

JOBS FOR DELAWARE GRADUATES

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The Spirit of Giving The President's Pen



The Delaware Career Association (DCA) began as a program for our students to get involved with their school in a club activity. The program has expanded to our Middle School program and for many of the JDG students this is their first time to join anything. Students in the DCA participate in competitions on the State and National level but locally a lot happens.

As you read this issue you will get a better idea of the spirit of community that the DCA fosters in our students. Giving back is a big part of the JDG experience and I am sure that you will enjoy reading about our students and their community efforts throughout the state.

I am also pleased to announce that we have a "new look" to our website. The website is interactive and ever changing to reflect the dynamics of our organization. Please take a moment to click on the website link in this newsletter.

Finally, on behalf of the students, staff and Board of Directors for Jobs for Delaware Graduates we wish you a wonderful Holiday and a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year!

Sincerely,



Dr. Susanna Lee
President
Jobs for Delaware Graduates

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JDG Alumni -

The Food Bank of Delaware

JDG students at H. B. du Pont Middle School partnered with the Kids Who Care Club and the Glee Club organizations to conduct a school-wide food drive for the Food Bank of DE. 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students competed against each other to determine which class would bring in the most canned goods. Students collected over 700 items to donate to the Food Bank of DE.

Ms. Watson's 7th grade classes then went on a service-learning trip to the Food Bank of DE. While there, students packaged 864 weekend food backpacks and sorted 8000 lbs. of food for the Thanksgiving food boxes.



Students worked very hard, but had a great

Reverend Omar

Dykes

Rev. Omar L. Dykes is a native of Pennsylvania and the youngest son given to Millie and the late Bobby Dykes. He is a 2004 graduate of Mount Pleasant High School, where he became associated with Jobs for Delaware Graduates. He attributes much of his success to the guidance and direction that JDG gave him throughout High School. Reverend Dykes says that his "1.42 GPA gave him a chance in college", and without JDG he would not have had that chance. Today, he holds a B.A. degree in History from Miles College in Birmingham, Alabama and a Master of Divinity from the Phillips School of Theology, in Atlanta. Reverend Dykes is currently a candidate for the Master of Sacred Theology at the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.



Job Placements

Shakerria Dorsey (William Penn-Groves) has started the Shop Rite Customer Service training at Goodwill. Upon completion she will start a new job at one of the local Shop Rite stores. Shakerria continues her education at Groves where she hopes to get her diploma and then go into a Nursing program.

Ryan Block (Newark HS) and Andre Honie (Christiana High School) have started the General Construction training at the Delaware Skills Center.

time helping others.

Saint Mark's

JDG students at Stanton Middle school recently held a food drive to help the needy during the Thanksgiving holidays. They partnered with St. Mark's Church, next door to their school, and held a canned goods drive for the food closet at St.

Mark's. Ms. Seig, director of the food closet, was very appreciative of their efforts to help. The food items were delivered on November 22, just in time for the Thanksgiving holiday.



The Blanket Project

JDG students at Central Middle School are partnering with the Senators in Action Club to provide blankets for the needy during the winter months. The idea originated when the Senators in Action Club decided to provide blankets for an orphanage in Kenya. It grew

from there when Mr. Roach, JDG Specialist at Central Middle School, involved his JDG middle school students in the project.

The warm fleece material for the blankets is paid for with funds raised by the Senators in Action Club. Approximately eighty 7th and 8th grade students are involved in the project. There are several steps to produce each blanket; students work in teams of four to create each one.

Blankets will be delivered to The Shepherd Place, a homeless shelter in Dover, DE in early December. The two groups are determining what other organizations may have a need for such an item, and will continue to provide blankets for as many needy families as possible.

Abbott's Mill - Planting Trees



Positive Outcomes' KEYS Chapter this year has gotten off to a very busy start! In only one quarter of the year, students in the Alpha Academy have already accomplished not one, not two, but six achievements to benefit our community! The KEYS Chapter is a program used to provide students with hands-on experiences that help them better contribute to the community and learn skills that can't be taught in a classroom environment.

Early this year, the Keys Chapter took a trip to Abbott's Mill to plant 200 trees! Students had a great time planting the many saplings, and hope that they healthily grow to join the nearby forest. Later, they helped clean the trails at both Killens Pond and Cape Henlopen! Not only does our community service help others; it also looks great on a resume!

Dover Air Force Base

Jobs for Delaware Graduates students in the



Bryona Blango (Newark High School) has started a new job at Dollar General Store.

Jasmine Owens (Dickinson High School) has started a new job at Rainbow Prices Corner.



middle school program at W. T. Chipman Middle School have been getting into the holiday spirit with a variety of projects aimed at helping others.

They held a canned food drive for the Home of the Brave veteran's homeless shelter.

The JDG "From Our Hands to Your Hands" campaign is an annual event at Chipman. JDG students determine what is needed at the shelter and hold a school-wide drive to collect the necessary items. Last year they collected clothing essentials and toiletries. This year, it was expressed that canned goods were needed by the shelter. They assisted the Dover Air Force Base USO by decorating gift bags, which will be filled and sent to our troops during the holidays. Students sent thank you letters to our troops along with the gift bags.



The Salvation Army

W. T. Chipman Middle School students in Ms. Frederick's JDG class helped the Salvation Army as bell ringers at the Milford Walmart..



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