SERVCO PACIFIC INC.

Hui ʻŌlelo

Talk of the Team

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SERVCO SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

The 2nd Annual Servco School Supply Drive journey started with a list of school supplies, six worthy public elementary schools (Aiea, Hauʻula, Kaʻala, Kahaluʻu, Kalihi-Waena, and Palolo), a flyer and many generous Team Servco members.

On July 1st the collection of school supplies began at all business locations. We were determined to provide 50 backpacks filled with school supplies for students in the 1st grade.

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SERVCO SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE *continued from page 1*

The Journey

The first stop on the journey was accomplished with a crew of 16 who met on Saturday, July 31st, to sort, count, and organize an assembly line for stuffing the backpacks. To our amazement, we completed stuffing all 300 backpacks around noon. Now it was time to present the filled backpacks to the selected elementary schools.

Next stop on the journey…PALOLO ELEMENTARY on Tuesday, August 3rd. We were welcomed by Principal Ruth Silberstein and the 1st grade assembly. Speaking on behalf of Team Servco were **Rick Ching**, **Alan Young**, **Kevin Honda**, and **Bobby Nascimento**. Other Team Servco members present were **Yolanda Auffrey-Ramones**, **Vicky Kennedy**, and **Mimi Fukushima**. Desire DeSilva, Miss Teen Hawaii US 2010, and Kinsey Texeira, Mrs. Hawaii International 2010, added extra glamour to the event. After the speeches, the children received a warm hug along with a backpack. A reporter from the Midweek took pictures and documented this joyful event. The kids were ecstatic and anxious to open their backpacks filled with supplies.

On to KALIHI-WAENA ELEMENTARY on Wednesday, August 4th. Speaking on behalf of Team Servco were **Phyllis Horner**, **Fred Badua**, and **Rae Sakai**. Other Team Servco members present were **Suzanne English** and **Angie Collado**. Desire DeSilva, was on hand as well. Since it was mid morning, several "Brain Gym Exercises" were introduced to help stimulate the children's brain cells. The keiki were very excited to participate in the fun exercises and afterwards they were pumped up and anxious to receive their backpacks.

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The Journey *continued*

We headed out to the country on Friday, August 6th, to KA‘ALA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. We were surprised that Principal Ted Fisher invited the entire school to attend the backpack presentation assembly held in the school’s cafeteria. The children were very excited and lots of cheers and applause filled the room when our Team Servco members **Calvin Asahi** and **Scott Mihara** along with Desire DeSilva and volunteer Frances Ancheta-Sampaga were introduced. Speeches of encouragement to study hard and even a lesson of why it’s important to brush your teeth well, eat a good breakfast, and drink plenty of water was received with ear to ear smiles, laughter and answering “Yes” in agreement. The children were very happy to receive their backpacks. In return, we received bunches of hugs from them.

Our next stop was AIEA ELEMENTARY on Thursday, August 5th. **Glenn Inouye** and **Neal Okahara** said a few words on behalf of Team Servco while **Linda Kondo**, **Shawna Benson** and **Edward Donaher** looked on. Desire DeSilva was present to inspire the students. As the wagon filled with the backpacks came into view, the 1st grade classroom of children were just finishing their class assignment. It was a sight to see such concentration and dedication to complete their work before their visit from Servco employees. The visit received media coverage from KHNL Channel 2 News and Midweek. The event was featured on the 5 o’clock news cast that evening capturing Servco employees’ mission to supply six schools with 50 backpacks filled with school supplies. What an awesome recognition!

Our journey continued at KAHALU‘U ELEMENTARY on Monday, August 9th. On hand to represent Team Servco were **Rod Saunders**, **Maria “Geña” Murillo**, **Neal Okahara** along with Desire DeSilva. Kahalu‘u Elementary 1st grade students presented us with a “Thank You Poster” containing cut outs of Toyota vehicles with actual photos of the Kahalu‘u Elementary first grade students in the vehicles and placed around the poster. If you have a chance to visit our Servco Auto Windward location, don’t forget to check out the “Thank You Poster” from Kahalu‘u Elementary.

The final school of our journey was HAU‘ULA ELEMENTARY on Thursday, August 12th. The students were very well behaved and touched our hearts with lei of aloha. This assembly was one of my favorites because it took place under a huge tree with the Ko‘olau mountains as our background, the cool breeze blowing and the children sitting attentively listening to the encouraging words from our Team Servco members. It reminded me of Papa’s story telling under a coconut tree when I was about five years old. Oh how I miss the old lazy days.

In closing, we want to thank all of our Team Servco members for their generous contribution and continued support. We hope you realize from this article that each of you were an important part of making this project a huge success. Through this effort we have touched 300 children’s lives across the island and did our part to help them prepare for their future.

Submitted by:
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