

## 2010 Youth-led Winter Service Project Summaries

### Youth Serving Through Road Kill, Sterling Community Club, Sterling

In Sterling, moose are often killed on the highway and the meat is wasted. To remedy that, this group of young people enlisted adults to teach them to butcher, and purchased a winch for a truck, as well as supplies such as tarps, duct tape, saran wrap, freezer paper, gloves and garbage bags. They then delivered the meat to needy families in their communities.



### Hunting and Survival Skills, Shishmaref Village Based Counseling Office, Shishmaref

Experienced hunters brought a group of young people to their local hunting grounds to learn traditional and contemporary subsistence skills: how to hunt and catch animals, to skin and butcher, show respect to the animals, and to share with the community. The group caught two caribou, a wolverine, two foxes, and three ptarmigan. The adults also taught survival skills during this trip. This was a tremendous opportunity for adults to pass down important knowledge to young people as well as to build lasting relationships. Expenses included gas for the snow machines, hunting supplies, and food for the trip.

### Reflectorization Station, Be Seen and Not Hurt, Woodland Park B&G Club, Anchorage

Drivers in the winter do not easily see pedestrians, especially children. This project purchased iron-on reflective tape for youths' coats and backpacks to reduce the chance of accidents. The Boys and Girls Club did not use all of the tape for the clothing and planned to do it again in the fall. The funds were used for the tape, craft punches to make shapes, an iron and ironing board.



### Patriotism in a Shoebox, Eagle River Boys & Girls Club, Eagle River

Young people in Keystone, a teen leadership program, put together care packages in a shoebox for soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan. The boys and girls will meet once a week to discuss and explore U.S. military involvement, as well as get to know their individual soldiers.

### Taylor White Foundation Documentary, Taylor White Foundation for Advancing Our Community, Juneau

The Taylor White Foundation was established by the parents of Taylor White, a young man who died in a drunk driving accident. Taylor's friends became part of the foundation and made the 18 minute film about the tragedy as a cautionary tale against drinking, drug use, and driving under the influence. The young people have screened the film in schools and community settings and have participated in panel discussions about it.



### **Venetie Youth Center, Venetie Youth Council, Venetie**

The Venetie Youth Center is a village gathering place for all ages. The project was a systematic program to teach the young people on the Venetie Youth Council to run the youth center with adult supervision. The funds were used to purchase a cash register, a safe, office supplies and other equipment needed to run the center. This training was intended to prepare the members of the youth council to someday run the main village council.



### **Easter Baskets for Covenant House, Unitarian Fellowship, Anchorage**

Young people in the Unitarian Fellowship have, for three years, raised money to give Easter baskets to homeless youth (usually 20 girls and 20 boys) living in Covenant House. This year they enhanced the baskets by adding practical items such as watches, as well as socks, sweets, and misc. items such as chapstick, or lotion.

### **Copper Center Interpretive Trail, Copper Center School, Copper Center**

Copper Center students are making a trail near their school with the theme "Remembering for the Future." The funds were used to purchase materials for decorating the trail with student art: 16 birdhouses and 20 wind chimes.



### **Alcohol/Drug Awareness Week, Cordova Family Resource Center, Cordova**

Peer Helpers planned and carried out a Red Ribbon week to create drug and alcohol awareness in the school and community. They had a table at the Cordova Health Fair and held a dance for 7th-12th graders. They used the funding to purchase banners and posters to post around the community.

### **Achieve, Communicate, and Celebrate, Barry Craig Stewart Kasaan School, Kasaan**

The students hosted three community dinners for parents, teachers and advisory board members with the purpose of public recognition for education. Deemed a huge success, the organizers recognized student achievement and planned for future events.



### **Adopt a Hero, 8th Grade Tok School, Tok**

The eighth graders sent care packages to soldiers overseas. The students chose the items, purchased them, wrote letters, and sent the packages.

## Lions Easter Egg Hunt, Eagle River Leo Lions, Eagle River

The young Leos planned and organized with the adults a successful Easter Egg Hunt for the Eagle River community. The youth are largely in charge of getting things set up for the event – shopping, assembling baskets and eggs, advertising with flyers, distributing prizes, and cleaning up at the end. The event was deemed a huge success with attendance of about 1,000 people.



## Youth and Elders Celebration, Leadership and Assets Youth Coalition, Dillingham

The youth planned a community dinner with the Elders Council to include story-telling and Native dancing lessons, with the focus on intergenerational relationships. Hundreds of residents attended, listening to the stories and dancing together. The community loved the event so much that residents requested more of the same and so the Coalition is planning quarterly dinners as well as scheduled storytelling and dance lessons.

## Yakutat Community Health Fair, Yakutat High School Chapter of the National Honor Society, Yakutat

Students sponsored for the 6th year the Alaska Health Fair held in April. Students staffed different learning centers for the attendees, planned the menu for the health food table and provided a bingo sheet to be checked off according to the places attended, enabling attendees to win door prizes and a chance at the grand prize drawing. The turnout was large: 82 children and 92 adults.



## Warning Signs for Community, Metervit Youth Action Group, New Stuyahok

The youth action group raised awareness for community members about safety by building and installing signs for busy intersections. They purchased paintbrushes, paint, hand tools and posthole diggers. The young people learned to measure and saw and having finished the signs, decided to build birdhouses for homeowners.

## 40th Anniversary of Tri-Valley School, Tri-Valley Community Library and After School Yearbook Club, Healy

The Yearbook Club planned a celebration of 40 years of Tri-Valley School. They tracked down alumni to collect memories through Facebook, word of mouth, and personal investigation. They involved the entire school and community by creating a pin, an anniversary slideshow, and a celebration display that ran before and after graduation ceremonies.



## Seward Arbor Day Project, Seward Club, Seward

The Boys and Girls Club students created a large wall mural for the outside of their school by making individual clay tiles. The mural "Trees Give Us Life" was dedicated on Arbor Day with the entire community in attendance.