



Summer Advantage USA
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SUMMER ADVANTAGE USA SCHOLARS : UNITED THEY SERVE

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. – July 17, 2009 –

Summer Advantage USA scholars supported President Obama’s United We Serve initiative this week, a national effort launched by President Obama to engage more Americans in serving their communities. United We Serve, which kicked off on June 22 and runs through September 11, is being led by the Corporation for National and Community Service, a federal agency that improves lives and strengthens communities through volunteering and service.

According to Mary Bruce, Founding Director of Major Initiatives at Summer Advantage USA, “service is a core component of building the esteem and values of children. By serving this summer, we hope our young scholars and their families will make an ongoing commitment to volunteering throughout the year.”

Summer Advantage USA instructors led scholars through a process of identifying community challenges and a consensus building process to identify and implement service projects. This summer, over 1,000 Summer Advantage USA instructors, students and their families participated in activities including beautification projects at area parks and donation collections for active duty soldiers overseas.

“This summer, I’m calling on all of you to make volunteerism and community service part of your daily life and the life of this nation,” said President Obama. “Economic recovery is as much about what you’re doing in your communities as what we’re doing in Washington – and it’s going to take all of us, working together.” To make it easy for individuals to get involved, the Corporation created Serve.gov, a website that allows visitors to type in their zip code to find local volunteer opportunities, recruit volunteers by posting their organization’s projects, or get ideas for creating their own projects with friends, families, and neighbors.

Summer Advantage USA is a national non-profit organization providing elementary and middle school students living with research-based summer learning programs focused on academic gains. Summer Advantage offers summer learning programs encompassing literacy, mathematics, science and extracurricular enrichment. It offers a replicable “locally-owned” model and strives to institutionalize that model by impacting public policy. Summer Advantage USA was launched in January 2009 with support from The Mind Trust. In its inaugural summer, Summer Advantage is serving nearly 1,000 children in Decatur Township/Indianapolis, Indiana.