



(For Immediate Release)

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***SPARK THE WAVE Announces Summer Camp Dates
Camp to Focus on Training Teens for Service Leadership***

(Philadelphia) -- Building on the success of its after-school and weekend seminars designed to empower teens to be better volunteers, *SPARK THE WAVE* has announced that it is accepting applications from 7-11th graders for an overnight and day camp July 19th-24th, 2009 known as "*WAVE WEEK*."

SPARK THE WAVE provides specialized training to middle and senior-high school aged students, enhancing their ability to make a greater impact in their community through service. The youth-serving, non-profit, organization functioned for over three decades under the auspices of the American Red Cross of Southeastern Pennsylvania before becoming an independent 501(c)(3) in 2004.

"We know parents are anxious to find safe and affordable summer activities for their children," said *SPARK THE WAVE* President Dr. William Gallagher. "As for teens themselves, they want to have fun. But they also want to find meaningful ways to spend their time, especially those students who are college bound and/or interested in service."

During the week-long "*WAVE WEEK*" camp held on the campus of Villanova University in Villanova, Pennsylvania, teens will be led through a series of activities to enhance their project planning, team management, leadership and communications skills. The activities culminate in a community service project performed by the teens at the end of the week. Students participating in the camp can be credited with 40 hours of "community service."

The tuition (varies from \$175-\$575) includes room, meals and all materials for *WAVE WEEK*. Additional information and applications can be requested by visiting www.SparkTheWave.org or by emailing info@sparkthewave.org.

"Teens involved in community service report higher levels of confidence," Gallagher said. "And keeping students involved in meaningful activities reduces the likelihood of risky behaviors."

"I came to it a good person," another *SPARK THE WAVE* camper said. "I am leaving a better person."

Spark the Wave is a 501(c)(3) organization whose goal is to empower youth through educational programs to be great volunteers and community leaders. Since established in 2004, Spark the Wave has offered leadership development to over 4,500 teens from the Philadelphia and Washington, D.C. communities through seminars and a weeklong summer workshop. Spark the Wave also collaborates with organizations like the Girl Scouts of the USA, the Hugh O'Brian Youth Foundation (HOBY) and the Boy Scouts of America. For more information please log onto www.sparkthewave.com