

Emerging Public Leaders Spring Presentations

March 20, 2010

Farrah Bui Fort Mill High School

Fort Mill, SC

Project: "Notes of Hope: Saving Our Youth Note by Note"- Farrah used music to motivate and inspire underprivileged and/or at-risk children to succeed and find a positive outlet by providing them with musical supplies including instruments and instructors.

Graham Bichell Greenville High School

Greenville, SC

Project: ""Keeping the Change"- Graham wanted the good feelings and positivity established at Greenville High School's Challenge Day to remain long after the event's conclusion. Together with a team of like-minded students, Graham has organized a pizza dinner, created a Change Committee and designed t-shirts aimed at rekindling the enthusiasm from the original event.

Kayley Seawright Westside High School

Anderson, SC

Project: "Leos to Lions"- In the hope of encouraging and increasing volunteerism at her high school, Kayley created a student-led community service club where any student could join and participate in various service activities around the Anderson community. Because the Leo Club is sponsored by the Lions Club, there is no cost to join and students are given the option to become part of that organization upon graduation.

Alex Watford Orangeburg Preparatory School

Orangeburg, SC

Project: "Orangeburg County Youth Council"- Alex's project was designed to target youth leadership in order to educate them about conditions in his hometown of Orangeburg. By developing student leaders, he hopes that parents, peers and adult leadership will take notice and make necessary changes to the community in hopes of increasing the economic appeal of Orangeburg to the surrounding communities.

Anthony Traina Roncalli High School

Indianapolis, IN

Project: "Christmas Store Book Collection":- Anthony wanted to increase awareness of poverty in the community by organizing a book drive during the Christmas season to benefit needy families in downtown Indianapolis. In addition to brightening up a few Christmas mornings, Anthony wanted to ensure that his gift of these books would promote reading and create good educational habits.

Hakeem Bennett Scott's Branch High School

Summerton, SC

Project: "US: Unite Summerton"- Hakeem's project focused on bringing students from his town's two high schools together for fun and fellowship in a way that would benefit their community. Together, the students from Scott's Branch High School and Clarendon Hall High School joined together to beautify the local park;

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together with City Year, this diverse group of students worked together to re-paint aging playground equipment, baseball courts.

Julianne Welch Emerald High School

Greenwood, SC

Project: "Los Amigos"- Julianne worked with students from her high school to provide positive role models for the high school and middle school students at La Puerta, a non-profit organization that offers free English classes to inhabitants of Greenwood's predominantly Hispanic area. By establishing relationships between two different ethnic groups, she impacted the language barrier of the two communities and assisted in giving interested students reinforcement in setting positive long-term goals.

Alexandra Nazeree Riverside High School

Greer, SC

Project: "Closing the Divide: Global Awareness Pen Pal Program"- Alexandra wanted to use her project to increase global awareness through communications between different people. To help facilitate this, she started a pen pal program between the students in her high school and elementary and middle school students in the Kabul Province in Afghanistan.

Akshay Kumar Southside High School

Greenville, SC

Project: "Upperclassmentors"- Akshay saw his high school's low graduation rate, as well as the functional segregation of IB and non-IB students and wanted to create a program to initiate change and enhance the high school experience. To do so, he paired academically at-risk freshmen by pairing them with older student mentors, where they organized and executed a mentoring scheduled along with several service learning projects outside of school.

Soorya Avali Spring Valley High School

Columbia, SC

Project: "One Step Closer"- Soorya wanted to help underperforming middle school students in his area continue their journey to graduation by providing them with mentoring and tutoring support from honors-level high school students. To do this, he used the Boys and Girls Club Center in a local middle school as the interface mechanism and recruited honors students from his own high school to serve as tutors.