Community Projects - Summary

OVERVIEW & PURPOSE

All class participants of Leadership Broward (LB) are required to participate in one of eight group community projects. The purpose of this group project is to afford group members the opportunity to learn first-hand about an organization which supports the community. Additionally, the group community project allows LB class members the opportunity to engage in a process that will result in a quantifiable benefit to both the organization and the community. This benefit would likely not be possible by the organization alone, and its success depends on the combined strengths of the organization and the individual talents and experience of the LB class members. The projects are expected to have some element of sustainability after the group project has been completed and the LB Class has graduated.

Class of 34 Sample Project Summaries

HANDY: Embrace, educate and empower vulnerable youth to be engaged productive youth.

LB PROJECT: “Handy Voices: HANDY’s Streat Team / #itCANbedone Campaign”

GOAL: Assist in the development of a program to educate Broward County students about HANDY, develop support, empower students to spread the word, create resources for HANDY for informations presentations, and participate in events that collect much needed supplies for HANDY children.

Members: Chris Ashley, Jill Banaszak, Shira Kastan, Brenda Pagliaro, Teina Philps, Jineal Shinn, Brenda Sweeney.

HANDY Liaison: Beth Bryant.
FLCT (Florida Children’s Theater): *Building Stars since 1952*

LB PROJECT: “Journey to the Emerald City”

GOAL: Once upon a time, there was a Children’s Theater, FLCT, who had a very big dream of expanding to the western parts of the Land of OZ, known as the Emerald City (western Broward). The FLCT had been in the eastern parts of the Land of OZ for so very long. The leaders of the FLCT wished for help in their grand expansion to the west.


FLCT Liaison: Janet Erlick

THE CROCKETT FOUNDATION: *Build character, develop leaders, and improve communities - one child at a time.*

LB PROJECT: “CIA: Coding In Academics. A program of The Crockett Foundation”

GOAL: The project was initially charged with helping create a name and identity for its new middle school coding program, ordering blazers for the students, and creating an event to increase public awareness. The LB team quickly realized a need to add additional support and shift gears on many of the initial tasks. Going forward the team focused on four key areas including: Program Identity, Communications and Advocacy, Business Development, and Funding Recommendations. Finally, a fifth category, Added Value, includes extra initiatives far beyond the scope of our charge.

Members: Lesli Franco, Sheel VanHoose, David Esposito, Jeremy Katzman, Julie Spadavecchia, Annette Urena Tucker.

Crockett Liaisons: Henri Crockett, Zack Crockett, Eileen LaMarca
CHILD RESCUE COALITION: *Protecting children from sexual exploitation through their innovative technology, law enforcement partnerships, and international collaborations.*

LB PROJECT: “Team You Can't Sit With Us presents: Child Rescue Coalition - Community Awareness”

GOAL: Develop and implement a social media strategy that has a multi-layered approach to increasing positive awareness for Child Rescue Coalition (CRC). The aim is to engage a broad audience while stimulating interest with captivating posts, informative subject matter, meaningful photos and multimedia content.

Members: Dawn Broksch, Alica Brown, Michael DiMartino, Robyn Hankerson, Michelle Levy, herbie Loebl, Chip McCulloch, Anastasia Protopapadakis

CRC Liaison: Colleen Lockwood

CHILDREN’S SERVICES COUNCIL OF BROWARD COUNTY (CSC): *Providing leadership, advocacy and the resources necessary to enhance the lives of the children of Broward County and empower them to become responsible, productive adults.*

LB PROJECT: “Team My Voice presents: Dreamcatchers - Youth, Vision & Voices”

GOAL: CSC is constantly reevaluating its programs, and most recently, they wanted to find a way to ascertain the needs, hopes, and desires of Broward County youth without the cloud of adult projection. This became an opportunity for children and youth to have a say, to be heard and to feel like their voice matters. With that desire in mind, and through the efforts of LB Team My Voice, the “Your Voice, Your Choice” mobile application was created.

Members: Jayson Babel, James Baron, Marielena DeSanctis, Tomas Leon, David Plath, Daniel Rodriguez, Barika Williams

CSC Liaison: Gloria Putiak
JACK & JILL CHILDREN’S CENTER: Providing childcare and early childhood education for families in need.

LB PROJECT: “Family Resource Room and Food & Clothing Pantry Renovation”

GOAL: Renovate the Family Resource Room to enhance the services provided through the Family Strengthening Program. This program provides parent education, life skills training, therapeutic services, an on-site computer lab, food & clothing pantry, and emergency assistance. In renovating the Family Resource Room, the Family Strengthening Team will have the space and resources needed to be able to successfully surpass their objectives and families will be able to gain stability and thrive.

Members: Bill Akmentins, Heidi Alzate, Norm Baker, Chad Donaghue, Lauren Fyke, Nick Kaniaris, Thuha Nguyen

Jack & Jill Liaison: Ashley Riggs

Class of 33 Sample Project Summaries

Voices for Children of Broward County
“Dream Big Initiative: If you can dream it, you can do it”
Voices for Children of Broward County is part of a collaboration with the 17th Judicial Circuit Guardian Ad Litem Program, GALP, serving as its fundraising arm. The mission is to raise funds to ensure that every abused, neglected and abandoned child in Broward County has a court appointed Guardian ad Litem and that financial resources are available for each child’s accompanying health, educational and social needs. Leadership Broward’s community project will be to design, develop and implement a brand new program called “Dream Big”, to enhance the lives of the children that are placed in the care of the state in Broward County, with specific emphasis working with children who are placed in relative or non-relative care.

The Pantry of Broward
“School-Based and Neighborhood Food Drive Initiative”

The mission of The Pantry of Broward is to serve seniors in need who are living on low fixed incomes as well as economically challenged grandparents who are raising their grandchildren throughout Broward County. Leadership Broward’s community project will assist in creating, formalizing and publicizing school-based and neighborhood food drives that can be conducted by middle school and high school students in exchange for needed community service hours. This will include designing collateral marketing materials and creating and executing a promotional campaign.
The Dan Marino Foundation
“Project Opening Doors”

The Dan Marino Foundation’s mission is to empower individuals with autism and other disabilities, and does this through therapies, research, education and employment. The Leadership Broward community project will create an awareness and sensitivity training presentation that will be presented to a cross section of businesses and industries that employ or engage with individuals with autism and other developmental disabilities.

The FLITE Center
“A Special Kind of Housewarming”

The FLITE Center is a central resource center for youth that prepares them to lead successful lives after aging out of foster care. The Leadership Broward community project will aid youth aging out of the foster care system to be able to their first apartment a home. They will identify sustainable sources of donated items to aid in the “housewarming” for the former foster youth. This will include connecting with major retailers to establish partnerships and a process to identify how they can be involved with assisting the youth.

The Junior League of Greater Fort Lauderdale
“The Face of Human Trafficking in Broward County”

The Junior League of Greater Fort Lauderdale is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving the community through effective action. The Leadership Broward community project will develop educational material for parents and guardians that recognize the signs of Human Trafficking in Broward County as well as design a marketing plan that will reach those parents and guardians.