

PROJECTS AND STATEMENTS OF THE FLTI 2010 GRADUATES

ADAMS

BRITTANY R. ABLES: "Toddlers Really Enjoy Amusement Too" T.R.E.A.T

Implementing toddler-friendly play equipment at local parks and playgrounds. "Before participating in FLTI, I felt like a very little pin prick out of thousands of voices. What FLTI has given me is my own voice, and one that can be heard in the community. I am a little pin, but now I am the brightly- colored one."

LESLIE A BROWN: "Know Your Neighbors"

A neighborhood watch program that would directly impact my local community---specifically my neighborhood. Expected outcomes include a decrease in suspicious activity, an increase in communication, and an increase in community leadership. "FLTI has been an experience I'll never forget. The program has given me the opportunity to connect with my passion for child advocacy, re-energized my passion as a family leader and has provided the information and support I needed to become a positive force within the community."

ANITA CARONNA-PENHOLLOW: "Pangea Early Childhood Services" (PECSS)

Pangea Early Childhood Services provides center based supports, parenting classes and play therapy for parents and children (2-6). "FLTI represents to me, an opportunity to bring my heart's work into light among people I trust – who already believe in me! Its function is to help me put my vision into action."

AVI E. CARONNA-PENHOLLOW: "Project Resonance"

PR is an alternative education program that targets "at-risk" youth to increase their engagement in academics and critical literacy. "FLTI has been extremely rewarding and most importantly, empowering. I feel much more motivated to engage in civic activity and implement ideas I've had for years."

JULIE A.K. DEGENSTEIN: "Cultivating Community through Composting"

A way to bring the community together through an educational composting program which doesn't currently exist. "FLTI has been an incredible experience! I have learned so much, incorporating these 'lessons' into my daily life – both personally and professionally – and without even realizing it (most of the time) passing what I've learned onto others, leading by example of the past."

LEO J. DEGENSTEIN: "Participate and Graduate"

To impact the students of Westminster High School by getting the students involved in the Arts and Sports Programs by improving participation which increases graduation rates. "FLTI has taken me from the sidelines and into the game. I have found my voice. Don't underestimate the power of ONE."

DAN G. DOLAN: "Slow Down For Kid's Sake"

Having a traffic device installed on our street for safety purposes. "It has made me aware of so many aspects of community involvement that exist."

REBECCA R. FORD: "Stay on Track"

5K Community Walk/Run "FLTI means so much to me. To realize my self- worth has been empowering. I use to say 'why me,' now I say 'why not me' and I am not afraid to speak up."

MARIA S. HOPFGARTEN: "Sibstars"

Creating a sibling support program for siblings of chronically ill children within the Butterfly (hospice) program at Children's Hospital. "You will find a whole new world of resources that can help you to make changes for your family and community."

NADINE LUND: "Reap, Project"

I want high school athletes and their parents to know how to manage the care of the athlete after a head injury to maximize recovery. "FLTI has opened my mind to the possibility that I could be used to facilitate change in how our local high schools manage concussions for athletes. The process of discovering skills that I already have and finding my voice to communicate my passion has been exciting and powerful. Through FLTI I have gained confidence to also pursue other leadership opportunities in the community."

GAYE E. MONROE: "U R Ready 4 School"

School readiness for families, friend, neighbor care. "FLTI is a program that empowers people from all walks of life to work and make changes in their communities. It is nice to have a program that is so positive and effective."

CATHERINE B. RIVERA: "Leola Sanchez Memorial Foundation"

A foundation set up on behalf of my deceased mother, because she passed away from cancer. She wanted to have "care-baskets" distributed to families who have loved ones battling this disease. "This class has made me a better, more confident person. It has enriched my self-esteem tremendously. And I know that no matter how dumb I think something is – MY VOICE MATTERS."

PROJECTS AND STATEMENTS OF THE FLTI 2010 GRADUATES

ELAINE J. SANCHEZ: "Hand in Hand"

Assisting young single mothers to establish a nurturing environment in the home. "I've been given a second chance to be a leader in my community. Having that resource and training allows me to have the skills to engage with others in a partnership. I've raised my kids and now that I am a grandmother I see the impact of my leadership. I used to go along with things, but now I know I can use my voice."

DIONNE M. SATER: "Teen Street Clean"

I am going to use teen volunteers to help them get graduation volunteer hours. It will impact teens, city, and parent volunteers. Expected outcomes will be to get students' community service hours satisfied, cleaner streets and the city will have more pride in itself. "I have become a better advocate for myself, my family and my community. FLTI means education to me. It helps me work my way through tough situations with what I have learned."

CHRISTINA R. SCHILL: "Together we are winners"

My community project is to have a night where I can get the parents involved more with their kids. As a single parent, now is the time to be more involved with your kid. This will impact both the parent and the child. "My experience with FLTI was great. I know how to frame my ideas better. Also, I know that I am not alone with these issues and FLTI made me a better person."

SOOKHEE K. WEBER: "Heart Connections"

I am mentoring 'at-risk' children. I would like to help children function better emotionally, mentally and academically. "I believe that FLTI has helped me network and broaden my horizons to reach out to the community and to contribute more than I would have normally."

ARAPAHOE/DOUGLAS

DERONE ARMSTRONG. Youth Leadership.

FLTI is a strong family support system that empowers parents to become better parents. Teaching us to find the needed resources for not only our families, but those we want to provide support. I have learned how to form strong community coalitions and alliances and to establish community leaders to help improve society and build community organizations.

TYRA ARMSTRONG. Improve Community Relations with Law Enforcement.

FLTI has been about bringing different communities and people of color together to make a difference. It teaches you how to challenge yourself.

MIKE BATES. All- Pro Dad Breakfast.

It's about fathers understanding their children need them in their lives. Three words describe what FLTI means to me; Parenting With Purpose.

TINA BLAKELY. Brain Food; Super Charge your Life with Optimal Choices!

FLTI has been a wonderful gathering of strong-hearted people intent on making our country and world a better place. It is amazing to me to see how we ALL have learned in six months how to be thoughtful and effective leaders. I feel the networks and family-like friendships we've created are unlike any other educational environment I've been in. I look forward to putting this to practical use in all aspects of my life!

KATIE BROOKS. Planting the Seeds of Leadership.

FLTI helped me define my own goals and determine what is important to me. It helped me network with other community leaders and form life-long friendships with like-minded people.

SUNJIA BROWN. Partners of Success.

Providing hope where hope was lost. FLTI provided me the foundation that I needed to stand on. Now I have a platform of knowledge to go back into my community and facilitate change.

LYNN DESENS. 10 Tips for Raising a Successful Child.

FLTI has been a civics lesson extraordinaire—one that doesn't just tell me the words and teaches me the lessons, but puts the words and lessons into action. It has been one of the most humbling experiences of my adult life—an inspiration.

CHANDRA DESIMONE. So Now You're Special: Educating Parents on the Special Education Process.

FLTI changed the meaning of powerful person from day one. Any perception I had about being a change agent dissolved. Now I see that I have a voice and although it can be quiet alone, its powerful when joined with many.

CHRIS HEDLUND. Teen Career Builders (TCB)

FLTI has provided me knowledge and tools to make change.

PROJECTS AND STATEMENTS OF THE FLTI 2010 GRADUATES

ROBIN HEDLUND. Preserving Breastfeeding for Hospitalized or Ill Mothers.

FLTI has been an eye-opening experience. I've learned a huge amount about what's going on in our communities, what needs to be addressed and what I can do to positively effect change. I have acquired the tools necessary to accomplish things I used to think were beyond my reach. I have been inspired by my peers' experiences and have had a fire lit in me that I hope never goes out. I have a new hope about having a voice- not only a voice but the power to make things better and bring people together so we can all reap the benefits.

JESIKA JOSEPH. Restoring Relationships 4 Care, Part B; Keen Sensibilities 4 Care.

FLTI is about togetherness. I live such an isolated life. Through FLTI I learned that despite all our individual, different stories we are all navigating through life and have a common thread of passion to improve lives of children and families, TOGETHER.

LUISA INES LUMBANO. Jump Start 80105.

For me, FLTI has been the bridge that connected my dream world (hopes for a better community that makes children's lives the most important) to the tools (20 classes) that systematically taught me how to make my dream a REALITY. FLTI helps teach you to walk the talk.

OLIVIER MARTIN. Missing Communication.

FLTI means skills to me. It has given me confidence to be more social in my community. It has also made me more aware of what is happening outside my door. This has caused me to create change in my life.

PATI MARTINEZ. Uniting to Fight Poverty.

FLTI is a network of people with knowledge and different resources that in the end you find out that we all ave one thing in common. FLTI made me realized that I can advocate for myself and my family in situations that I wouldn't have before taking this class. I have learned so much and it's made me change my thinking. Before I just used bad words, now I use appropriate and positive words which gets me further and avoids doors being shut in my face.

PAULA MCINTIRE. All About Me- Resource book for families with young children with disabilities.

FLTI has been an opportunity to build on skills and knowledge of family leadership through a collaborative group process. Being able to explore ways to engage in civics and become more successful in making positive change for communities.

JOHN MILLER. The Big Tent: Supporting FLTI Community Projects.

FLTI has given me tools, knowledge, skills and networking contacts to be a more effective community leader on issues that affect children and families in Colorado.

CHARLENE MINJAREZ. A Place to Grow. A community garden experience.

I found my voice through what I learned about leadership and community. I felt accepted because of the value this class placed on my opinion. I found a piece of myself in each person I connected with. I've acquired a new confidence that shouts out, "I can make a difference!"

SILVIA GUTIERREZ RAGHUNATH.Stories, Culture and Fun.

For me, FLTI means a lot of support, it is connection, learning, education and it is a great opportunity to be active in my "family life". FLTI means passion to be together. FLTI has helped me be a better parent, better for my family, my community, my work and for myself.

TAMARA STOFFEL. Restoring Relationships 4 Care- Part A: Empowerment for Caregivers.

FLTI is a force of compassionate individuals willing to help make our country stronger, healthier, and more connected through active involvement in our democracy and the organization of community activities.

VICTORIA SULMEISTERS. Making Asset Building a Way of Life; Engaging and Empowering Parents and the Community.

FLTI has been an opportunity to engage with a diverse group of passionate individuals and become empowered to make change that affects families, parents and children.

ANDREA TAYLOR. How to Raise Money for your School. Improving the fundraising opportunities at schools.

For me, FLTI has been a perception changing moment for me. When I first applied to be a part of this program I wasn't sure what FLTI was all about and I left my expectations open. Since I've joined I've loved every moment of it. Each class has been mind opening and I have changed my view of myself in my community. I came into this class as "noise" but I am leaving with a strong voice.

PROJECTS AND STATEMENTS OF THE FLTI 2010 GRADUATES

RAQUEL VAZQUEZ. Aprendamos Juntos acerca de nuestra salud!-- Let's learn together about our health!

FLTI has been an unforgettable experience. I met people that have taught me so much. FLTI has helped me to build confidence in myself to believe that my voice and concerns matter not just to me but a lot of people. Now I'm a believer of dreams come true by action.

DENVER

TAMMY ABRAMOVITZ – The Warren Village Good Neighbor Project

A project to bring the neighbors of Warren Village into a relationship with the families that live at Warren Village and to increase the awareness of how they can support Warren Village and how Warren Village can support the neighborhood.

MIKE BREWER – Night Owls (Out With Loving Sitters)

A respite program for families who have a child or children with special needs.

ANA CECILIA CARBALLO – Cuenta Cuentos

A storytelling and singing project in Spanish for toddlers and preschoolers. A project designed to pass culture and traditions to Spanish speakers.

CELINA GARRIDO – Crenado Habitos

A project designed to identify healthier foods and healthier eating habits for children during their time in school.

ADRIENNE JOHNSON – Sensible Money Matters

A project designed to see young school-age persons in grades 1 through 8 taught about how money and credit works. The project can be a math elective for high school students, as well

PATRICK KELLY – Bridge the Gap

To teach compassion and acceptance for students with disabilities through peer mentoring programs.

TONYA KELLY – It Takes a Community

A reception aimed at bringing together new parents of children with developmental disabilities to exchange resources and information in an attempt to increase long-term tolerance and acceptance within the community.

MONICA KINNERMON – Man Up!

An effort to recruit African American mentors to support the increased need for effective role models to underrepresented African American children who are struggling in our communities.

SARAH LEVERSEE – The Young Artist Project with Art as Action

CHRISTINE QUAYLE – Mom Who Are Really Like Me

A project designed to create a play group for kids with special needs and for their parents meet and connect, provide support for one another and to share resources, knowledge and experiences.

ED QUAYLE – Creating Mobility and Independence for People with Disabilities

Mile High AMBUCS is a service organization which works with local physical and occupational therapists to identify children who can benefit from an adaptive tricycle and conducts fundraising events to provide these tricycles to recipient families free of charge.

JENNIFER RENTROPE – S.W.I.M. (Survive What Intimidates Me)

A referral and short term mentoring service that serves individuals of all ages with the mission of propelling and guiding individuals towards meeting a variety of self defined and identified personal goals.

TRACY SCOTT – Who's Got the Power; Power Packed Parents

A project focused on supporting parents as they navigate through the public schools system so that they are empowered to be better advocates for the children and themselves.

JAN WATKINS – Mother's Wit, A Parent to Parent Guide to Making the Most of Your Child's Education

A quick reference guide for parents as they advocated and triumph during their students' educational career.

PROJECTS AND STATEMENTS OF THE FLTI 2010 GRADUATES

LARIMER

WENDY BORGMAN - Haven is a respite care facility for children with developmental disabilities and behavior problems. The purpose of Haven is to give families dealing with these issues a much needed break. Hopefully helping to keep families intact.

TINA BOYER - You Not Alone is support group for families of children with special needs. We meet once a month and I offer free childcare. It is sponsored by the Larimer county autism society. Also to be offered is a parent classes this summer by combining the support group with Empower, a support group program for families dealing with mental illness.

JOEL DECATUR - Art on the Spectrum is a showcase featuring artwork from local children who have been diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). The show is designed primarily as an awareness event with hopes to also raise money through the Autism Society of Larimer County (ASLC) in order to further help the local families affected by ASD.

LAURA DECATUR – Supporting Artful Angels provides fun, creative projects for Respite Care, Inc. kids in Ft. Collins, CO. Each month art activities are planned for children with developmental disabilities. Additional support is coordinated by recruiting other volunteers to help. At the same time this effort also raise awareness of Respite Care needs in the Ft. Collin's community.

RUBEN GUERRERO - Foster Care Youth In Higher Education:

Empowering by Providing Information and Connections (EPIC) provides support, resources, and connections to potential students from backgrounds in foster, kinship, and adoptive care to attain their goal of higher education.

BEVERLY HALL - Leadership Workshop: Who Am I and How Do I Fit? This workshop is a gentle introduction to personality types and how to communicate with others so they will hear the message. This program helps encourage understanding of different perspectives and group cohesiveness. Tips on motivating volunteers and building a strong organization are included.

KRISSIE LOCKARD - The Hangout is designed especially for teenagers at risk for teen pregnancy, drug and/ or alcohol addiction, and high school drop outs. The expected outcome is to raise self-confidence in teenagers so they can resist negative peer pressure and feel secure in the positive decision they make. The center will teach positive life skills through a variety of educational programs.

TABITHA MILLER - M.O.R.E. Beauty is an awareness program broadcast through local radio stations to promote positive self image for all ages. It is intended to encourage us all to redefine our idea of beauty and embrace a more realistic view of ourselves and others. Listeners will be inspired to gain a healthier self image and be provided with a list of community resources and services that specialize in addressing this issue.

JAN NOBLE - Our Crooked Path is a booklet created for families raising a child with special needs. It is based on one mother's journey to find support and services for her daughter with special needs. It contains ideas to help other families obtain support and services within their communities. This booklet may offer hope and let others know they are not alone in their situations.

KRISTIN PARSONS - Empowering Students to Impact their Communities: The Colorado Conservation Project teaches students that even though they may be young, they still have a voice and influence over what happens in their lives. 96 5th graders involved in the Colorado Conservation Project were also introduced to leadership skills and asked to apply them to their project experience. They included such skills as goal setting, importance of perseverance, connecting with community leaders and oral presentations.

KATHY PIERS – Kindergarten: A Successful Transition for English/Latino Head Start Parents will identify 6 Head Start families in the Loveland School District to support their child's transition to Kindergarten and long term success in school. Families will be provided education and through home visits, phone calls, parent group meetings and other communications.

LINDA TANNER - Alateen in Loveland was needed to support teens of parent with alcohol and other addictions. Years ago there was a Alateen group, but there has not been anything for Loveland children/youth for almost 8 years. Alateen has been established beginning on April 7 with the help of a local partnership and church willing to provide a location.

GAYLE TIMM - MAXarT, LLC is an autism awareness campaign company. Art is used as an awareness tool on quality consumer friendly products. This impacts everyone; special needs artist, community, educators, families, anyone who has been touched by autism.

BRENDA TUTTLE - Mi Vida, Mi Viva (My Life, My Way) is a project designed to allow a group of three male adults with developmental disabilities to reside in a home setting with appropriate supports in Fort Collins, Colorado.

DONGYING ZHANG - Just In Time Parenting (JITP) is an electronic newsletter introduced to families visiting the Ft. Collins Family Center to help them improve their parenting skills through better understanding of their child's development. JITP is a series of free monthly parenting newsletters providing parents of infants and children age-paced information, so that children will grow up healthy and ready for success socially, emotionally, physically and intellectually.

PROJECTS AND STATEMENTS OF THE FLTI 2010 GRADUATES

MONTEZUMA/DELORES

TRACY ARCHULETA – Solution Finders

Organizing a team of family advocates to attend service provider meetings representing community members which receive the services

SHAINE GANS - Healthy and Sustainable Food From Farm to Schools

Implementing a “healthful and sustainable food program” in child care facilities and/or schools throughout Montezuma County.

Provide children with the most healthful sustainable school snacks possible and deepen the understanding of school students, parents and administrators about the impacts that that food choices have on their bodies, the environment, community, economy and the future.

KATI E GREENE - Sign with Me

A beginner’s course in American Sign language to help hearing members of the community to learn ASL and therefore learn how to better communicate with the deaf members of the community, bridging the gap between the hearing world and the deaf world.

CALLINDA HACKETT - Kindergarten Transition Day

Helping children and families transition to kindergarten with a “transition day”. This day will help ease some of the fears of transitioning children and allowed them to start kindergarten with more confidence by meeting their teacher and see their classroom before the first day of school

CORENA HAMPTON - Making a Difference

Introducing the Social Responsibility Training (SRT) a school and community based prevention program designed to teach high-risk students, parents and families about decision and life skills in a systematic class processes that enhance responsibility and behavioral growth in a progressive fashion.

CINDY HOUSTON - Educating for the Future

The goal is to form a lecture series focusing on education asking the question: does the fundamental structure of the system we’ve used in the past 100 years work today? Cindy is researching an existing lecture series the TED Talks series and plans to use their model. The overall goal is to help our community develop a better understanding of our children and their future, and how we can help them acquire the necessary skills for maneuvering in a rapidly changing world. To provide insight on what tools are no longer of use and how to replace them with appropriate tools.

ALEXIA HUDSON - A Children’s Cooperative Garden

Children in the community meeting one another and working together building lasting relationships with families in the immediate area. This will be attained thorough having a garden where children will think more about nutrition and planning and create a desire to be outdoors

CATHY KINGERY - Teen Moms Leading the Way

Write a min-grant delaying teen pregnancy. Create a venue for teen moms to have a healthy pregnancy and baby, become a better parent, build a strong network, safe environment, education and setting goals

ALMA ROSS - The First Annual Children’s’ Kiva Quidditch Tournament

Create an event that will involve a variety of members of the community to have fun and raise money for the Kiva

MELANIE STEVENSON - 75 minute mentoring

Creating an adult and peer mentoring program for children ages 5 – 17 in the Mancos and extended community.

CYNTHIA TODD - Active Buddies

Create a mentoring program within the school athletic community to help provide a healthy outlet and booster self-esteem.

SANDI VALENCIA - Read Between the Lines

Read with a mentor that has the same interests to present the student with ideas to raise their reading skills to a level higher than what they have. The project will be incorporated into her class.

AMY VIOLETTE - Youth For a Fresh Start

Help develop a youth program at the Fresh Start Horse Rescue. This will be a place where youth from any background can have an opportunity to be outdoors and have the opportunity