

February 11, 2002

## Youth Participation in Community Service Climbing

by Nnanna Ogbu

National Youth Service Day is the signature opportunity for efforts to encourage community service among youth. It is sponsored by Youth Service America in partnership with a host of organizational and corporate entities – including the National League of Cities.

This special report provides resources and ideas that will enable you and your community to give every youth an opportunity to serve.

### Youth Opinions About Youth Service

According to recent statistics, the number of youth who engage in commu-



nity service is on the rise. In a nationwide telephone survey conducted for the 4-H Council in October 2001, an overwhelming majority (87 percent) of youth agrees that youth are willing to spend an hour a week volunteering for the community; only 9 percent disagreed.

Increasingly, youth are showing their communities that they are assets to be utilized and not problems to be solved. Youth service even allows youth who have been problems within their community to

achieve redemption by helping others.

One of last year's NYSD awardees achieved complete transformation by volunteering. Hugo Lara spoke no English when he first came to the United States from Mexico as a young boy. In his early teen-age years, he ran with a crowd that was prone to destructive behavior and criminal offenses. Hugo's life changed on the day he was brought home in a police car and saw the disappointed look on his brother's face. From then on, he reapplied himself to his studies and began doing service in his community. For National Youth Service Day, Hugo formed a partnership between his high school and the elementary school he once vandalized to clean and repair a path that runs

between the two schools, making it easier and safer for students to travel back and forth.

While some youth are volunteering more and more of their time, there are a significant number of youth who report little or no volunteer service at all. One of the most common reasons given by these youth is that they simply were not asked. Eight out of 10 youth agree that they would volunteer more if parents and teachers encouraged them to do so.

Survey findings also show youth would be more interested in becoming involved if conversations between adults and youth regarding volunteer work and com-

see page 7, col 1

## National Youth Service Day To Stress City Assistance

by Nnanna Ogbu

Increasing the participation of municipal leaders in National Youth Service Day 2002 (NYSD) is a key goal of Youth Service America, NYSD's lead sponsor. NYSD 2002 will be held April 26-28, 2002.

The presence of municipal leaders working alongside youth will help convey the importance of community involvement. Youth who make positive changes within their communities deserve to see their community leaders recognize their contributions.

Youth Service America and more than 50 national partners – including NLC – are organizing this year's event, and it is time to start in every city and town across the nation.

### National Youth Service Day

- Highlights the amazing contributions young people make to their communities 365 days a year;
- Recruits the next generation of volunteers; and
- Promotes the benefits of youth service to the American public.

On National Youth Service Day, millions of young people will carry out thousands of community improvement projects, youth forums and celebration events. Projects include serving food in homeless shelters, tutor-



Elizabeth Schroth (left), participates in a literacy project in Washington, D.C. The project was sponsored by Scholastic for National Youth Service Day.

ing children, sending care packages to U.S. military overseas and cleaning up rivers.

Steve Culbertson, president and CEO of Youth Service America, states, "National Youth Service Day celebrates the millions of young people, age 5-25, who are their communities' everyday heroes through service to others. Thousands of NYSD 2002 projects will demonstrate that every young person has something to give back, regardless of abilities, race, religion or economic level."

Youth Service America provides a toolkit filled with ideas for projects and helpful tips. It is a useful guide for both adults and youth, and is relevant for anyone who seeks to improve his

or her community. The toolkit can be downloaded from <http://www.ysa.org/nysd/toolkit.pdf>, or a hard copy can be obtained by calling Youth Service America at 202/296-2992.

### What You Can Do

Involvement with NYSD is an appropriate place to start or continue youth involvement in your community. Carrying out a program of youth service is one of the simplest ways to ensure that the entire community – including young people themselves – view youth as resources and solutions rather than problems and victims. ■

## Project Ideas Are Plentiful for National Youth Service Day

There are various ways to carry out youth service during National Youth Service Day:

1. **Single Service Project:** A single, large or mid-sized service project requires broad-based support and should reflect the general interest of people in the community. Community-built playgrounds, recreation centers, or housing requires diverse resources from both the adults and young people, and can be powerful visual symbols of the community's commitment to youth.

2. **Community-Wide Volunteer Day:** A celebration with multiple project sites requires teaming with organizations and agencies whose projects can be accomplished in one day. River, highway and park cleanups, painting and other rehabilitation projects are good choices and can accommodate many volunteers. A well-organized city clean-up can accomplish a significant amount of work in a single day and really put a shine on a community.

3. **Serve-a-Thon:** Serve-a-thons allow you to combine community service and fundraising for local projects or organizations by taking pledges for hours of service. Create pledge sheets that volunteers can use to solicit contributions before the service day and collect the funds raised when volunteers arrive for their service projects.

4. **Map Volunteer Opportunities in Your Community:** Organize a group of friends to visit non-profits, faith-based organizations, libraries and other places that may need volunteers and educate these groups on how they can post their volunteer opportunities on [www.SERVE.net.org](http://www.SERVE.net.org). This will help increase the number of opportunities for everyone to serve throughout the year.

And there are various projects that youth can carry out:

see page 8, col 1

# Examples of Youth Service

---

## Miami, Florida

Hands on Miami has spearheaded past National Youth Service Day efforts in which students from public and private high schools across the Miami-Dade County region joined together in a variety of service projects, such as painting homes of senior citizens and a neighborhood clean-up in Model City; cleaning up the beach and park at Miami Beach's Oleta River State Park; organizing merchandise and helping foster children "shop" for clothing and school supplies at a special store in Allapattah; cleaning up an elementary school and planting a native garden in Little Haiti; preparing donated food for distribution at two food banks in downtown Miami; cleaning up an environmentally endangered natural area in Goulds; and carrying out neighborhood clean-up and beautification projects in Cutler Ridge, Kendall and Naraja.

---

## Boise, Idaho

Boise's Community Services Committee plans to establish a Community Service Challenge (CSC) for March of 2002. The challenge will attempt to engage at least 2,500 students in a month of community service. After identifying a service project that they wish to complete, the young people will work in teams and compete for the most community service hours. The team that completes the most service hours in the month will receive a monetary award to put toward the service project. The challenge will also include a community service scavenger hunt similar to a game of bingo. Youth will complete the scavenger hunt by completing certain designated service projects. Youth who complete the bingo game will receive prizes. Youth who complete every challenge on the card will receive additional prizes. The Community Service Challenge is created by youth, for youth and with youth to address the number of young people committing service to the community. Angela Newell, director of the challenge, states, "the ultimate goal is to engage people in service and perpetuate the cycle of service with incentives that leads to more service." The CSC is a collaborative effort that will involve several community organizations. Their involvement will ensure that they "will learn to work with young people and value their service."

---

## Farmington Hills, Michigan

The Farmington Hills Mayor's Youth Council is promoting the "I Will" pledge campaign. The campaign originated in Hillsboro High School in Nashville, Tenn., as a response to the Columbine tragedy. The campaign encourages people to support nonviolence and treat others with respect. The campaign calls for community members to sign a card confirming their pledge. Farmington Hills has added an interesting twist to the campaign in order to build a network of community members who are committed to solving issues within the Farmington community. While one section details the goals of the "I Will," another informs the cardholder of the purpose of the Youth Council. The card promotes the youth council as resources to the community at large. The final section of the card requests contact information. The Youth Council will use this information to pull together people who want to improve Farmington Hills. The Youth Council hopes, through this network, people will re-define issues within the community and create positive change.

---

## Jeffersonville, Indiana

The Jeffersonville Youth Commission is comprised of youth and young adults between middle school and age 23. Most of the students are in high school, but the commission director and its members are making a major push to recruit middle school aged youth. They believe that it is important to get the involvement started early. The commission has initiated several service projects to benefit the Jeffersonville community. For example, the commission's activities have included Art in the Park where the commission provides all the supplies and invites art instructors for a day to the event. The day involves community members of all ages, but the Youth Commission makes a special effort to engage young people. The commission provides materials for painting, sculpting and tying t-shirts. Commission members help the younger kids display their creativity in a supportive environment. In addition, the Youth Commission helped organize the 5K run at JeffFest, a community celebration, and, during the Taste of Jeffersonville, the commission helped raise money to place a statue of Thomas Jefferson in the city park.

---

## Brea, California

The Volunteen program offers teens ages 13-17 a way to gain work and leadership experience while having fun. Teens receive a small stipend for their work in the Brea community. Youth also have the opportunity to forgo the stipend and apply their service hours toward the mayor's youth volunteer awards or National Honor Society. Most Volunteens begin service in late June and end in early September. Depending upon their interests, the youth can be assigned to program areas such as: day camp, Brea Boys & Girls Club, Tiny Tots, Senior Center or Community Center Programs.

---

## North Olmstead, Ohio

Spruce Up Your Reading Skills (SPURS) is a 10-week program that uses materials from Houghton Mifflin's Early Success Intervention Program. Tenth-grade students assist first grade students in reading and reading-related activities during one-hour sessions conducted two evenings per week. An adult supervises the 10th graders as they engage the first graders in activities such as coached reading, making words, writing sentences and writing story summaries. A college student helps to supervise the tutoring sessions and serves as a liaison between the program and the first-grade teachers.

During each session, the first graders work with their tutors for 30 minutes and then they have a short snack break. After the snack break, they continue activities and then complete a summary sheet with their tutor of what was worked on and what could be followed up on at home. In addition, when a child completes a book, he or she brings the book home to share with parents.

Prior to starting the program, both the parents and the 10th grade students are given a full-day literacy intervention in-service. The parents learn the same reading strategies and see the same materials the 10th graders will use during the tutoring sessions. The in-service covers advantages to using high school mentors, the assessments to be used in the program, nightly schedules of activities and reading strategies emphasized in the program.

---

## Gothenburg, Nebraska

The Gothenburg Youth Community Improvement program (YCIP) is a community initiative open to all junior and senior high school students. The program averages 200 members annually and is led by a 14-member board of peers and a non-voting adult advisor. It meets once a month during the school year, partly to discuss service projects and partly for leadership training. At the beginning of each school year, members of the board distribute interest surveys to each student in order to determine the projects that interest the students. About 20 to 25 service projects are completed each year. The YCIP offers youth the opportunity to engage in wide array of service. Some of the projects include a fundraiser for the senior center, painting of playgrounds and senior citizen homes, Meals on Wheels and answering Dear Santa letters for the younger children.

---

## Fort Wayne, Indiana

Fort Wayne Youth Council members helped with the Olympic Torch relay; are working on PSAs (with the local Youth Services Bureau) dealing with alcohol, discrimination and education; and will be working with the Annual International Day in February. They also are planning trips to the Veteran's Hospital, working with children and planning an Easter egg hunt in the spring. The Youth Council is collaborating with the parks department on the future of a skate park. In addition, the council is being advised by Smoke Free Indiana and the local Drug & Alcohol Consortium regarding middle school education and awareness, and is applying for grants to help in this educational process with two or three middle schools.

---

## Gulfport, Florida

The Gulfport Teen Council has participated in a variety of service activities. During the holidays, the Council participated in an intergenerational program with the Gulfport Senior Center. The Council also conducted Operation Santa where it delivered presents. Last year, the Teen Council coordinated Gulfport's Race Equality Day event, "Linking Hands," which included a poster contest and several speakers. Currently, in response to the construction of a skate park, the Council is sponsoring a safety campaign that encourages youth to wear helmets while bicycling, skating and skateboarding.

---

## Denver, Colorado

In Denver natural restoration and beautification projects have been the focus of service activities. More than 75 youth from Graland County Day School planted trees and flowers along the western region of the S. Platte River. Thirty youth from Regis High School and 25 AT&T volunteers planted trees and shrubs at Millstein Park. Fifty students from a 4th grade class at Corey Elementary School renovated and beautified the playground in Washington Park. More than 80 youth and 30 mentors planted a garden near a low-income community and decorated it with a number of murals; the garden is designed to provide fresh vegetables to the community.

# Cities Provide Valuable Resources for Youth Who Want to Help

by Nnanna Ogbu

Youth who want to engage in service to their communities often have the initiative, but lack resources. Several communities have found that they can increase the number of youth who engage in service and increase the success of service projects by providing grants.

Youth who are affiliated with structured organizations such as Key Club, Boys and Girls Clubs, scouting or 4-H Club may have access to some funding to implement a project. Youth who independently desire to engage in service face greater difficulties as they seek funds. The lack of a formal service organization backing their efforts limits the ability to initiate a project.

LaVonne Morris of the Phoenix, Ariz., Youth and Education Commission heard an interesting critique from a youth at that city's annual Youth Town Hall who countered criticisms that young people lacked interest in helping their community.

"Many service projects," the youth said, "require funding that youth simply do not have." In order to strengthen the ability of young people to run service projects, they need to have funds at their disposal.

Several cities have implemented strategies to address this need. Not only do such strategies increase the success of service, but also placing youth in charge of the grants instills them with a greater sense of responsibility. The youth are in charge of planning, promoting, implementing and assessing the project.

## Phoenix, Arizona

The Phoenix Youth and Education Commission determined that there was an immediate opportunity to engage more youth in community service. This opportunity led to the creation of the Nothin' but Positive® Youth Giving Back Fund.

The commission uses the fund to provide grants for materials and supplies for youth-initiated service projects. Youth members of the Youth and Education Commission serve as the review committee for all proposals. The commission welcomes project proposals throughout the year to ensure that youth service remains an ongoing piece of the Phoenix community.

The maximum grants are \$750. Morris acknowledges that the amount is not tremendously large, but it is sizable enough to ensure that youth can construct a successful act of service. And, she says, people are often surprised at what the youth can do with the fund's grants.

Last year a grant allowed a team of youth to set up a community library at a low-income apartment complex. Other recent projects have included a holiday party for

children at a local elementary school and gifts of teddy bears for children at a local homeless shelter.

## Boulder, Colorado

The Youth Opportunity Program (YOP) in Boulder, Colo., employs a similar strategy to engage youth in community service. The Youth Opportunities Program builds community capacity to meet youth needs by involving youth in decision-making, providing financial resources, improving youth access to activities and encouraging youth involvement in community service.

The Youth Opportunities Advisory Board (YOAB) administers the grants. The board is a group of fourteen youth from the Boulder community. The YOAB provides grants in four different categories. Three of these four provide assistance for the development of service initiatives or the implementation of youth-serving resources.

The Community Service Fund is available to youth who are planning a local community service project in order to pay for the materials that they need.

The Group Activity Fund helps short-term projects conducted by, or directly benefiting, at least ten youth. Projects must do at least one of the following: promote local youth voice, teach youth about government, or provide a cultural, educational or recreational opportunity for youth. The YOAB caps the grant allotment for this category at \$1,000. Group Activity Fund grantees have included a youth music/dance event, a youth retreat, and a mask-making class.

The YOAB also finances the Annual Youth Opportunities Grants, which support groups of youth or youth-serving organizations to do long-term projects. The minimum grants size is \$1,000. The Board reviews proposals and interviews applicants. Final recommendations are made to the city council, which approves the final allocations. Some examples of funded projects have included a youth dance company, a youth gardening project and a school mediation program.

A significant aspect of all of its grants is the emphasis on youth voice. The board assesses the value of each project on its value to the youth. The board stresses that it needs to hear youth relate why the project is important to the youth community of Boulder rather than hearing an adult give his opinion on the issue.

In the case of the Annual Youth Opportunities Grants, the YOAB makes it clear that the goal of the program is to increase youth civic participation and youth voice in decision-making. Youth must take part in the design, implementation, and evaluation of the proposed project. The YOAB heavily encourages youth to take part in the interview process and the construc-

tion of the grant proposal.

The Youth Opportunities Program is funded through a percentage of a local sales tax.

## Kansas City, Missouri

In Kansas City, youth were able to apply for special grants to develop projects for last year's National Youth Service Day that was co-sponsored by the Mayor's Youth Recognition Board and the Kauffman Foundation's Youth Advisory Board (YAB). The youth wrote their own grant proposals, which were approved by the youth who compose the YAB. With funding in place twenty-five projects involving more than 5,200 youth volunteers were completed. Projects included a number of clean-up projects and garden plantings, participating in an AIDS walk and a book drive at a local school with all the books donated to patients at Kansas City Children's Hospital.

## Vancouver, Washington

In Vancouver, a board of adults with teen input ran Grants Assisting Teen Endeavors (GATE). Now the GATE program is run solely by an advisory board composed entirely of youth. The countywide GATE program (formerly known as Tapping the Talents of Teens sponsored by the city of Vancouver before going county-wide) provides grants for youth who are interested in doing community service. Each year, the GATE program chooses one asset for youth on which to focus the bulk of its giving. This past year the Board focused on providing "a more caring school climate" and gave grants of \$500. GATE also produces the annual Youth Achievement Awards to honor youth for efforts to build community and engage in service.

By giving youth access to monetary resources in these communities, youth were able to devise and implement successful projects. Giving resources to youth provides the assurance that a lack of funding does not become an obstacle for youth who wish to perform community service. This strategy can ensure that any youth who wishes to serve will not be limited by his or her ideas. ■

**Nnanna Ogbu** conceived of this report and wrote or edited many of its articles. He is a recent graduate of Stanford University, and currently serves as the Thomas Menino AmeriCorps Promise Fellow with NLC's Institute for Youth, Education, and Families. He can be reached by phone at 202/626-3004 or by email at rpd4@nlc.org.

## Youth, from page 5

community needs occurred. Approximately 90 percent of youth and adults alike agree that conversations between adults and youth about volunteer work would encourage participation in community efforts.

In addition, actions speak louder than words. Youth would be more interested in becoming involved in the community if they saw their parents and/or teachers being involved — slightly more than eight out of 10 (83 percent) youth agree.

### The Importance of Service

A fundamental aspect of service is the recognition that anyone can play an instrumental role in the development of community. For every instance of service, the result is tenfold. Positive actions breed more positive actions. If every youth took at least one hour out of his or

her week and devoted that time to helping others, the benefits would be clear. Regardless of whether you are helping one person or ten, service is a valuable act.

Service gives young people the opportunity to realize that they are actually making a difference. Whether youth mentor younger students or assist local senior citizens or build school and park footpaths, they will gain a better appreciation for the impact that they have.

### Municipal Roles

Municipal leaders are in prime positions to encourage youth service. Creating or enhancing a community environment that supports the active participation of youth and community involvement ensures that the youth in the community do not remain unappreciated assets. NLC's Institute for Youth, Education, and Families' recent action kit, "Promoting Youth Participation," reminds local leaders that "efforts to promote youth service

are one of the simplest ways to ensure that the entire community — including young people themselves — view youth as resources and solutions rather than problems and victims."

Municipal leaders can employ a variety of strategies to encourage youth service. Traditional steps have included organizing a local youth service campaign, using the bully pulpit to engage young people, becoming a community of promise and developing service-learning programs in their school districts.

In many cities, municipal officials encourage youth councils to be responsible for youth volunteerism throughout the year — both in developing and carrying out service projects and in reaching out to a wider range of community members as service recipients and as service participants.

### Contents of the Report

The report includes articles and information that will help you and your com-

munity.

- Read about grants to youth-initiated service projects as one method some cities and towns are using to encourage youth service.

- Discover new ideas by looking at examples of municipal programs or by finding informational resources that are available to municipal governments, organizations and individuals from various publications and national service-related organizations.

- Recognition of youth who carry out community service is a fundamental aspect of building community. Municipal efforts to recognize youth show them they are appreciated, provide encouragement to other youth to step forward and demonstrate to the community that youth are valuable.

- A high school student in Waco, Tex., developed and implemented a program to teach young children about violence prevention, and high schools students in California are serving as tutors to younger children.

## Project, from page 5

### Help for the Hungry/Homeless

Help cook and/or serve a meal at a homeless shelter. Gather clothing from your neighbors and donate it to a local shelter. Make "I Care" kits with combs, toothbrushes, shampoo, etc. for homeless people. Help with repairs at a local homeless shelter. Make a care package with mittens, socks, T-shirts, long underwear, etc. for a child at a homeless shelter.

Collect grocery coupons to give to a local food bank. If your community doesn't have a food bank, work with local officials to start one. Pack and hand out food at a food shelf. Organize a neighborhood group to plant, tend and harvest a vegetable garden. Donate the produce to a food shelf.

### Senior Citizens

Adopt a "grandfriend." Visit a nursing home. Rake leaves, shovel snow, clean gutters or wash windows for a senior citizen. Pick up medicine for an elderly person. Write your "grandfriend" a letter or write letters for an elderly person. Go for a walk with a senior citizen

in your community.

Hold an afternoon dance for your local nursing home. Teach them your dances and ask them to teach you theirs.

Deliver meals to homebound individuals. Offer to pick up groceries with/for a senior citizen.

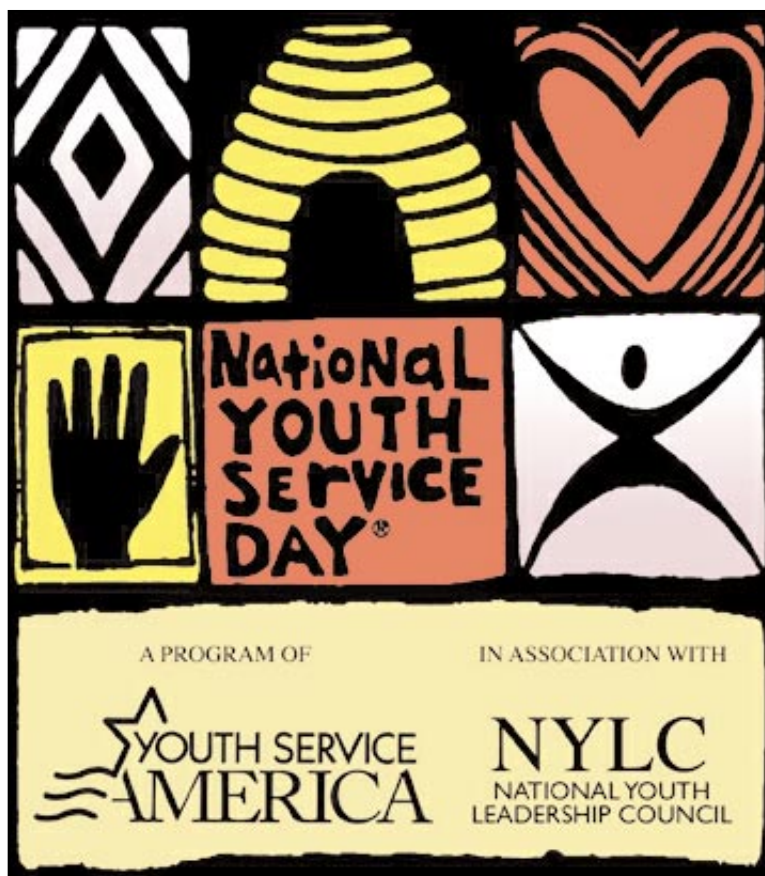
Help senior citizens in your neighborhood obtain and install locks or smoke alarms. Teach a senior friend how to use a computer or the Internet. Get a group together to sing or present a play at a nursing home.

### School Activities

Paint a mural over graffiti. Organize and invite local police officers to present a drug awareness or bike safety assembly. Form volunteer teams for a campus safety escort service. Tutor a student that needs help learning English or some other subject. Organize a canned goods drive in conjunction with a school dance and donate the goods to a food shelf.

### Neighborhood Enhancement

Help neighbors paint and repair their homes. Clean up a vacant lot. Organize a campaign to raise money to pur-



chase and install new playground equipment in an area park. Campaign for additional lighting along poorly lighted streets. Paint a mural or clean up in a local park. Plant flowers in public areas that could use some color.

### For Those With Special Needs

Volunteer to help at a Special Olympics event. Set up a buddy system for kids with special needs at your school. Raise money for Braille or large print books for the visually impaired.

Volunteer at an agency that works with emotionally disturbed children. Read books or the newspaper on tape for visually impaired people. Bring toys to children in the cancer ward of a hospital.

### Politics and Government

Contact your local League of Women Voters or voter registration office. Ask what you can do to help people register to vote. Identify a local issue you are concerned about, and contact someone in local government with your ideas on what to do about it.

Organize a public issues forum for your neighborhood. Volunteer at a polling booth the day of an election. Offer to pass out election materials.

### The Environment

Plant a garden or tree where the whole neighborhood can enjoy it. Set up a recycling system for your home, and participate in your neighborhood curbside recycling pick-up.

Organize a carpooling campaign in your neighborhood to cut down on air pollution. Adopt an acre of a rainforest. Clean up trash along a river or in a park. ■

## Waco Student Designs Program for Children; Arguments, Fear of Violent Situations Covered

by Kendra Willeby

Thirty children from low-income families met after school recently to draw pictures. These pictures were different from those usually seen at a day care center or after-school program — these children drew what violence looked like to them.

Their drawings were the first activity of three afternoon sessions designed by a local high school student to teach alternatives to violence. Branson Heinz, a Waco High School senior, designed the program with a \$355 grant awarded from the Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity.

"Youth in low-income, high-crime areas often do not have the appropriate role models in their lives to teach nonviolent solutions to violence," Heinz said in his grant proposal. "These children need a program to give them hope for the future."

Heinz said he realized there was a need for anti-violence education after working one summer as a tutor with students from South Waco Elementary. Then after attending the Wiesel Foundation's Conference for Tomorrow's Leaders in December 2000, he realized he had the perfect chance to make that idea come to life.

"At the conference, I realized that I was being given a good opportunity as any to get some grant money," Heinz said. He then followed the grant-writing rules given by the foundation and wrote his proposal.

Nearly a year later, Heinz was informed he got the grant. He then compiled the curriculum for the program with help from the Region 12 Education Service Center, a group called Peace Keepers, and Camp Fire material. He planned the first session at the Camp Fire activity center in North Waco.

The program focuses on how youth can defuse or

walk away from arguments or conflicts, Heinz said. He said he also hopes to change the fear of violent situations to one of awareness of potential dangerous situations.

Because the program is open to any student who attends the center after school, Heinz had nearly 20 more students at his first session than he had originally planned for.

"The first session went really well," Heinz said. "The kids seemed to really respond well to the drawing activity, and I am going to be very interested to see how they will respond to the rest of the things we have planned."

In the two subsequent sessions the students will learn how to avoid violence by taking part in role-playing activities and games. Heinz said he wanted children to feel like they were playing, while learning valuable lessons in the process.

The Camp Fire group hopes that these workshops will grow into something bigger than just three afternoons. "We want the kids to create a peace-keeper statement," said Sherri Street, director of Teen Leadership Waco. "We want this to be something that has a very strong presence in this neighborhood and maybe start offering some violence-resolution programs to the community on a whole." ■

**Details:** For more information about Branson Heinz's project, contact Melett Harrison, staff contact for the Waco Youth Advisory Council, at 254/750-5640; fax: 254/750-5880; email: melett@ci.waco.tx.us.

*Kendra Willeby is a staff writer for the Tribune-Herald in Waco, Tex. Reprinted with permission of the Waco Tribune-Herald, Copyright 2002.*

## National Organizations Aid in Youth Service Programs

The following is a list of some of the national organizations that are solid resources for youth service programs:

- America's Promise: 703-684-4500; [www.americaspromise.org/](http://www.americaspromise.org/).
- National 4-H Council: 301-961-2800; [www.fourhcouncil.edu/index](http://www.fourhcouncil.edu/index).
- National Youth Leadership Council: 651-631-3672; [www.nylc.org/](http://www.nylc.org/).
- Youth as Resources (YAR): 202-261-4131; [www.yar.org/index](http://www.yar.org/index).
- Youth Service America: 202-296-2992; [www.ysa.org](http://www.ysa.org).
- American Institute for Public Service: 302-622-9101; [www.aips.org/](http://www.aips.org/).
- City Cares: 404-875-7334; [www.citycares.org/](http://www.citycares.org/).
- Corporation for National and Community Service: 202-606-5000; [www.cns.gov/](http://www.cns.gov/).
- Do Something!: 212-523-1175; [www.dosomething.org/](http://www.dosomething.org/).
- Points of Light Foundation: 202-729-8000; [www.pointsoflight.org/](http://www.pointsoflight.org/).
- Youth Volunteer Corps of America: 913-432-9822; [www.yvca.org/](http://www.yvca.org/).

### PRINT RESOURCES

Action Kit on "Promoting Youth Participation" — available from the National League of Cities' Institute for Youth, Education, and Families at [www.nlc.org/iyef](http://www.nlc.org/iyef) or leave a detailed message at 202/626-3014.

National Youth Service Day 2002 Toolkit — available in Adobe PDF format at <http://www.ysa.org/nysd/toolkit.pdf>, or phone Youth Service America at 202/296-2992.