This Month’s Highlights

In 2018-2019 members served more than 1000 youth in 10 counties!

Our members last year earned more than $35,000 in education awards for completing their AmeriCorps Service! This year we have one returning member who is ready to serve again!

Our members completed a staggering 13,000 hours of service last year exclusively serving their communities by participating in out-of-school programming and teaching students important STEM concepts!

What you need:
- 2 liter Plastic bottle
- 1/2 a cup High Concentration hydrogen peroxide (20 volume / 6%)
- 1 package of yeast
- 3 tbs of warm water
- Small cup and tray
- Food coloring
- Dish soap (Toby recommends a clear or white)
- Gloves and safety goggles!

The Goal:
Show how the yeast can use an enzyme called catalase to break down the hydrogen peroxide and produce a geyser! This can show the students a visible chemical reaction based on the ingredients added.

Directions:
Mix together the hydrogen peroxide and 8 drops of food coloring in the 2 liter bottle. Add a scientific “squirt” of dish liquid and swirl to mix. In the small cup combine the warm water and yeast and let that rise for about 30 seconds. Pour the yeast water mixture into the bottle and observe the reaction!

Pro Tips: The highly concentrated hydrogen peroxide, and even the foam can irritate skin a little - so wear your gloves and goggles. Use a tray or large bowl to catch all of the foam for easy cleanup.
9/11 National Day of Service and Remembrance is one of the three national days of service that our 4-H STEM AmeriCorps members participate in each year. This year, members were asked to perform an act of kindness targeting the first responders in their communities from September 7-15.

Karen Lindner, our new member serving in Archuleta County, chose to recognize her local sheriff’s department on September 11th. Her husband works for the sheriff’s department and Karen reached out to the office administrator to find out how she might give thanks and recognize the department. Utilizing ideas from Pinterest and her skills as a crafter, Karen assembled 50 care package gift bags containing Gatorade, snacks, and (the overwhelming hit!) hand sanitizer. The bags also contained an inspiring quote and a “You Got Served” card. She was invited to attend the all department meeting at the Sheriff’s Office on September 11th and was able to speak to the staff about her role in the community this year with AmeriCorps and presenting 4-H STEM programming. She also shared her appreciation for the job that they all do in the community. “I wanted them to know that we see them, care about them, and that they are appreciated” Karen said.

Karen was able to stretch her comfort zone to complete this project including addressing the group of more than 50 people. She had prepared a speech, but ended up just sharing her thoughts with the group. “I felt really good to be able to speak from the heart in front of a group of adults” she said. The project was so successful that Karen plans to complete a similar project to thank the Sheriff’s office team again next year! She also has plans to help with the Sheriff’s holiday community service project in December.

Upcoming events:

Sept 15th: You Got Served Campaign for 9/11 Day of Service and Remembrance concludes
Sept 21: Ag Day with 4-H at CSU!
Oct 1: National Youth Science Day (continues all month)
Oct 2-3: Serve Colorado Member Retreat
Oct 5-6: Orientation for late start Members
Week of Oct 7: Site Visits and Regional meetings begin. Check your Program Year Calendar for your Region’s dates.
Oct 7-13: National 4-H week
Oct 11: Independent Learning Assignment due in OnCorps

Alumni Corner:

Sept 19th 12-2pm: Service Year Alliance Virtual Higher Education Fair. See serviceyear.org/virtual-fairs for more information

Sept 26th 12pm: Career Solutions Group’s Webinar “Clueless About Job Searching?” See careersolutionsgroup.net/events-and-webinars for more information

Nov 14th 12-2pm: Service Year Alliance Virtual Higher Education Fair. See serviceyear.org/virtual-fairs for more information