



STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE PROGRAM PROJECT SUMMARY SHEET

SCHOOL: Delaware Township School

ACTIVITY: Pennies for Patients

DATE(S): (bi-annually) February 2011

CATEGORY: Community Service

ADVISOR NAME: Cynthia Terranova

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PROVIDE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THIS PROJECT:

As part of the network of 25,000 schools nationwide who support the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, DTS hosts a bi-annual Pennies for Patients coin drive in both the middle school and elementary classrooms. This community service project connects students with their peers in need across the nation. Each homeroom houses a collection container for individuals who wish to donate to cancer patients. This service project has taken on an even greater importance at DTS in the last two years as one of our elementary students lost her battle with Leukemia. The Student Council works with the upper elementary students to create posters, announce catchy slogans, and raise awareness for such an important cause.

DESCRIBE THE PLANNING & EXECUTION OF THIS PROJECT:

The bi-annual event begins when the state chapter of the Leukemia & Lymphoma society contact our school administrators. Once we have been granted approval for the charity fundraiser, we coordinate the calendar with other similarly-themed activities. February is often chosen for this project since it is National Kindness Month. Our Student Council advisors and officers meet with the upper elementary teachers to schedule dates and times when the student council members can work with the upper elementary students to create the posters, write the announcements, and promote the event within the entire building (elementary and middle school).

DESCRIBE THE BENEFIT OF THIS PROJECT BENEFIT TO SCHOOL AND/OR COMMUNITY:

This event has extended the reach of our students' involvement in the community beyond the small borders of Hunterdon County, New Jersey to a national platform. It allows the students in our small, rural community to see how their peers across the nation live. While Delaware Township is generally considered an affluent area, students are quickly able to see how small change can add up and make a huge difference in the lives of others.

EVALUATE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THIS PROJECT, REFLECTING ON ANY POSSIBLE CHANGES YOU MIGHT CONSIDER:

While DTS has experienced wonderful success and generosity with Pennies for Patients in the past, we would like to expand the program to include other sponsored activities that could also generate additional funding for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Possible extensions include paying for boosters (announcements), student-made commercials through our Broadcast Television club, and after school projects for elementary students, such as crafts and games, for which parents would pay a small fee.