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OPP Hosts 9th Successful Global Youth Service Day

600 young people participate in more than 50 service projects in Greater Hartford area

Hartford, CT—Our Piece of the Pie® (OPP®), a leading youth development agency based in Hartford, hosted Global Youth Service Day this past weekend as hundreds of city youth joined millions across the globe to participate in service projects in their communities.

Global Youth Service Day (GYSD) is an annual worldwide event that highlights and celebrates the contributions of youth to their communities through volunteer service. GYSD is celebrated in more than 100 countries in every region of the world.

This is the ninth straight year OPP hosted the event in Hartford.

The OPP kickoff event was held Saturday April 16th at the Pope Park Community Center in Hartford. The event included refreshments, DJ Okamoto and variety of craft activities.



Students from Covenant Preparatory
School help clean Keney Park

GYSD is a unique event that features youth at the center of change and highlights the collaborative efforts of community leaders and nonprofit agencies. On Saturday, April 16, more than 600 youth participated in more than 50 public services projects in the Hartford area. Youth served in the 50 service-learning projects organized for this day in the areas of homelessness, service to the elderly, trash-removal in our city's parks, and leadership through the arts at various beautification projects that include the Hartford Police Department and St. Francis Lead Safe House.

“At OPP, we believe that public service is an essential part of youth development,” said OPP President/CEO Bob Rath. “Commitment to community, teamwork and persistence demonstrated in these projects are crucial as these young people work to become successful adults.”

Our Piece of the Pie helps urban youth, ages 14-24, become successful adults. OPP programs and services allow young people to rise above economic and social barriers to reach the goals of a degree from a two or four-year college or vocational certification and/or meaningful employment in their chosen field.



Over 600 Youth from all over Hartford participate in over 50 projects including community clean up projects, creating art out of recycled materials, gardening and landscaping projects and serving meals at foot pantries.



Youth joined forces and took part in a successful weekend of service to their community.