



THREE WISHES
for Ruby's Residents

102 West Stephenson Ave.
Harrison, AR 72601
P- 870-517-5353
F-870-741-2763
3wishesforruby@gmail.com

4/7/2021

Valley Springs School District Board Members:

We are beyond delighted to complete the application for our nonprofit, Three Wishes for Ruby's Residents, to be a Valley Springs School District community service partner.

We have numerous, specific opportunities for Valley Springs students to be able to integrate community service with their school curriculum. We offer direct service, project-based and advocacy initiatives. Please see the attached information sheet that will tell you more about what we have to offer your students and includes all the essential information required by the district.

Warmly,

Amanda Chitsey

President

Three Wishes for Ruby's Residents

Community Service Learning Community Partner Application for Local and State Board Approval


School District Information

- Name of the School District Initiating this application:
- Name of the district/school licensed faculty supervisor(s) with whom non-profit/community organizations will be working:

Community Partner Information

- Name of non-profit/ community organization:
- Name of Director/ Contact Person:
- Address:
- Phone Number:
- Email Address:
- Hours of operation:
- What is the mission of the non-profit/community organization?
- What service(s) does the non-profit/community organization provide?
- Please describe the volunteer activities students will participate in at the non-profit/community organization and how those activities may connect to curriculum learning goals. The Act 648 implementation guide contains a breakdown of a few subject areas and goals.
- What are the non-profit/community organization procedures and policies to ensure the safety of student volunteers?
- List any special considerations of the non-profit/community organization.

Local School Board approval of this site as a district partner



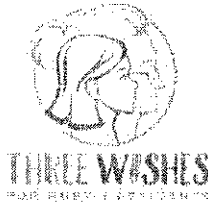
Signature of school board president

4-21-2021

Date of meeting at which site was approved

Return completed application and this form to

Melissa Starkey
Social Studies Specialist
Curriculum Support Services
Division of Elementary and Secondary Education
Email: Melissa.Starkey@ade.arkansas.gov
Four Capitol Mall
Mail Slot #15
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201



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Name of organization:

Three Wishes for Ruby's Residents

Organization Type:

501(c)3 nonprofit

Name of Contact Persons

Amanda Chitsey- President 870-365-2829

Eva Reece- Three Wishes Community Center Coordinator 417-545-1234

Erin Leiblong MeD- Educational Chair 870-688-5494

Address:

Three Wishes Community Center Main Office Phone (870) 517-5353 Main Fax (870) 517-5354

102 W Stephenson Ave

Harrison AR 72601

**We have multiple service sites in Newton, Carroll, Boone and Marion County depending on needs

Email

3wishesforruby@gmail.com

Hours of operation: M-F 1130am-530 pm **Later hours by appointment or event

What is the mission of the organization?

We are a youth-led organization that fulfills small wishes to lonely nursing home seniors right here in Arkansas and across the country. We serve ALL seniors in the long-term care setting but especially those who are lonely, low on family and impoverished.

What service does the organization provide? Please describe volunteer activities and how those connect to curriculum learning goals.

We fulfill small wishes to nursing home seniors through a variety of service projects. Some of our most popular service projects are detailed below:

- **Mobile Book Cart-** we supply seniors in 4 counties with fresh, up-to-date, enjoyable reading materials every month. This includes newspapers, magazines, crossword puzzles and best-selling novels. Additionally, we coordinate book donation drops throughout the community to ensure we have a constant supply of reading material AND to keep books out of our landfills. American's throw away over 1.2 million pounds of books a year!
How does this activity connect to curriculum learning goals? This project can increase the student's knowledge base of the classroom subjects of English, Civics and History. The project also provides direct, hands-on experience with real community literacy and recycling issues through planning, preparing, problem-solving and executing plans to tackle the problem. Students will also gain and develop life skills (leadership, time-management) that employers are looking for while learning more about the classroom subject of literacy and recycling.

- Community Center Project**- we have a 4000 square foot, spacious facility that is fully handicap accessible to host small educational classes to capture vintage skills like sewing, knitting, canning and storytelling. We also distribute wishes to nursing facilities across the country from this location. All of our service projects listed are based out of our community center and disseminated to appropriate counties based on need.

How does this activity connect to curriculum learning goals? This project can be used as a career development tool for students interested in education, art, photography, journalism, social work, IT or politics. It gives students the opportunity to expand their social and community networks and develop mentorships with leaders in the community. It also increases the students' knowledge base of the classroom subjects of Math, Science, English, Art, Economics, IT and Civics. Students will have the opportunity to plan, prepare, reflect, problem-solve and execute plans to better meet the unique needs of seniors. Students will also gain and develop life and select skills (leadership, communication, scheduling, computer technology, IT and interpersonal skills) that employers are looking for as they work within our community to find successful ways to make connections with seniors in our center.
- Adopt-a-Resident Project**- we offer seniors who are lonely a chance to be "adopted" by students or families. This provides a real connection between the generations and can be done *via mail or remotely*.

How does this activity connect to curriculum learning goals? This project provides students with real time experience with the underserved population of nursing home seniors. It also pairs them with a member of the older generation in a meaningful way which can increase the student's awareness of the needs of institutionalized seniors as a whole. We have well over a million institutionalized seniors in America. Students will have the opportunity to plan, prepare, problem-solve, reflect and execute plans to better meet the unique needs of this population. Students will also gain and develop life skills that employers are looking for as they work with community and state leaders to find successful ways to not only meet seniors' needs but help push for legislative changes to raise the \$40 stipend that has remained unchanged since 1999.
- Wall of Butterflies**- we have 1000s and 1000s of soda cans cut to the shape of butterflies. This service project recycles cans and drops ready-to-paint butterflies off at local nursing homes for the seniors to paint. Americans throw away over 50 BILLION soda cans a year. Our project recycles AND allows the residents to meaningfully express themselves through art. We display the butterflies on a 50-foot metal wall mural inside the Three Wishes Community Center. It is a one-of-a-kind piece of art in progress that can put any student on the map for national art recognition.

How does this activity connect to curriculum learning goals? This project could be used as a career-development tool for students wanting a career in art, environmental engineering or education. It also increases students' understanding of the class topic of art or environmental issues. This project additionally provides students with direct, hands-on experience with a large community art project in progress. Students will have the opportunity to develop life skills as they organize, paint, craft and educate nursing home seniors, teachers and students on how they can participate in the project.
- Three Wishes Project**- we use essential staff to ask lonely seniors what 3 small items they need to make life more enjoyable and then we simply fulfill those wishes by dropping them at the door of the facility.

How does this activity connect to curriculum learning goals? This project provides students with real time, first-hand experience with the underserved population of nursing home seniors. It gives students the opportunity to expand their social and community networks and develop mentorships with leaders in the community. Students will have the opportunity to plan, problem-solve and execute plans to better meet the unique needs of this population. Students will also gain and develop life skills that employers are looking for as they work within our community to find successful ways to fulfill the seniors' wishes.
- Painted Rock Garden**- we have 1000s of rocks. We have partnered with schools and students to help us paint those rock to create a huge, permanent painted rock garden a select local nursing home facilities. This service project is community-based and serves as a constant visual reminder to the residents inside the homes that our community DOES care and we care for them in a BIG way.

How does this activity connect to curriculum learning goals? This project can be used as a career-development tool for students wanting a career in the arts, education or social work. It also increases students' understanding of the classroom topic of art. This project additionally provides students with direct, hands-on experience with a large community art project in progress. Students will have the opportunity to develop life skills as they organize, paint, craft and educate nursing home seniors, teachers and students about the painted rock project.

What are the organization's procedure and policies to ensure safety of student volunteers?

We have a board-approved policy and procedure manual in place to ensure the safety of youth/students and volunteers.

Our facility is staffed with an adult staff member at all times.

We have continuous 24/hour HD video surveillance of the interior of our community center.

All staff and volunteers have completed additional training in child-safety issues.

We have adequate space, equipment and PPE to meet even the strictest of Covid-19 mandates.

List any special consideration of this organization-

We believe institutionalized seniors are often overlooked, out of sight and unfortunately out of mind. The population we serve is unique and the needs are huge. If you think about the numbers, it is quite astounding that we do not do more as a nation for our most frail seniors. We have 1.2-1.5 million nursing home seniors in the United States. Their unique needs and numbers offer educators and students an open canvas to immerse themselves in a field of human services that is really untapped. Our nonprofit provides the perfect environment to connect the generations and we believe a partnership with Valley Springs School District will provide students with a level of education and enrichment that we can all be proud of.