat food to be donated to the local animal shelter. The benefits of this project were two-fold. First, it created an awareness of the need for adoptive families for the homeless animals. Second, it provided assistance to the animal shelter which is a non-profit agency always in need of donations. Eduardo said, "I learned that there are so many animals waiting for a family to take them home. It was fun visiting and seeing all the animals that will now have food." Sponsor: **Ms. Adriana Canales**, Language Arts Teacher.*



LaVernia ISD

Hannah Jarzombek, 8th grader, **LaVernia Middle School**, 1st Year Member

*Project: **Books for a Cause** - Hannah donated over 100 books to the local food pantry to be included in Christmas gift baskets for the less fortunate. She said, "I really learned how every little thing you do affects other people so much. For instance, a little girl came into the library and, not knowing who I was or what I did, excitedly told the librarian how amazing a book was that she had received from the food pantry for Christmas. It turned out that it was one of the books I had donated." Sponsor: **Mrs. Paula Watson**, Librarian.*

Lewisville ISD

Andrew Hitscherich, 9th grader, **Flower Mound High School**, 1st Year Member

*Project: **Cookie Baking and Social Hour for the Residents** - Andrew and three friends decorated about three dozen cookies and spent the afternoon sharing them and socializing with the residents of Rambling Oaks Assisted Living Home. He said, "I felt happy to see the residents smile and have a good time eating my cookies. It made me feel really special to help them out." Sponsor: **Ms. Megan Jones**, Activities Director at Rambling Oaks Assisted Living Home.*

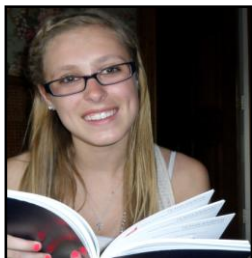


Kirby Lorig, 9th grader, **Flower Mound High School**, 2nd Year Member

Project: *Songs for Smiles* - Kirby, along with two volunteers, went to a nursing home and put on a musical program for the residents. She said, "I realized that there's much more benefit in going to sing for elderly people and getting smiles and hugs from them instead of hanging out with friends or going to a party." **Sponsor: Ms. Rachel Summers**, LEAP World Geography Teacher.

Heather Roan, 7th grader, **Arbor Creek Middle School**, 1st Year Member

Project: *Valentine Placemats for Meals on Wheels* - Heather helped 2nd and 3rd graders make 70 Valentine place mats for Meals on Wheels recipients. She said, "I gained a new sense of appreciation for the money I have and I also learned how much creativeness 2nd and 3rd graders have." **Sponsor: Mrs. Amanda Roan**, Mother.



Lovejoy ISD

Jordan James, 11th grader, **Lovejoy High School**, 3rd Year Member

Project: *Lovejoy Learning* - Jordan spent 40 hours in Mr. Scott's second grade classroom at Lovejoy Elementary School helping the children with their reading skills and teaching service leadership by example. **Sponsor: Mrs. Patty Jackson**, Lovejoy Elementary School Principal.

Lubbock ISD

Savannah Davidson, 8th grader, **Hutchinson Middle School**, 1st Year Member

Project: *Give Today to Help the Men of Tomorrow* - Savannah and fellow LSYLC member, Kami Hogan, raised \$1,800 for the Texas Boys Ranch by selling snacks at their school and by receiving matching donations from several local businesses. She said, "I learned that there isn't a better feeling than knowing that you did something that could quite possibly change somebody's life." **Sponsor: Mrs. Cynthia Farley**, Teacher.



Kami Hogan, 8th grader, **Hutchinson Middle School**, 1st Year Member

Project: *Give Today to Help the Men of Tomorrow* - Kami Hogan and LSYLC member Savannah Davidson sold snacks at their school and received matching donations from several local businesses raising \$1,800 for the Texas Boys Ranch. **Sponsor: Mrs. Cynthia Farley**, Teacher.



Mansfield

Grant Williams, 8th grader, **Brooks Wester Middle School**, 1st Year Member

Project: *Take a Look at a Book* - Grant led a group of volunteers to collect and donate 304 books to an economically disadvantaged school, Erma Nash Elementary. He said, "Working to bring people together to help others made me a better person and leader. I'm sure the people who donated also feel like better people now. I want to thank everyone who helped out." **Sponsor: Mrs. Judy Norton**, Social Studies Teacher.

Melissa ISD

Jake Robinson, 7th grader, **Melissa Middle School**, 1st Year Member

Project: *Games for the Samaritan Inn* - Jake held a game collection drive at Melissa Middle School and donated the games to the Samaritan Inn, a local homeless shelter. He said, "It was a bit more work than I thought in the beginning but it was very rewarding because the people were very glad to get the games." **Sponsor: Ms. Tiffany Griset**, English Teacher.



Mesquite ISD

Austin Hill, 8th grader, **Vanston Middle School**, 1st Year Member

Project: *Toy Drive 2010* - Austin enlisted the help of a corporate sponsor and Dallas Cowboy's team member, Andre Gurode and his Center of Attention Foundation, to provide toys and new shoes for the children at a homeless shelter for women and children during the Christmas season. He said, "This was an experience that I will never forget. I enjoyed being able to give to those who might need a little help, especially during the holidays. The children we met were so grateful. I even signed a couple of autographs. I am looking forward to making this a yearly project." **Sponsor: Ms. Angela Meeks**, Mother.



Midland ISD

Wilson Clark, 8th grader, **Abell Junior High School**, 2nd Year Member

Project: *Making Cents of Cancer* - Wilson placed collection jars at his school and his dad's office for contributions to the American Cancer Society office in Midland, Texas. Wilson said, "I got a warm feeling inside knowing I did something good for other people and it is a cause that is very close to my heart because of my family." **Sponsor: Mrs. Rebekah Adams**, Honors Social Studies Teacher.





Nederland ISD

Colton Minter, 8th grader, **Central Middle School**, 1st Year Member

Project: Tutoring for Central Middle School Students - Colton and two of his friends tutored over 150 6th and 8th grade students in science and social studies during advisory class times. Colton said, *"I enjoyed helping fellow students. It really made me feel good."* Sponsor: **Mrs. Candice Haggard**, Social Studies Teacher.

North East ISD

Charles Bimler, 11th grader, **Winston Churchill High School**, 5th Year Member

Project: Community for Cancer - To raise money and show that the community cares for a family in which the mother is battling on-going cancer treatments, Charles held a raffle for an Apple iPad. He sold 100 raffle tickets at \$20 for a total of \$2,000 which was donated to the family to help relieve some of their financial burden. Charles said, *"This project has allowed me to better understand the financial struggles that many families go through. By helping this family, I feel I am doing my part to help those in need."* Sponsor: **Mrs. Deborah O'Such**, Friend's Mother.

Jordan Cornell, 7th grader, **Krueger School of Applied Technology**, 2nd Year Member

Project: Books for Change - Jordan recruited his ice hockey association teammates to collect over 4,000 gently used books for local literacy organizations and children's shelters. He said, *"I was shocked by the number of books that my teammates and I collected and by the excitement of everyone. The people who received the books were so happy to see new books come in their doors."* Sponsor: **Mrs. Lori Kolodziejski**, Teacher/Parent of Ice Hockey Teammate.



Danielle De La Paz, 7th grader, **Jose Lopez Middle School**, 2nd Year Member

Project: Juvenile Diabetes Research Awareness - Danielle and several friends created and sold unique hand made bracelets. Proceeds were donated to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. She said, *"The best way to spread awareness about juvenile diabetes is by word of mouth. It was great having my friends, teachers and family support awareness regarding an illness that affects so many, including one of my best friends."* Sponsor: **Mrs. Laura Yoakum**, Teacher.



Northside ISD

Troy Thienpont, 10th grader, **Sandra Day O'Connor High School**, 2nd Year Member

Project: Clean-Up for Casa Helotes - Troy found several volunteers to help him clean up the yard and landscaping at the Casa Helotes Senior Citizens Center. He said, *"I felt very good about the experience of planning this project and then seeing it through to completion."* Sponsor: **Mrs. Delisa Ketchum**, Assistant Vice Principal.

Paris ISD

Shannon O'Brian, 11th grader, **Paris High School**, 3rd Year Member

Project: Senior Suite Care and Rehab: Tinsel and Tidings 2010 - Shannon recruited three people to organize a Christmas Party for the residents of a local nursing home and their families. Each of the 55 residents received a gift bag with fruit, lotion and a lap blanket. Shannon said, *"It was a very rewarding experience to see senior citizens happy and thankful around the holidays."* Sponsor: **Mrs. Cheryl Stephens**, Teacher.

Pearland ISD

Matteo Aloia, 7th grader, **Berry Miller Junior High School**, 1st Year Member

Project: Operation Keep Houston Clean and Warm - Matteo organized a group to pass out fliers encouraging neighbors and schoolmates to donate their warm clothes and toiletries. An SUV full of items, including 50 warm coats, were donated to the Star of Hope Homeless Shelter for those in need. He said, *"It was a wonderful experience and I would do it again in a heartbeat."* Sponsor: **Mr. Damion Rayburn**, Science Teacher.



Rahul DSilva, 8th grader, **Berry Miller Junior High School**, 2nd Year Member

Project: Food Drive - Rahul conducted a food drive in his community and collected over 300 cans of food which were donated to the Christian Helping Hands organization. He said, *"I learned that there is certainly greater joy in giving than in receiving"* Sponsor: **Mr. Daniel Marchione**, Private School Director.

Kyle Neitzey, 7th grader, **Pearland Junior High School South**, 2nd Year Member

Project: Holes for Cans Golf-a-Thon - Sponsors donated a dollar a hole or contributed a specific amount of food per hole as part of Kyle's creative golf outing benefiting Christian Helping Hands. The organization received 335 canned food items and about \$1,000. Kyle said, *"This service project was hard but it made me a better leader."* Sponsor: **Mr. Mark Neitzey**, Dad.



Georgia Neitzey, 10th grader, **Dawson High School**, 3rd Year Member

Project: *Head Start Christmas Drive* - The congregation of Georgia's church helped to purchase a gift, an outfit and pair of shoes for 85 preschool children attending the Reveille Head Start Program. She said, *"Every child should receive presents on Christmas, but some of these families just don't have the extra money for this holiday. I made it my mission to make sure they had the best Christmas possible."* Sponsor: **Mrs. Liz Mortenson**, Aunt.

Ethan Wang, 6th grader, **Rogers Middle School**, 1st Year Member

Project: *Fundraising for Education* - Ethan raised \$89.20 to help pay tuition for children in China through a charity called Hometown Education. Ethan said, *"I believe that this made me understand it is not always about me, but it is about helping others in need."* Sponsor: **Mrs. Mandy Benedix**, Reading Teacher.

Sharon Yang, 9th grader, **Dawson High School**, 4th Year Member

Project: *Project K.E.Y.S. (Keeping our Elderly Young through Song)* - Sharon, along with two other volunteers, performed an hour-long musical concert for approximately 25 residents at Tuscan Village Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. She said, *"Though the organization of our community service project was at times difficult, I believe that the process of problem-solving helped me grow to become a better leader."* Sponsor: **Mrs. Michele Ayala**, Certified Activities Director.

Plainview ISD

Emily Evans, 9th grader, **Plainview High School**, 2nd Year Member

Project: *Hope for Soldiers* - With the help of the children at First United Methodist Church, Emily made 40 holiday cards and ornaments for two American troop units in Afghanistan. She said, *"It felt great to know that I helped those who have sacrificed so much."* Sponsor: **Mrs. Tiffany Wren**, First United Methodist Church Children's Leader.

Layton Schur, 10th grader, **Plainview High School**, 5th Year Member

Project: *Pheasant Hunt for a Benefit* - Layton planned a pheasant hunt for 15-20 hunters on his family's property as a service project with proceeds to benefit a worthy cause. In the end, the hunt did not take place. He said, *"The weekend school got out for Christmas was a poor choice for this particular service project."* Sponsor: **Mrs. Carrie Rollins**, Teacher.

Plano ISD

Susan Dembny, 8th grader, **Murphy Middle School**, 1st Year Member

Project: *How to Prepare for History Fair* - Susan and several other former state history fair participants taught approximately thirty 6th and 7th graders how to prepare a history fair project. She said, *"When the students who attended the clinic started sending e-mails asking questions about their projects, it was really exciting and fulfilling to see others get so excited about something I love."* Sponsor: **Mrs. Robyn Watkins**, History Teacher, History Fair Coordinator.

Michael Roohy, 10th grader, **Shepton High School**, 2nd Year Member

Project: *TAKS Camp* - Michael tutored students on a difficult unit of the TAKS test enabling them to score 40% higher on a before and after test system. He said, *"Learning makes friends, helps your grades and can be fun."* Sponsor: **Mrs. Arpine Eglenceoglu**, Mother.

Alexa Woppman, 7th grader, **Robinson Middle School**, 2nd Year Member

Project: *Tiger Trot* - Alex contacted over 20 donors and organized eight walkers, raising money to pay for veterinary bills for all the tigers at In-Sync Exotics. She said, *"I was able to help In-Sync with bills that had been piling up for some time and in turn help the animals. I also felt good about organizing people to help raise the money so they could see what the need is and maybe want to help again."* Sponsor: **Mrs. Lakshmi Nathan**, Education Director, In-Sync Exotics.



Prosper ISD

Mattie Robinson, 7th grader, **Reynolds Middle School**, 2nd Year Member

Project: *The Joy of Helping Others* - Mattie organized visits and special occasion celebrations for the elderly, alzheimer patients and mentally disabled patients at Eckelberry's Elderly Care. Through these activities she introduced other people to the idea of helping elderly and mentally disabled people in her community. Mattie said, *"I learned patience, kindness and the joy of helping others."* Sponsor: **Mr. Carl Eckelberry**, Owner, Eckelberry's Elderly Care.

Randolph ISD

William Watkins, 7th grader, **Randolph Middle School**, 1st Year Member

Project: *Building the Warrior Trail* - William's clean-up work at the Triple H Equi-Therapy Center (an equine therapy center for wounded warriors, people with disabilities and at-risk teens) enhanced the center's environment and reduced the risk of injury to the therapy horses. He said, *"The project provided me with the satisfaction of helping people less fortunate than me. Not only that, I got to work on my project outside, with horses!"* Sponsor: **Mrs. Barbara Watkins**, Mother.



Redwater ISD

Guinevere Doss, 6th grader, **Redwater Middle School**, 1st Year Member

Project: *Top Your Education* - Guinevere collected \$3,000 worth of Box Tops to purchase new library and classroom books for Redwater Elementary School. She said, *"I need to work with the people who help, not over them in order to get the job done."* Sponsor: **Mr. Kelly Lusk**, Principal.

Rockwall ISD

Lina Kim, 8th grader, **J.W. Williams Middle School**, 3rd Year Member

Project: *Christmas With Strings* - Lina made arrangements for her school orchestra to play for the residents and staff of the Summer Ridge Assisted Living Facility during the Christmas season. Lina said, *"It was actually a lot of fun! It was great how the students were actually excited to help. The best part was at the end when we all got up and said, 'Merry Christmas' to the residents."* Sponsor: **Mr. Ryan Ross**, Teacher.



Round Rock ISD

Phillip Gonzalez, 8th grader, **Hopewell Middle School**, 1st Year Member

Project: *Toy Drive for Toys for Tots* - Phillip organized a Toys for Tots toy drive at Hopewell Middle School and collected over 80 toys for the local Marine Corps Reserve Unit to distribute during their holiday toy drive in the Austin Metroplex. He said, *"It was rewarding for me because I got to teach people at my school how helping people in your community can be rewarding. It is important for kids to realize the value of a random act of kindness."* Phillip's sponsor, Mr. Charles Goins, said, *"Phillip has been a real inspiration to all of us in the club and at Hopewell."* Sponsor: **Mr. Charles Goins**, Teacher.

Davis Range, 6th grader, **Walsh Middle School**, 1st Year Member

Project: *Party for a Purpose* - Davis invited student council members to a "party" and asked guests to bring an item for the AGAPE Center, a resource center for moms and babies in need. He said, *"What I gained from this project was knowing that if I try hard enough I can change the world, starting in my own community."* Davis's sponsor, Mrs. Kimberly Vercande, said, *"Davis planned a great project and threw a very successful Party for a Purpose. Davis and his friends collected and delivered a large number of needed items for the AGAPE Center and the babies in need. This was a wonderful way to give back to the community."* Sponsor: **Mrs. Kimberly Vercande**, Aunt/Founder of Party for a Purpose.

San Angelo ISD

DJ Simpson, 11th grader, **Central High School**, 3rd Year Member

Project: *Baden Powell Clean-Up* - DJ cleaned up and completed minor improvements to the facilities at Baden Powell Camp making it more enjoyable for visitors. DJ said, *"It helped to broadened my leadership abilities. It was also nice to see that more people are now enjoying the camp."* Sponsor: **Mrs. Pamela Thornton**, Teacher.



South Texas ISD

Jackson de Jong, 10th grader, **The Science Academy of South Texas**, 3rd Year Member

Project: *Helping Stray Animals in the Rio Grande Valley* - Using ebay Giving Works as a tool for his service project, Jackson collected, photographed and posted donated items on the website. 100% of the profits (approximately \$850 to date) was directly deposited into the Laguna Madre Humane Society and Rio Grande Valley Spay/Neuter Clinic's bank accounts. Jackson said, *"Pet over-population forces shelters to kill a staggering 40,000 stray dogs and cats a year in the Rio Grande Valley. The Laguna Madre Humane Society in Port Isabel is a no-kill shelter and the Rio Grande Valley Spay/Neuter Clinic offers affordable pet sterilization. My service project will not end in the near future because I still have many items to auction."* Sponsor: **Mrs. Jennifer McCurdy**, English Teacher.

Robert Vastano, III, 10th grader, **The Science Academy of South Texas**, 2nd Year Member

Project: *Tickets for Turtles* - Robert was able to utilize the services of a band and a major restaurant on South Padre Island, and hold a raffle to benefit over 600 turtles at Sea Turtle, Inc., a non-profit organization that works to rescue, rehabilitate and conserve several species of endangered sea turtles. He said, *"I have learned that in order to help others, I cannot do it alone. Learning to balance my schoolwork and other activities such as this one are making me a stronger, more organized person."* Sponsor: **Mr. Terrance Schraut**, Boy Scout Master.

Spring Branch ISD

Tucker May, 8th grader, **Spring Forest Middle School**, 3rd Year Member

Project: *Alternative Giving Project 2011* - With the help of friends and his church, Tucker collected \$2,000 benefitting four very different groups: World Vision, Nets for Life, Houston Food Bank and the Ronald McDonald House. He said, *"It was amazing to see how generous my congregation was and it was great to feel that you had made your mark to change the world a bit."* Tucker's sponsor, Mrs. Gill Keyworth, said, *"It was nice to see Tucker raise so much money for such a good cause."* Sponsor: **Mrs. Gill Keyworth**, Church Deaconess.

Spring ISD

Brittany Dean, 9th grader, **Westfield High School**, 1st Year Member

*Project: **Star of Hope Holiday Gift Cards for Homeless Teens** - Brittany collected \$750 in donations and purchased Walmart and Target gift cards for homeless teens at the Star of Hope. Along with the gift cards, she also delivered 11 boxes of toiletry items (shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, towels, etc.) donated by employees and clients of Porter Hedges, LLP. Brittany said, "This has been a life changing opportunity for me. As my parents' only child, I am very familiar with receiving, but through this service project, I have realized giving is much more rewarding. I would like to thank my former 8th grade English teacher, Ms. Khalilah Clopton, for my recommendation into the Education in Action programs. Sponsor: **Ms. Amy Keene**, Math Teacher.*

Texarkana ISD

Brianna O'Shaughnessy, 7th grader, **Texas Middle School**, 1st Year Member

*Project: **Trick or Treat 4 Canned Goods** - Brianna and three fellow students went trick or treating for canned goods and collected seven large boxes of food items for the Friendship Center, a local food bank. Brianna said, "It was a very rewarding experience and I gained insight into directing other students." Sponsor: **Mrs. Gail Peterson**, Teacher.*

Tomball ISD

Truman Dowdy, 8th grader, **Tomball Junior High School**, 3rd Year Member

*Project: **Christmas Getaway** - Truman and members of his church youth group provided an entertaining experience for children, allowing their parents to Christmas shop. The money raised went to TOMAGWA, a clinic that provides medical services for people who are not able to afford them. Truman said, "I learned that even making a small difference counts." Sponsor: **Mrs. Angela Arndt**, Director of Youth Ministries.*



United ISD

Kevin Cantu, 6th grader, **Trautmann Middle School**, 1st Year Member

*Project: **Food Drive for Bethany House** - Kevin recruited three people to collect and organize 600 non-perishable food items for Bethany House to benefit the needy in Laredo. He said, "Even though I had some problems, I learned not to give up on others or myself." Sponsor: **Mrs. Elizabeth Izquierdo**, Teacher.*



Anisa Flores, 7th grader, **Trautmann Middle School**, 1st Year Member

*Project: **Share to Care** - Anisa enlisted the members of a school club to collect pet toys, towels and sanitation supplies for the Laredo Animal Shelter. The group also spent time volunteering at the shelter. Anisa said, "The journey of a thousand miles begins with one step for me to become a leader. It feels good that I made a contribution to the homeless animals who live in my area." Sponsor: **Mrs. Deyenora Salinas**, Teacher.*

Weslaco ISD

David Mahoney, 8th grader, **Central Middle School**, 2nd Year Member

*Project: **Cookies for Ronald McDonald House** - David's 4-H group baked and decorated over 180 cookies for the families staying at the Ronald McDonald House in Harlingen, Texas. He said, "I*

*learned how to organize a large group of people by dividing the tasks among smaller groups. I feel that it is important to give to the community where we live." Sponsor: **Mrs. Romy Szutz**, 4-H Parent Leader.*

Whitehouse ISD

Jacob Cottrell, 7th grader, **Whitehouse Junior High School**, 2nd Year Member

*Project: **Teddy Bears for Troopers** - Jacob collected 147 stuffed animals that local police and Department of Public Safety officers will give to children involved in crisis situations. He said, "The quantity of stuffed animals I collected may not seem like a lot, but the thought of children having something to hold on to for comfort is huge." Sponsor: **Mrs. Lisa Haynie**, Teacher.*



Wichita Falls ISD

Brandon Vaughn, 7th grader, **McNeil Junior High School**, 1st Year Member

*Project: **Newspaper Recycling** - The students at McNeil Junior High School helped Brandon by bringing in paper to be recycled and reused. The PTA will also benefit by continuing the recycling program. He said, "I had trouble finding something to do as a service project. When I chose recycling, I knew that this would make a change." Sponsor: **Mrs. Jessica Mitchell**, Science Teacher.*

Charter Schools

Don Dunlap, 8th grader, **Westlake Academy**, 2nd Year Member

*Project: **Westlake Academy Fun Run** - Don held the 2nd Annual Westlake Academy Fun Run and also sold concessions during the school's state cross country track meet and raised over \$200 for Christ's Haven for Children (a group home for children whose families cannot parent their children) in Keller. Don said, "I learned a lot from this project, including it is a lot easier to do a project the second time." Don's sponsor, Ms. Jacette Aguiar, said, "I'm so glad this project was a success for both Don and Christ's Haven." Sponsor: **Ms. Jacette Aguiar**, Athletic Director.*

Elissa Dunlap, 11th grader, **Westlake Academy**, 6th Year Member

Project: *Birthday Bash Collection for GRACE* - Elissa collected enough birthday supplies, decorations and food items to sponsor 20 birthday parties through GRACE (Grapevine Relief and Community Education). Elissa said, *"I learned that helping others can be as simple or as complicated as you make it. This was a very straight-forward project that helped families in need."* Elissa's sponsor, Ms. Pam Goldman, said, *"I'm so glad to have projects like this to help us."* Sponsor: **Ms. Pam Goldman**, GRACE Volunteer.

Micayla Lynch, 8th grader, **Westlake Academy**, 2nd Year Member

Project: *Christmas is for Children* - Micayla Lynch and Anisse Sircar, another LSYLC member, worked together to coordinate the "adoption" of 64 less fortunate children to sponsoring families who then purchased Christmas gifts for the children. Micayla said, *"It feels great to know that some child out there is feeling better about themselves and loving Christmas because of us."* Micayla's sponsor, Mrs. Terri Watson, said, *"Micayla and Anisse are so sweet for helping out less fortunate kids. I admire them for taking the initiative."* Sponsor: **Mrs. Terri Watson**, Teacher.

W. Andres Mills Marin, 8th grader, **IDEA Frontier College Preparatory**, 3rd Year Member

Project: *Toiletry and Hygiene Items for the Elderly and Homeless* - Andres collected toiletry items such as soaps, shampoos, toothpaste, etc. for approximately 100 residents of an assisted living center and over 200 clients of a local homeless shelter. He received help from the school drill team, cheerleaders and a community service club in packaging the items and presenting them to the residents. Andres said, *"These days the number of people who need assistance with the simple things in their lives seems to be growing. Working to get groups of people working toward a common goal or project proved to me that you can make a difference in people's lives."* Sponsor: **Ms. Jill Koehler**, Principal, IDEA Frontier College Preparatory School.

Anisse Sircar, 8th grader, **Westlake Academy**, 2nd Year Member

Project: *Christmas is for Children* - Anisse worked with Micayla Lynch, another LSYLC member to coordinate the "adoption" of 64 children, referred by several Southlake agencies, to sponsoring families that provided the children with Christmas gifts. Anisse said, *"It feels great to know that some child out there is feeling better about themselves and loving Christmas because of us."* Anisse's sponsor, Mrs. Terri Watson, said, *"Micayla and Anisse are so sweet for helping out less fortunate kids. I admire them for taking the initiative."* Sponsor: **Mrs. Terri Watson**, Teacher.



Private Schools

Katie Mansfield, 7th grader, **Keystone School**, 1st Year Member

Project: *The Price of Hunger* - Katie spoke to kindergarten through 4th grade classes about world hunger its impact on children, and what students could do to help. In the course of one week, 301 pounds of canned food was collected and donated to the San Antonio Food Bank. Katie said, *"It really feels great to get up and talk about something I am very interested in and to get other students interested in it, too. I felt that I really connected with the kids and it helped my presentation skills."*

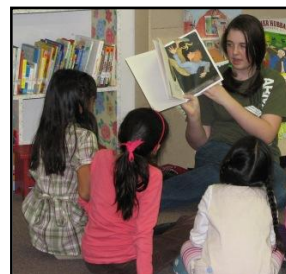
Sponsor: **Ms. Michelle Rothwell**, Head Mistress, Middle School.

Sofia Miranda-Fred, 7th grader, **Keystone School**, 2nd Year Member

Project: *Cyber-Bullying Awareness* - Sofia and six classmates prepared a cyber-bullying presentation given to all 5th and 6th graders at Keystone School in an effort to raise awareness of the situation including identification, avoidance and possible outcomes. She said, *"Even though at times it was hard to accomplish the tasks set before me and overcome the obstacles, it was very rewarding to know I might have helped with the bullying problem at my school."* Sponsor: **Ms. Theresa Powers**, Dean of Middle School.

Adrianne Clark, 6th grader, **Lucas Christian Academy**, 1st Year Member

Project: *First Through Third Grade Holiday Story Time* - Adrianne led eight story times for 1st through 3rd graders by reading several books to the children, helping them complete themed crafts and participating in exciting games while some of their parents attended English skills classes. Adrianne said, *"I relished the opportunity to pass on the joy of reading to the students who attended. I was happy to provide a story time opportunity for the students through our local library."* Sponsor: **Mrs. Deanna Willman**, Children's Librarian.



Natasha Pedro, 8th grader, **Trinity Valley School**, 1st Year Member

Project: *Living for Life* - Natasha helped the residents of a nursing home decorate and plant flower pots, giving them something to take care of and promoting their well-being. She said, *"I gained a better relationship with the students who helped me and also with the ladies at the nursing home. I felt a real sense of community and had a lot of fun."* Sponsor: **Mrs. Rita Wilson**, Science Teacher.

Jesse Woodall, 10th grader, **St. Thomas Episcopal School**, 3rd Year Member

Project: *MDA-ALS Fundraiser* - Jesse motivated the upper school to participate in a fundraiser for research and awareness of ALS, raising \$582 for the ALS division of the Muscular Dystrophy Association. He said, *"I learned that even during tough economic times, people are still willing to help others."* Sponsor: **Mr. Dale King**, Head of Upper School.

Out of State

Jenifer Sparke, 11th grader, **Whitko High School, South Whitley, Indiana**, 3rd Year Member

*Project: **Help the Animals** – Jenifer and several friends helped out at the local humane shelter by feeding and cleaning animals, cleaning cages, filing paperwork and walking the animals. She said, “Helping out gave me such a feeling of accomplishment when I walked away every afternoon.” Sponsor: **Mrs. Jacqueline Sparke**, Mother.*

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