

HIGH SCHOOL PROJECTS

ACCELERATED CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL (TULARE)

A Positive Statement - P.S. We Care!

The social impact of the prolonged COVID-19 pandemic had the Accelerated Charter Youth Challenge team determined to address the mental state of their peers. The challenge to stay positive during this period of isolation drove these students to fill their campus with positivity. Positive statements made from stickers and Post-it Notes, and key chains with crisis hotline phone numbers filled the team's Positive Statement kits. Although this team was small in number, they didn't let that stop their message and outreach. By the project deadline, they packaged 200 kits with resources that shared the message, "It is important to know that you are not alone and someone out there cares. P.S. We Care!" Advisor: Abra McDowell

ELEANOR ROOSEVELT COMMUNITY LEARNING CTR. (VISALIA)

Kids vs Climate Chaos

Henry David Thoreau once asked, "What's the use of a fine house if you haven't got a tolerable planet to put it on?" The ERCLC Youth Challenge team asked the same question. Their newly formed Kids vs Climate Chaos Club brought awareness about climate change and how some of the little things we do every day are contributing to climate change. Club events provided an educational area where adults and youth could enjoy outdoor experiences and find the vital role nature plays in their lives. Ultimately, this group hopes to encourage others to make environmentally-friendly changes for the betterment of the communities in which they live. Advisor: Bobbi Westfall and Jeff Alexander

MONACHE HIGH SCHOOL (PORTERVILLE)

Golden Closet

Access to clean clothing, hygiene products, and school supplies can be challenging and sensitive to acknowledge. With utmost discretion, the Monache High School Youth Challenge team genuinely took this need to heart and built the Golden Closet. Stacked with items such as soap, shampoo, clothes, and school supplies, this private resource was made available to school administrators who were able to identify the greatest needs. The Golden Closet became both a resource and an awareness catalyst for the severe needs fellow students experience in silence. This team may not realize it, but they are making someone's day a little easier every time the Golden Closet door opens. Advisor: Miozoty Briceno

TECH PREP HIGH SCHOOL (TULARE)

Ground Zero

Loss of staff, loved ones, and changes in school administration left this team feeling like they were starting from the bottom and trying to work their way back up. The Tulare Tech Prep "Ground Zero" project provided a place where students worked on ideas to develop positive coping mechanisms that would help some find relief from the emotional, social, and physical pains experienced during the pandemic. This team created a fund to celebrate campus birthdays, holiday gatherings, and end of grading periods. To make sure students were not isolating themselves, the Ground Zero team and others began to make new friends with the newly-assigned students on campus. The team shared, "We are a Tech Prep family not just rebuilding a school; we rebuilt ourselves." Advisor: Liz Rocha