

Class of 2004

Abby Elsener, First Place

*Anderson High School
Cincinnati, OH*

Abby created a project called "Girls Gone Real," a mentoring/leadership development program for high school girls. Along with volunteers from her high school, Abby traveled to a nearby middle school in Cincinnati and met with the girls on a weekly basis and taught them lessons on self-esteem, leadership skills, and provided the girls with mentors whom they admired and were able to confide in.

Achieng Adongo, Second Place

*Hammond High School
Columbia, SC*

Achieng's project was to develop a reading program for Somali Bantu refugee children. Achieng also worked with the students to help with homework and visited them each week.

Jeremy Welch, Third Place

*Emerald High School
Greenwood, SC*

Jeremy designed the South Main Street Community Soccer Clinic, a four part soccer clinic for area children who were interested in playing soccer but were unable to take part in all of the resources/practices required to play on a team. Using his high school soccer teammates and members from area high school soccer teams, Jeremy gathered students to the field and taught the children several drills and routines important for the game.

Will Alsfelder

*Mariemont High School
Cincinnati, OH*

Will's project addressed the needs of the military forces fighting in Iraq. With the help of area community members, Will collected much needed items for those soldiers fighting in Iraq, including clothing, blankets, games, and several toiletry items.

Justin Bagwell

*Hillcrest High School
Simpsonville, SC*

Justin organized a benefit drive for the Generations Group Home in Simpsonville and collected sporting goods for the boys to play with. In addition, he used volunteers to play with the young boys each week.

William Baucom

*Mayo High School
Darlington, SC*

William worked with students from his high school to beautify an area of Mayo High's campus which faced an underprivileged nearby community. He was able to work with other students to clear the land and provide a more positive landscape that community members could enjoy.

John O'Dell Ferguson

*Mauldin High School
Mauldin, SC*

John worked with the Phyllis Wheatley Center in Greenville to hold a leadership day for students in the community.

Davis Mersereau

*Porter-Gaud
Charleston, SC*

Moving his focus to an international scale, Davis decided to focus his project around the tsunami that took place in South East Asia. Using students from his high school, Davis organized a benefit concert called "WaveSave" for the victims in South East Asia.

Chase Neely

*Spartanburg High School
Spartanburg, SC*

Chase worked with students to provide a ministry to a Mountain View Nursing Home. They provided one event a week for the residents using several different churches in the area.

Kristin Olson

*Terry Sanford High School
Fayetteville, NC*

Kristin's project was to collect prom dresses for young girls who desired to go to the prom but did not have the adequate funding to afford dresses. In addition to collecting the dresses, Kristin also hosted sessions on self-esteem and professionalism for the young girls.