



Camp Fire USA
LONE STAR COUNCIL

e-CONNECTIONS

March 2011

Our Mission

**Building caring,
 confident youth &
 future leaders.**

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Mary Kay Global Month of Service

Camp Fire welcomed 32 volunteers from Mark Kay Inc. to three Kids Club sites on March 5 as a part of the Mary Kay Global Month of Service. Kids Clubs provide a safe, structured afterschool environment for at-risk youth in low-income apartments. Mary Kay volunteers helped us paint these sites and make them more kid-friendly. In addition to providing more than 140 hours of volunteer service, Mary Kay also provided funding for paint, brushes, rollers, tarps and spackle.





The painting projects were selected because our Kids Club program provides low-income youth (ages 5-12) living in high-risk environments a safe, fun and enriching afterschool experience. Activities occur in a structured environment where children develop friendships, personal resilience, self-respect, intellectual curiosity, conflict resolution skills, healthy eating habits, reading and math skills and a life-long love of learning. Participants also develop the skills needed to remain drug-free and gang-free. An integral part of this program is our Community Family Clubs which engage families at these sites in pot-luck dinners, fun outings, getting to know their neighbors and special performances by their kids. Our fourteen Kids Clubs are located in Collin, Southern Denton and Dallas Counties.

In celebration of International Women's Day, Mary Kay, its independent sales force, employees and their families and friends, were united in their goal to volunteer 1 million hours of community service around the world from Feb. 8 - March 8, 2011, as part of the Mary Kay Global Month of Service. International Women's Day (IWD) was a global celebration to honor women, their achievements and contributions to society, and their legacy. This special day occurs on March 8 every year. The year 2011 is the 100th anniversary of IWD around the world. In different parts of the world, the focus of the celebrations ranged from demonstrating respect, appreciation and love toward women to honoring women's economic, political and social achievements.

Gift of Giving

The children at our Las Cascadas Kids Club conducted a fundraiser to help a cancer patient from their school. A coin collection jar was set up for donations and given to their school. The school presented all of the proceeds to the patient's family.

This was a rewarding experience these kids will remember for years to come.

Valentines For Veterans

On February 14, a day set aside to express love, 13 youth from our Kids Club at Honey Creek Apartments delivered more than 200 Valentines to the Dallas VA Medical Center. Youth hand-delivered 100 additional Valentines to the VA Nursing Home, thanking the veterans for their service and taking pictures with them.

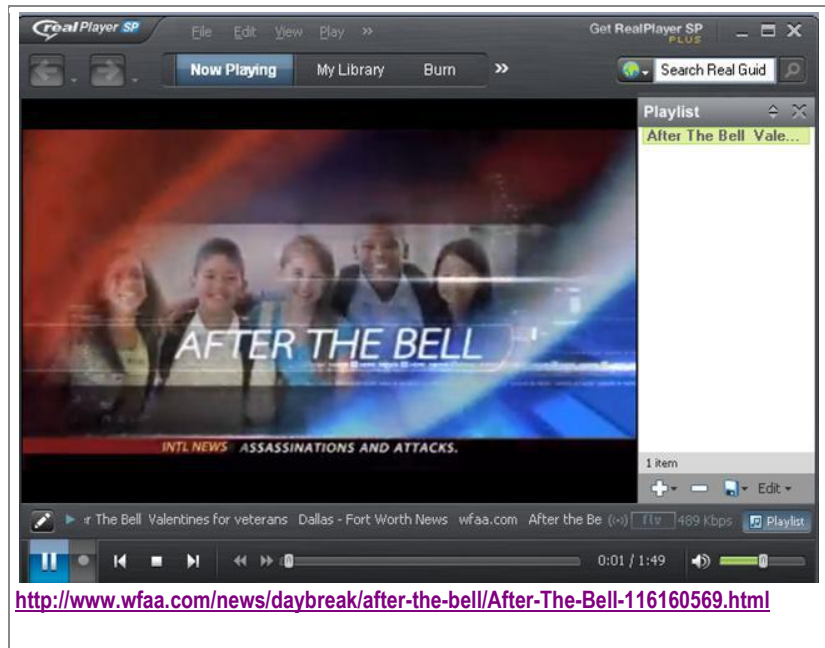


Valentines For Veterans was part of a Camp Fire USA National Project, 'Salute to Veterans', helping children learn about veterans, developing a sense of caring for others and giving service to others. This project is designed to teach program participants how they can pay tribute and express appreciation to veterans.

There are two primary requirements to completing the National Project. Program participants have spent the last month learning about what it means to be a veteran as the first requirement. Learning about patriotism, citizenship, freedom and compassion. The second requirement is to create Valentines that express love and appreciation for the sacrifices made by the men and women in our Armed Forces.

For additional information or if you're interested in volunteering, contact Sheri Hemby at 214.824.1122, ext. 103.

After The Bell: Valentines for Veterans
 by CHRIS FLANAGAN of WFAA Channel 8
 Aired on February 14, 2011



Community Need

- Nearly 100,000 Dallas area children between the ages of 5 & 13 are unsupervised afterschool. Dallas only has enough afterschool programs to serve 1 out of every 3 children who needs afterschool supervision. (*Dallas AfterSchool Network*)
- 25% of DISD students are living in poverty. That's less than \$22,000 for a family of 4. (2007 US Census Bureau)
- Quality afterschool programs keep kids safe, inspire them to learn, & help working families. (*Afterschool Alliance*)

[Support our work and make a donation](#). For more information on the Lone Star Council or about how you can get involved, please contact us at 214.824.1122 or info@campfireusadallas.org and visit our website at www.campfireusadallas.org.

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