



spark the wave[®]
IGNITING TEEN VOLUNTEERS
Service-Mentoring

PROGRAM:

As a participant/alumni of a *SPARK THE WAVE* Program (in your case Wave Week/*Operation Purple* 2010), you are eligible to participate in our Service-Mentoring program! We started our mentoring program in order to make a long-term commitment to our *SPARK THE WAVE* delegates/alumni and service projects and groups. Our hope is that by giving on-going assistance, you can be the best volunteer you can be and help make the greatest impact possible through your service projects.

Our mentors have expertise in areas that include finance, fundraising, volunteer management, legal, program development, strategic planning, marketing – and most importantly, they have been in your shoes! They have planned a ton of service projects, both *SPARK THE WAVE* related and beyond. They will be there for you at every step along the way – from Wave Week to the completion and evaluation of your projects. You're driving this project, we are here to make sure you stay on track and guide you when you need help. We can help you tackle issues like:

- Recruiting, managing, and motivating your volunteers
- Where can I get funding for my project?
- How can I get my group back on track?
- How can I solve my logistical issues?
- Where can I get some publicity for my project?

Your Project Planning group will be assigned a mentor on your first day at camp! This individual will check in with you and your group throughout the week, and talk to you about the best way to keep in touch after camp so that the lines of communication can stay open after we all go home. The end of this document has a list of the mentors and their contact information – make sure you mark down which mentor is assigned to your group!

Mentoring is a two-way street: we can't help you if you won't let us! That is why we want to lay out some responsibilities for everyone. Your mentor has agreed to:

- Help the delegate (that's you!) and his or her group make the greatest impact possible.
- Act professionally at all times.
- Communicate effectively with all associated parties. (Students, parents, & service group representatives)
- Help the group in a timely, courteous and expert manner until the terms of the agreement are met.
- Clearly outline what the service group needs assistance with and how they will help.
- Always remember that young people can and do change the world.

In exchange we ask that you agree to:

- Keep your mind open to its true potential for service.
- Act appropriately at all times towards the mentor and *SPARK THE WAVE*.
- Clearly outline what help you and your group needs from the mentor.
- Communicate effectively with all associated parties. (Mentors, parents, & service group representatives)
- To be willing to work hard to achieve their groups service goals.
- To immediately report to your parents, service group representative, or *SPARK THE WAVE* representative any inappropriate behavior on the part of the mentor.
- Always remember that young people can and do change the world.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES:

SPARK THE WAVE offers “STW Mini-Grants” in order to fund your projects! As a Wave Week/*Operation Purple* delegates, you are eligible to apply for up to \$1000 from *SPARK THE WAVE* in “seed money” for your project. If you are looking for funding for t-shirts, transportation, logistics, materials, or other expenses related to your project, this is a great opportunity!

The process to securing potential funds will involve an application and interview process about your project. All inquiries for a Mini-Grant should be directed to Laura Payne, Service-Mentoring Director

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION:

Your mentor will also assist *SPARK THE WAVE* in recognizing your accomplishments both inside and outside of our organization. *SPARK THE WAVE* recognizes all completed projects once a year at our December reunion (you will receive more information on this after camp) and features projects on our website!

SPARK THE WAVE is an accredited certifying organization for the *Presidential Volunteer Service Awards*, which recognizes individuals annually for their commitment to community service. In addition to the 40 hours you will receive for Wave Week/*Operation Purple*, we can assist you in certifying additional service hours for your project that can be used towards awards.

Furthermore, we nominate delegates for other regional and national awards and recognition, such as *Champions of Caring* and *The Jefferson Awards*. We will nominate delegates every December; see your mentor for more information!

2010 Mentors:

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