



**September 2013
Youth Give Back Through Community Service**

DYS provides youth with opportunities to give back through community service, which gives youth a sense of pride and accomplishment as they provide needed services to various organizations throughout the state. Community service aligns with the restorative justice principle of making a positive contribution to society. It's a chance for youth to become more aware of the consequences of their actions and make restitution to communities. Engaging youth in these meaningful opportunities helps to minimize idle time, alleviating boredom and tension. Activities often help youth learn new technical skills, gain social skills, focus attention, acquire marketable job skills and increase personal growth.

During Fiscal Year (FY) 2013, a total of 9,917 hours of community service were provided by youth in facilities, and 9,621 hours of community service were provided by youth on parole. At minimum wage in Ohio (\$7.85 an hour), community service provided by DYS youth during FY 2013 would equate to \$153,373.

DYS monitors and supports the development of productive partnerships with non-profit organizations, government agencies, schools and charitable groups throughout the state of Ohio. Some of the entities served by youth during the past year include the following:

Ronald McDonald House	Crayons to Computers	Akron Children's Hospital
Stark County Family Court	Hilltop Food Pantry	Life Care Alliance
Shoes and Clothes for Kids	Various gardens	Village of Sugar Grove
Suburban Pavilion Nursing	Various Senior Centers	Various churches
True North Ministries	Punderson State Park	Nelson-Kennedy Ledges State Park
Tinkers Creek State Park	Pickaway Dog Shelter	Alcoholics Anonymous
DYS offices	Vineyard Nursing Home	

Youth are linked to community service based on individual needs and interests. Listed below are some of the projects completed by youth during the past year:

Assembling educational materials	Shoveling snow
Cleaning and maintenance	Creating greeting cards
Folding and sorting clothing	Landscaping and mowing
Performing clerical duties	Serving meals
Event setup	Assisting with fundraisers
Stocking food pantries	Moving agency offices