



STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE PROGRAM PROJECT SUMMARY SHEET

SCHOOL: Shore Regional High School

ACTIVITY: New Jersey Marathon

DATE(S): _____

CATEGORY: E-Community Service

ADVISOR NAME: Alison Cronk

ADVISOR E-MAIL: acronk@shoreregional.org

PROVIDE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THIS PROJECT:

Each year the New Jersey Marathon runs through several of the small towns in our surrounding area. Towns such as Long Branch, Monmouth Beach, and Oceanport are practically put on hold to facilitate the run. An immense amount of people participate, ranging from trained runners competing to groups challenging themselves to something new. Whatever their goal may be, everyone vigorously works to reach the finish line after a long race. As a group representing the local high school, Shore Regional Student Council hosts a stand along one of the streets of the race. At the stand, students distribute refreshments such as water, gatorade, and energy bars to the runners. Additionally, the students cheer on the marathon's participants, encouraging them to do the best they possibly can and to finish the run.

DESCRIBE THE PLANNING & EXECUTION OF THIS PROJECT:

Usually a person helping to organize the race contacts Shore Regional and reaches out to the Student Council. Students work with this person, arranging a location to meet at on the day of the race. At this location, students can pick up their "stand" materials. The materials consist of the tables, cups, water, gatorades, and energy bars. They are given a location of where to set up the table. Shore's table is usually placed somewhere in Oceanport. The students set up the table, arrange the refreshments, and overall prepare for the day ahead. The students then have to be present at the table throughout the entire race. They are expected to provide refreshments and support to everyone who passes. Students are constantly running people water, filling up personal water bottles, and cheering for the participants. After the race, everyone helps to clean up the left over cups and garbage, wash down the table and designated spot, and return the table and everything else to where it was originally given to them.

DESCRIBE THE BENEFIT OF THIS PROJECT BENEFIT TO SCHOOL AND/OR COMMUNITY:

In addition to providing aide and encouragement to the runners competing in the race, it demonstrates how strongly Shore Regional supports the local community. People come to the New Jersey marathon from all over the state. By hosting a table filled with spirited, helpful students, Shore is showing people everywhere just what kinds of kids are going to high school there. It really provides the Jersey Shore with a positive image.

EVALUATE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THIS PROJECT, REFLECTING ON ANY POSSIBLE CHANGES YOU MIGHT CONSIDER:

Last year the marathon took place on one of the hottest days of the year. The runners were more dehydrated than usual and the heat made everyone's job just that much more difficult. Despite this setback, an immense amount of students still showed up to the event and the extra help was much needed. All of the participants were so thankful that we came out to help and support them. We received many comments about how without the help provided by the volunteers of the race, many people would not have achieved their goal. Student Council's role was very greatly appreciated.