

# *Civic Engagement Projects 2013*

All members of the Leadership Program partner with Palm Beach County nonprofit and governmental organizations to complete a civic engagement project. This year's class selected five community partners and spent the past nine months conducting research, developing material and presenting their findings in order to empower these organizations to reach their goals.



Alpert Jewish Family & Children's Service

**Community Partner:**  
**Alpert Jewish Family & Children's Service**

**Class Project:**  
Ambassador Program Manual

**Issue:**  
Alpert Jewish Family and Children's Service has developed a grassroots volunteer program to

support seniors who live independently within private communities. In order for AJFCS to expand the program to new communities, they are in need of a "best practices" written manual that can be easily disseminated and shared with new volunteers.

**Goals:**

Write and produce a written manual which provides volunteers and community leaders with an easy-to-read, step-by-step framework for implementing the Ambassador Program within their own communities.

**How can you help:**

Alpert Jewish Family & Children's Service  
561-684-1991  
[www.jfcsonline.com](http://www.jfcsonline.com)



*Class of 2013*

# *Civic Engagement Projects 2013*

**Community Partner:**  
**Big Dog Ranch Rescue**



**Class Project:**  
Develop and implement a volunteer recruitment and management system

**Issue:**  
Big Dog Ranch Rescue (BDRR) has an abundance of volunteers. Currently these volunteers work closely with the staff, but there is no method in place to assist with the recruitment, training and management of these volunteers.

**Goal:**  
Review the computer program, Volunteer Matters and develop a recommended method of use. Review BDRR's overall organizational structure in an effort to improve communication between BDRR and its volunteers. Review a "Best Practice" plan and make recommendations to BDRR.

**How can you help:**  
Big Dog Ranch Rescue  
561-791-6465 or 561-309-3311  
[www.bdr.org](http://www.bdr.org)



**Community Partner:**  
**Habitat for Humanity of Palm Beach County**

**Class Project:**  
Conduct a feasibility study to determine whether Habitat can build houses in the Glades communities

**Issue:**  
Habitat of PBC, was founded in 1986, and the organization is about to complete construction of its 155th home. The fundraising and construction of homes in the Glades has presented a challenge, and Habitat has asked team members from the Class of 2013 to research its feasibility.

**Project Goals:**  
Develop an understanding of Habitat. Identify and collect demographic data. Research past and current affordable housing projects. Interview staff. Prepare and present final report.

**How you can help:**  
Habitat for Humanity  
(561)253-2080  
[www.habitatpbc.org](http://www.habitatpbc.org)

# *Civic Engagement Projects 2013*



**Community Partner:**  
**Palm Beach County Food Bank**

**Class Project:**  
Canned Food & Fund Drive

**Issue:**

The Palm Beach County Food Bank founded in 2012, rescues, collects and distributes food to more than 100 agencies that take on the daily responsibility of feeding the tens of thousands of hungry children, families and senior citizens. They need county-wide business support in order to meet the ongoing needs.

**Goals:**

Develop an annual, sustainable food drive campaign to help fill the Food Bank shelves, and engage with our respective communities, agencies and business associates to garner support and encourage participation in the 2013 “EveryOne CAN Make a Difference!” Food Drive.

**How you can help:**

Palm Beach County Food Bank  
561-670-2518 x309  
[www.pbcfoodbank.org](http://www.pbcfoodbank.org)

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**Community Partner:**  
**Take Stock in Children, Palm Beach County**

**Class Project:**  
Improve Mentor Recruitment, Mentor Retention & Mentor Recognition

**Issue:**

At the beginning of this project, Take Stock’s mentor match rate was 73% which is below the program standard of 90%. In addition to being behind the standard, the program was recently encouraged to expand and add more students through the award of additional funding from the state.

**Goals:**

To assist the organization to improve mentor recruitment, retention & recognition. The goal of improved processes includes the recruitment of 160 mentors for unmatched students expected to join the program.

**How can you help:**

Take Stock in Children, Palm Beach County  
561.683.1704  
[www.takestockpalmbeach.org](http://www.takestockpalmbeach.org)

