2014

Building Homes, Building Hope: Learning Leadership Through Service

Melanie Tomlinson

University of Rhode Island, melanie7192@my.uri.edu

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.uri.edu/srhonorsprog

Part of the Leadership Studies Commons

Recommended Citation
http://digitalcommons.uri.edu/srhonorsprog/378

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Honors Program at the University of Rhode Island at DigitalCommons@URI. It has been accepted for inclusion in Senior Honors Projects by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@URI. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@etal.uri.edu.
Building homes, building hope:
Learning leadership through service
Melanie Tomlinson

Leadership skills & abilities
(ranked by individual participants)

Alternative Spring Break
Planning Steps & Outline

First steps:
☐ Connect with potential service sites and establish relationship
☐ Advertise application, review applications, and choose participants from applicant pool

Planning details:
☐ Secure location of stay and showering facilities
☐ Plan pre-trip meetings for participants to turn in paperwork and make trip plans
☐ Determine costs and secure funding
☐ Plan schedule for week of service

During trip:
☐ Shop for food items
☐ Follow schedule of events for week
☐ Begin each morning of service with ice breaker or energizer
☐ End each day of service with reflection on service experience
☐ Keep location of stay and showering facilities clean at all times
☐ Encourage and support all participants, keep a positive attitude at all times
☐ Be available for participants to talk to if needed

Leadership skills & abilities
(ranked by individual participants)

Results
Throughout our week of service during spring break, my co-leader, our 9 participants, and myself assisted two SCHH volunteers to work on the Home for a Hero being built for a disabled veteran. Our group dedicated over 23 hours of building to SCHH, along with several hours to the JohnnyCake Center of Westerly one day as well. Through reflection, I also incorporated information about leadership theories and skills, which helped to encourage the development of leadership skills among participants. Their realization of their abilities and improvement of their skills is reflected in the charts I have included.