

## 2015-2016 EPL Projects

### **AJ Alford**

Fort Dorchester High School  
Summerville, SC

I have started the SCElite Wrestling club for elementary students in my neighborhood. I believe this will have a great impact on the development of young people in our community. I started wrestling when I was four years old. If wrestling has taught me anything, I have learned that I am responsible for my success or failures. If I am willing to work hard, I can experience success. Fort Dorchester High School is now sanctioned as an official Chartered Club (SC Elite Wrestling club) so practices and events can be held during dead periods according to the SC High School League for athletics. We have had a lot of students show interest in joining and look forward to the kickoff in the end of the winter/beginning of Spring.

### **Rhett Baker**

St. Joseph's High School  
Greenville, SC

I have started a program called "Frazee Friends". I have organized students from St. Joseph's to visit the preschool children at Frazee Dream Center once a week during our study hall. We play with them, read with them, and do crafts. In December, we will do a special Christmas craft and will have other holiday crafts throughout the year.

### **Desmond Brown**

Scott's Branch High School  
Summerton, SC

I am creating a library for our town. We have three schools in our district. There is the Summerton Early Childhood Center which houses grades pre-k-second, there is St. Paul Elementary which houses grades third-sixth and there is Scott's Branch Middle/High which houses grades seventh-twelfth. Each school can compete by grade level. Each student and teacher will be asked to donate slightly used books. At the early childhood and elementary schools, students will be asked to bring donations to their homeroom teachers and a student from each class will keep track of their class's donations. At the high school there will be a student liaison at each grade level that will track the donations of their grade-level. There will also be a teacher advisor at each school that will keep track of the teacher donations. The schools will donate the entire month of September because that is National Literacy month. The donations will be made to the community center on September 30th. The teacher that donates the most books at each school will receive a \$25 gift card. Each class that donates the most books at each school will receive a pizza party.

### **Brianna Brunson**

Scott's Branch High School  
Summerton, SC

I would like to establish a system of volunteerism that would lend to the senior community. It would include: talking, helping to clean around their houses, picking up needed supplies/groceries from a trip

to the nearby town, and maybe even just walking around the neighborhood. There is a place in Summerton where some of the senior citizens in the community gather weekly. I would like to go there and teach a computer class to those that are interested. I want to show them how to communicate with their grandchildren using technology. There is also another population of seniors in the local nursing home. Oftentimes some of them never have visitors. I would like for some of the youth to go on a routine basis to sit with them and provide some form of entertainment. They seem to enjoy when people come in to sing with them. One activity I would love to establish is a prom/ dance/social. I feel it is important to give back to a generation that have given so much to us.

### **Kehler Bryant**

Blue Ridge High School  
Greer, SC

I have implemented a healthy lifestyle initiative at Skyland Elementary School. I have recorded public service announcements that play on the school's morning news show of local athletes giving "healthy tips." SETV (skyland's news program) started three weeks ago, so my PSAs started airing then. I think the kids really like them. A few have come to my mom to tell her so! I sent out my letters for the Skyland Sprinters club yesterday, and the first meeting will be November 19th. I am hosting a 5K at Skyland.

### **Mira Carroll**

Southside High School  
Greenville, SC

My project is called Sharing Our Stories because not only do the initials spell "SOS", but the "Our" in the title really captures the importance of community in my project. Both that it's people in our community that need help, and that others in our community have the means of helping. I am working with Project Host as a volunteer where I prepare and cook the food, then sit down with the veterans whose pictures were on the walls and talk to them to find out more about their stories. My friend who does film at the fine arts center accompanies me to photograph the process. I feel like this will add a different and meaningful aspect to my project to have a picture parallel with the story.

### **Celine Crum**

Mauldin High School  
Mauldin, SC

December 5, 2015, Celine along with members of the National Arts Honors Society at the fine arts center and at Mauldin High, painted a mural on the outdoor wall of the Mauldin Cultural Center. Celine raised over \$200 on GoFundMe.com and has received national recognition for this project. Celine's project encourages youth to appreciate and get involved with art.

### **Drew Davis**

Orangeburg Wilkinson High School  
Orangeburg, SC

My project is Project Ember. The goal is to spark in students to become not only great, but productive citizens. I have created a program at my high school (Orangeburg Wilkinson) that partners seniors with freshman, to help them tackle the academic and social aspects of high school. While being a "big

brother/sister", the pairs have gone out and performed community service projects together, in order to create productive citizens. We will have done various community service projects, such as: Healing Species, tutoring students, visiting convalescence homes, donating to Toys for Tots, and adopt-a-highway.

### **Jeremiah Drummond**

Paul Dorman High School  
Spartanburg, SC

My passion is photography, so I will be taking holiday photos of homeless families in Spartanburg. I am calling my project "Picture A Family Together". I am working with the Salvation Army Community Center, Spartanburg Soup Kitchen, the Haven, and Miracle Hill. I will be taking holiday portraits on Friday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at the Spartanburg Soup Kitchen.

### **Khalil Gamble**

James F. Byrnes High School  
Moore, SC

I'm going to take a group of children from the local Boys and Girls Club and YMCA and I'm going to take them on a field trip to a play at the Chapman Cultural Center, and if possible take them backstage, and have them meet the cast and the actors can tell them about the perks of a career theatre. I'm also going to have them put on their own play.

### **Emma Gross**

St. Joseph's High School  
Greenville, SC

My program is to make personalized books for the students in the Greenville Area Interfaith Hospitality Network. What this means is that I will sent down the students that I've been assigned to help and we will create a book together with their own ideas. I will then take it home, bind it for them, and give it back to them. This allows the students to have a book that they can tangibly have and hold on too, with their own personal story or message.

### **Tori Jabber**

Irmo High School  
Columbia, SC

I've been working with some kids at my old elementary school and some younger Girl Scouts at the church I go to. I'm planning on a zoo trip during Christmas break with them to see the lights and I've had a few sessions on the importance of the environment and giving back to your community.

### **Andrew James**

Greenville High School  
Greenville, SC

My project is called Roots Serves and is going to be a team of students from different schools going out to do service either once a month or every other month. In October Roots Serves packaged toiletries

and water for the homeless in the wake of the big storm that swept through our state. We have been steadily distributing them to homeless people in the upstate. Our second event was a Thanksgiving meal for the residents at the Summit. We packaged 90 meals and distributed them to the individuals in the lobby. Each event has had around 20 volunteers representing numerous local high schools. Each was funded by my church and the meal was prepared by our kitchen staff who volunteered their time. I am working with Keith Grace, director of Neighborhood Focus, to try to get us involved in a Christmas party for the kids.

### **Elizabeth Marron**

Greenville High School  
Greenville, SC

My project is in full swing and I am very excited about the results! I recently picked up a lot of supplies from League Academy in Greenville and took it to the Frazee Center last month. However, I just got an email yesterday from someone at League letting me know more supplies for Frazee if ready to be picked up! I am planning on doing so this week. I am thinking that I will put a hold on the project over the holidays because there is already a lot going on in schools at that time and then start back up in January and February in hopefully another school that would like to participate in my project!

### **Kaitlyn Sain**

Clover High School  
Clover, SC

Since dental health is directly related to general health, I want to provide dental hygiene products to lower income families. My projects name is Clover Smiles and I am going collect dental hygiene items and put in the Pack the Back bags at Bethany Elementary School (that is the school with the most Pack the Back students). I had a dental hygiene collection back in October on a Friday night at one of our home football games. It went very well! I think I collected 60 some tooth brushes 30 some tooth paste and I think like 12 dental floss. I also received 70 some dollars in donations to go and buy supplies. I am writing letters to send to the local dentist offices in Clover, so hopefully they will donate the items that I didn't receive at the football game.

### **Alexis Wright**

Greenville High School  
Greenville, SC

I am taking your advice and starting a smaller project based off of my original ideas. I am currently working with local political leaders to enforce my project. I am thinking about doing something that focuses on empowering girls with different humanitarian backgrounds. I am securing a venue for my project (Le Massion) on Augusta road, but this week I am finalizing my ideas of what I want to do with my project and I will have the finalized summation by Friday.