

Leadership Through Service

1) What improvements do you think would enhance your current VAVS youth program?

Recommendations

More buy-in from staff to have volunteers in their department
Local scholarship from VSOs/community organizations
Lunch n' learn for teen volunteers
Have Veterans speak to students in schools
Increase clinical assignments and responsibility
Better screening of student volunteers
Increase community partnerships
Mentoring

Other

Bonus hours for students
Extend teen opportunities throughout the year
Recognition programs
Teens to adopt Veterans in CLC from local school
Teens recruiting teens
Staff willing to work with youth
Recognition incentives needed
Incorporate technology
Partnership with schools and or churches
Orientation at the youths' school or on-line
Educate staff
Hands on training
Feedback to sponsor
Service buy-in
Education
Team building
Leadership
Recognition
Interaction

Leadership Through Service

2) What ideas do you have for occasional youth opportunities?

Recommendations

Bedside visits
Greeters at national events
Lobby entertainment
Arts/crafts, Recreation Therapy
Mentor assistant
Tour guides/special events
Performing entertainment
Technology teaching/supporting vets

Other

Mobile snack cart/book cart
Cafeteria
Pack meals
Gardening
Organize donations
Greeters
Bingo
Lawn care
Receptionist
Patient companion
Runners
Farmer's Market
Information Desk
Canteen
Newsletter
Clothing room
Mailroom
Find out vet history (background)
Weekend parties (CLC)
Current events group
Sports activities (horseshoes, etc.)-assist w/established recreational programs
Popcorn-make snow cones

Leadership Through Service

Bike Rodeo

Collect flower vases on units

Social media

Clean up, help at vet's home

Story telling/listening/recording

Arts & crafts

Veteran outings/escorts/partners

Outreach-health fairs/welcome home

Honor flight (fundraise, greet)

Leadership Through Service

- 3) How can VSOs and community organizations recruit for and support VAVS youth programs?
-

Recommendations

Engage and interact with church groups, scouts, ROTC, YMCA

Incentives with reference letters, local scholarships

Bring in for special events

Challenge and reward

Encourage grandchildren to volunteer

Sponsor (money for school, college, funds)

Financial support (i.e. Tee shirts, lunch-n-learns recognitions, scholarships, investment in future with tablets, etc.)

Other

Increase use of social media

Go to schools to recruit

Share information and opportunities

Offer transportation

VSO outreach to multiple youth community organizations (VSOs speak at schools, recruiting fairs at schools, malls, etc.)

Offer scholarships

VSO Bowl-a-thon/youth parties

One-to-one mentoring with youth sponsor recruitment/activity events

Sponsor recruitment activity events

Awards program support

Fundraising activities

4) How can we engage and appeal to site supervisors to work with youth volunteers?

Recommendations

Assign tasks to others/productivity

Invite staff to student orientation

Assign appropriate student volunteer for task maturity

Veterans History Project

Supervisor to "mentor" the student volunteer

engage the Director

Show "ss" how they can benefit from youth volunteers (vets out for walks, visiting)

Other

Friendly to staff's kids

Express support to their supervisors

Awards banquet to help develop

Express value that the teens can deliver

Students need to show they're passionate about their job

Bring "ss" treats (apples/flowers)

Give them top quality kids

Be motivated and patient with youth

Pair a seasoned volunteer with a student so there are no worries

Clearly articulate their needs

Give sup.s resources to get to know kids from the start (pizza party)

Take advantage of jobs they don't want to do

Leadership Through Service

5) What resources and support do you need?

Recommendations

Transportation/car pool

Sponsor organization

Incentives – what's in it for them? (Tangible versus intangible)

Scholarships

Communication tools that reach them (where and how they communicate)

Mentoring programs

Professional leadership tools and classes (etiquette, business)

More marketing

Shadowing, mentoring program

Leadership buy-in from staff and VSO support

Other

Position description for youth from service chiefs

Connection to schools

Direct interaction with patients

Increased media exposure

Training

Meaningful assignment

Community support/school support/civil organization support

Buddy system

Transportation

Parental support

Rewards and awards

Financial resources

Training materials

Job descriptions

Leadership Through Service

Special Needs Kids/Volunteer

CBOC-youth volunteers

VSOs go to high schools

Organizations sponsor youth-pay a fee

Student has to learn about organization sponsoring them

Tablets donated for students-Durham/VA

Youth send text reminders

Bowl-a-thon with USO and youth-raised \$600. Shreveport, LA. (Reggie)

Comfort item drive