



# **STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE PROGRAM PROJECT SUMMARY SHEET**

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**SCHOOL:** Delaware Township School

**ACTIVITY:** Canned Food Drive

**DATE(S):** (annually) September/October, December, February, March, May

**CATEGORY:** Community Service

**ADVISOR NAME:** Cynthia Terranova

**ADVISOR E-MAIL:** cterranova@dtsk8.org

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## **PROVIDE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THIS PROJECT:**

In order to foster a greater sense of community beyond the walls of the school, middle school students attending the annual dances and activity nights are asked to donate a canned good as part of admission & participation. DTS has hosted a minimum of four dances and an additional activity night each school year for the last five years, bringing in a total of nearly 10,000 pounds of food for those in need in the surrounding communities! These canned goods have provided a staple source of nutrition for the local food pantries in both Lambertville and Flemington. We have also partnered with the Hunterdon County NORWESCAP for the activity night food drive in order to extend the community service to the general population of the state of New Jersey.

## **DESCRIBE THE PLANNING & EXECUTION OF THIS PROJECT:**

While the actual dance serves as both a fundraiser and as a tool to promote appropriate social behavior, it was the students who suggested that a food drive could be correlated to dance admission. The advisors (at that time) had the officers write up a proposal to be presented to the principal and vice principal. Once the approval was granted, the advisors sought out community partners with the greatest need for additional food supplies. The custodial staff at DTS provide the actual transport of the goods from the night of collection to the recipient.

## **DESCRIBE THE BENEFIT OF THIS PROJECT BENEFIT TO SCHOOL AND/OR COMMUNITY:**

Students who have donated goods and services for the benefits of others have commented on how rewarding it is to do something as simple as bring in a can of vegetables. The students have taken great pride in the fact that what they donate will benefit families in their immediate area.

## **EVALUATE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THIS PROJECT, REFLECTING ON ANY POSSIBLE CHANGES YOU MIGHT CONSIDER:**

We have been very fortunate in the overwhelming success of our food drives. Our Physical Education faculty have recently implemented a new food drive (the "Souper" Bowl) in the months of January & February. Our Student Council would like to partner with the Physical Education staff members to grow the success of the program.