

USSHS SPECIAL PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

2010 BUILD-A-BIKE



Our 5th Annual Build- A-Bike Event was held on April 17th, 2010 at Hanna Park in Utica, NY. We set out with a goal of giving away 250 rebuilt bicycles which would have been an 11% increase from the previous year where we gave away 225 Bicycles.

The better part of 2 months were spent collecting donated bikes and doing some of the preliminary prep work to get them ready for the day's event. At the end of our collection period we had collected 439 Bicycles which we were able to turn into 359 rebuilt bicycles to be given away to youth in the community! For the first time in the 5 years of running the program, we gave away every single bike on the lot and we did it in just 4 very short hours!

In addition to receiving a new Bike, each youth received a brand new bicycle helmet. Youth also received T-Shirts, book bags and other goodies from one of our key Partners the Oneida Madison County BOCES Tobacco Free Initiative.



This was no small task and it took the support of 75 adult and youth volunteers along with the entire Safe Schools team to pull it off.

URBAN LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

USSHS along with the collaborative efforts of partners such as; The Peacemaker Program, The American Red Cross, Mohawk Valley Council on Alcoholism and Addictions, and Catholic Charities, hosted the Inaugural Class of the Urban Leadership Institute.

The Institute was started with nothing more than the time and collective resources of each partnering agency.

In August of 2010, 25 teens from all across Oneida and Herkimer Counties came together for a week long Leadership Institute designed to provide youth, who may not otherwise have the financial means to access such a program, the chance to work on the development of key Leadership skills such as communication, decision making, team work, and confidence in their own abilities.



(The First Inaugural Graduating Class of ULI)



ULI participants were treated to a variety of activities and experiences such as a trip to Camp Nazereth's Ropes Course where they learned the importance of team work and challenging yourself. Youth had the opportunity to work with The American Red Crosses Disaster Team on an actual disaster drill. Through a series of challenge activities youth learned alternative ways of dealing with conflict. They participated in several workshops designed to teach the importance of communication, decision making, and the



impact of outside influences on how youth today think.



At the conclusion of the Institute, each group performed a skit revolving around the theme of youth violence in the community. In addition, youth enrolled in the program will begin the process of forming a youth coalition for Oneida County.

