

Overview of 2010-2011 SALSA Wide Events

JUNE SALSA WIDE EVENT

Game Day for youth at Children's Care Hospital

Date: Monday, February 21st

15 SALSA students set up and facilitated a variety of games for the youth at Children's Care Hospital and School who were on their summer break. Wow – the parachute was a lot of fun!

APRIL SALSA WIDE EVENT

Lions annual pancake days!

Dates: April 18th, 19th and 20th

55 students gave a total of 142 hours of service to help the Downtown Lions Club as they fed thousands of people pancakes and raised thousands of dollars to help prevent blindness and provide glasses to people in our area that have a low income. The Downtown Lions also help support the SALSA program in a variety of ways such as: sponsoring Make A Difference Day; sponsoring the Youth Vision Workshop and the SALSA Recognition Luncheon.

MARCH SALSA WIDE EVENTS

Lunch is Served

Date: March 21st

176 people who are considered “working poor” were fed sack lunches because 12 SALSA students gave their time to make sandwiches and assemble nutritious snacks into brown bags. An inspirational quote was included in each bag as well.

Youth Vision Workshop – Poverty Simulation and Salvation Army Night Watch

Date: March 26th

This afternoon contained 2 opportunities for youth... The first was the Poverty Simulation Experience where participants were assigned an identity and family profile, and had to navigate meeting their needs with the income and various life challenges that come with living in poverty. Afterward in the debriefing, students learned more about the issue and heard from a single mom who is a Habitat for Humanity partner family about her real life experiences. Then, 16 students stayed later and helped serve the Salvation Army Night Watch, a weekend feeding ministry.

FEBRUARY SALSA WIDE EVENT

Game Day with Seniors at Avera Prince of Peace

Date: February 26th

One of the most precious gifts you can give someone else is your time and that is what 36 students did for the residents of Avera Prince of Peace when they facilitated a game day at the facility. Volleyball, bean bag toss and Wii were a few of the physical activities we did, but just sitting down and visiting was the best part of the day.

JANUARY SALSA WIDE EVENTS

#1. Child care for New Directions Support Group

Date: January 16th

New Directions is a support group for parents who have a child with Down's Syndrome. The group meets once a month so parents can share ideas and support each other knowing that they too, have children facing similar life issues. SALSA students played with the children at Power and Grace Gymnastics so the parents could have some bonding time.

#2. Volunteers of America, Dakotas - Thrift Store

Date: January 29th

Thrift stores are so cool for three reasons 1) they are a "green" way to keep things out of landfills 2) raise money for various causes and 3) provide low cost items to community members. 30 SALSA volunteers helped accomplish all those things when they volunteers for the VOA Thrift store by cleaning, organizing, putting out new merchandise and sorting items – valuable hours of work accomplished for the store!

DECEMBER SALSA WIDE EVENTS

#1. Project Warm-Up

Date: December 4th

"Project Warm Up," is a day when hundreds of home-made fleece blankets are made for students living in poverty. This project was started with one student's compassion (a past SALSA member) for those less fortunate and has exploded into a project that delivered 1200+ homemade blankets last year.

#2. Gift Wrapping at the Empire Mall to Benefit Children's Inn

Date: December 18th

A SALSA student favorite is the gift wrapping booth where holiday shoppers make donations that benefit Children's Inn out at the at the Empire Mall. This booth raised over \$24,000 to benefit women, children and men in domestic violence situations. Now that is the spirit of the season!

NOVEMBER SALSA WIDE EVENT

#1: Muscular Dystrophy Association Stride and Ride

Date: November 13th

MDA is the world's leading voluntary health organization fighting more than 40 neuromuscular diseases. Thousands of people of all ages are affected by muscle diseases, including 550 families right here in South Dakota. SALSA students were able to open their eyes and hearts during this special event which supports those families right here in our state. We ran carnival booths which were fun for the youth – and it was fun for us to help!

#2. Feeding South Dakota - Senior Box Lunches

Date: Saturday, November 20th

In just 185 hours, SALSA students made a difference for 1,000+ of senior citizens across the state of South Dakota who rely on a monthly box of food they use to supplement their diets and budgets with nutritious USDA commodity foods. Since many seniors have limited income, these boxes literally help put food on the table and improve their quality of life.

OCTOBER SALSA WIDE EVENTS

#1: Zoo Boo – at the Great Plains Zoo

Date: October 22nd

A fun first – SALSA students wearing their Halloween costumes and helping out at Zoo Boo! Volunteers made this fun, safe, spooky event possible by greeting guests, keeping pumpkins lit, and handing out candy bags to kids who came to enjoy the animals and the decorations.

#2: Rake the Town

Date: October 30th

SALSA youth and young men from the McCrossans Boys Ranch raked 20+ yards of elderly or disabled people who physically couldn't do it on their own. This was our biggest event of the year with 63 students giving 210 hours of their time.

SEPTEMBER SALSA WIDE EVENT

"Late Night Trash Talking!" - Liter Pick Up for the Booster Club

Date: September 11th

In less than 1 hour SALSA students lent a hand in keeping our city beautiful by getting their hands a little dirty and picking up trash after the annual President's Bowl football game. This event raises money for the Booster Clubs in the area which provide discounted rates to involve students in school activities. Students also heard from the City of Sioux Falls Sustainability Office whose mission is to help create a more sustainable community now and in the future. We certainly left with "green" thumbs!

X: programs/SALSA/Misc./ website stuff/ Overview of 2010-2011 SALSA Wide Events