



Helping Kids in Need

Eniola Jowosimi, Lauren Kallen and Hayley Torres
Opt4STEM Leadership Academy
2017



Partners Powering the Future of STEM

Introduction

- Planning on who, specifically, we wanted to help to focus on who to help
- Struggling to find an organization that required our services was a major roadblock that we overcame
- Trying to help hospitalized children by sending valentines
- Discovering ChildServ, an organization providing high-quality, effective services to support children, and working with them to complete our goal and their mission

Helping children in need by collecting donations of clothes and books to send to foster homes

Results

Handfuls of Love- Lurie's Children's Hospital

- Over 500 Valentine Cards were sent to Lurie's Children's Hospital.
- We had six volunteers help set up the table for the event outside of our lunchroom.
- We helped the hospital with their goal of creating 10,000 Valentine cards.



Clothes and Books drive- ChildServ

- Our donation period lasted 3 weeks
- We were able to connect to ChildServ, an organization that supplies clothes to orphans and children in need.
- We collected four full medium size boxes and five full garbage bags full of clothes and books.



Conclusions

- Overall we went through a few challenges trying to find an organization to hold the clothe drive with.
- But when we completed the clothes and book drive our organization was very excited and proud of us. We took pictures with them and they even asked us to hold another drive.
- The OPT4STEM program overall, was extremely useful. This program enhanced our leadership skills and created new opportunities for us. We used these new skills and applied them to our project to have the best possible outcome.

Process

- Being assigned to a group with peers trying to reach the same goal was something very new and interesting.
- Meeting new people to connect to then communicate ideas for a common goal
- Coming to wanting to help children in need, specifically, kids in foster homes
- Struggling to find an organization that required our services was a major roadblock that we overcame.

Leadership Reflection

The Opt4stem Leadership Academy gave us some of the best experiences and opportunities. We were able to meet new people to teach us the importance of being a leader, but most of all, we were able to work together in a group successfully for a great cause. We went through many setbacks, but even through all of our challenges, we still had a very successful outcome.



Future Impact

- Being able to continue this project at Von Steuben annually to continue helping ChildServ.
- Possibly furthering this project to other local schools

Acknowledgements

Special thanks to our directors Meghan Pickett and Dr. Meghan Campanile, to our volunteers, to our principal, Ms. Lemone, and ChildServ with helping our project come to successful outcome.