

### 2014-2015 Young Heroes Club Project Summaries

**Lewis C. Cassidy Academics Plus School**, Northwest Philadelphia – Overbrook

**Sponsor:** *NAPCO Media*

**Social Issue:** Street Safety and Stop Signs

**Project Summary:** The students have done research on street safety and have written to the Philadelphia Streets Department to try to persuade them to put stop signs at the two large intersections outside their school.

**Feltonville Intermediate**, North Philadelphia – Feltonville

**Sponsor:** *AmeriHealth Caritas Family of Companies*

**Social Issue:** School Beautification

**Project Summary:** The Young Heroes conducted research to try to better understand why their school was so dirty. They learned that the school could only afford a janitor to work one day a week. As a result, they hosted a rally to encourage other students to keep the school clean.

**Joseph J. Greenberg Elementary School** – Northeast Philadelphia – Bustleton

**Sponsor:** *PECO*

**Social Issue:** School Beautification

**Project Summary:** After observing negative behavior among students in the lunchroom, the students wanted to beautify their school so that their peers would take more pride in the building. They met with a professional mural artist to get some ideas and got approval from their principal. The students designed and painted an original mural on the wall of the lunchroom.

**Harris Elementary School** – Collingdale, PA

**Sponsor:** *Elias Family Charitable Trust*

**Social Issue:** Littering and Recycling

**Project Summary:** The students planned and implemented a Clean Up Day and created a bottle cap mural for display at their school. Their hope was that this would continue to raise awareness about the amount of trash surrounding their school and encourage their classmates to keep the school cleaner.



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**Alaine Locke Elementary School** – West Philadelphia – Mantua

**Sponsor:** *Lindy Communities*

**Social Issue:** Gun Control

**Project Summary:** The students made several five-foot signs and planned a community parade to educate their peers and community members about the importance of gun control in order to reduce violence.

**William Rowen Elementary School** – Northwest Philadelphia – West Oak Lane

**Sponsor:** *Caroline J. Sanders Charitable Trust*

**Social Issue:** Bullying

**Project Summary:** The Young Heroes at William Rowen wanted to educate their peers on bullying in their school. They surveyed every student in the school to gauge if other students felt bullying was a problem at Rowen. They planned a lesson and taught the other classes about bullying, bystanders, upstanders, and revealed the data from the survey. Finally, they used this information and decided to paint a mural in their school lobby to remind students the 6 pillars of the school's principle, Character Counts: Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship.

**Solis-Cohen Elementary School** – Northeast Philadelphia – Oxford Circle/Castor

**Sponsor:** *Republic Bank*

**Social Issue:** Bullying

**Project Summary:** The Young Heroes at Solis-Cohen Elementary planned an anti-bullying rally. They put together skits and shared key facts to educate their peers about bullying.

**St. Christopher Catholic School** – Northeast Philadelphia – Somerton

**Sponsor:** *Ernst & Young*

**Social Issue:** School Culture and Inclusion at Recess

**Project Summary:** The students planned and successfully implemented a student-led structured recess. The Young Heroes took the lead in the formation of teams, selection of games, and teaching the other students the rules of the games.



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**St. Francis de Sales Catholic School** – West Philadelphia – Cedar Park

**Sponsor:** *Tozour Energy Systems*

**Social Issue:** Racism and Segregation

**Project Summary:** The students planned and created a video on racism. Their main message was the importance of not judging others based on the color of their skin. They choreographed a dance to “Man in the Mirror” by Michael Jackson, wrote a rap, shared facts and information, and performed a skit – all of which were recorded in their video that they shared with the school.

**Allen M. Stearne Elementary School** – Northeast Philadelphia – Frankford

**Sponsor:** *Co-sponsored by Christian R. and Mary F. Lindback Foundation, Wells Fargo Foundation, and the Paula Steinebach Trust*

**Social Issue:** Drugs in their Community

**Project Summary:** The students visited the Lankenau Medical Center to take a course on how drugs affect the body. The students planned a “What if…” Campaign, which helped the other students in their school to imagine a world without drugs.

**Universal Vare Charter School** – Southwest Philadelphia

**Sponsor:** *AmeriHealth Caritas Family of Companies*

**Social Issue:** Improving Community Relations with Police

**Project Summary:** The students planned an interview with the Police Captain from the 1<sup>st</sup> Police District in Philadelphia, where they sat down to have a very open conversation about their relationship with police. This was an opportunity for the students to ask some questions about how he felt about some of the tragic events involving police occurring around the country at the time. They created a video from the interview and shared it with the rest of the school.

**Marshall Street School** – Norristown, PA

**Sponsor:** *Lindy Communities*

**Social Issue:** Student Voice

**Project Summary:** The Young Heroes at Marshall Street School took steps to persuade their principal to form a Student Council in their school. They felt that the opportunity for students to have a voice in their school would make a great impact, even after they graduated to another school at the end of the year.