



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT *of* STATE

DIVISION *of*  
**LIBRARY** and  
**INFORMATION SERVICES**





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# Teen Summer of Service

S.O.S.

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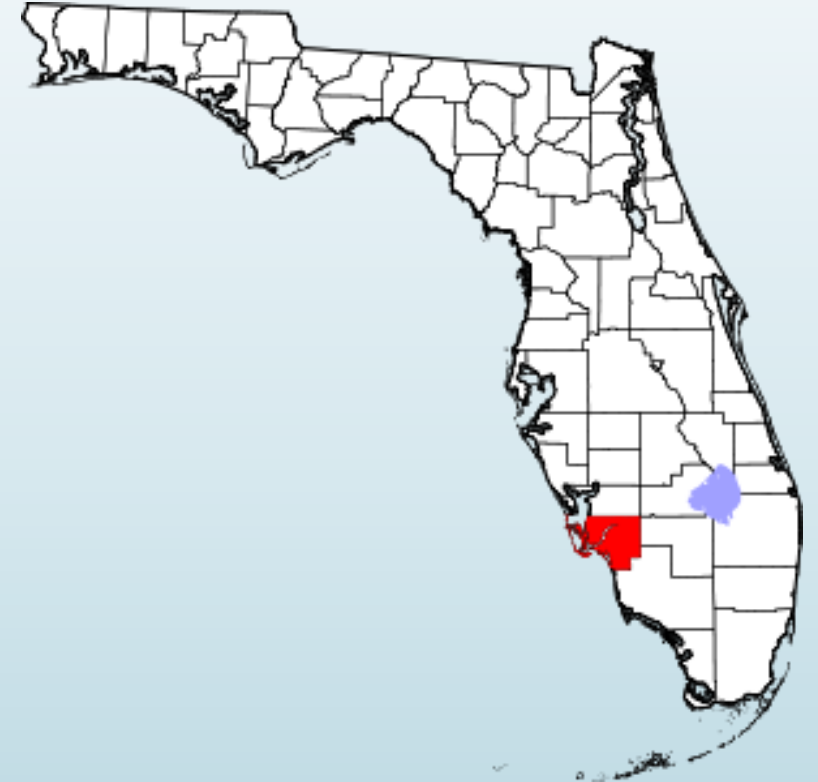
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# Lee County Library System

- 13 branches (six regional, two mid-size, five small branches)
- Online library 24/7
- Mobile and outreach services
- Talking Books Library
- Books-By-Mail Service
- Telephone Reference
- Free programs, events, Wi-Fi
- Staff – 230-ish



# Teen Summer of Service (S.O.S)

- Service learning program for teens, ages 12-18.
- Weekly workshops:
  - Featured topic.
  - Guest speakers/agencies presentations and Q&A.
  - Breakout group discussion and reporting.
- Weekly projects to complete at home.
- Flexible option for completing service hour requirements.
- Introduction to civic engagement, leadership and service.



# Supplies and Equipment

- Supplies for project kits:
  - Colored pencils, glue stick, pen, sharpener.
  - 9-x12 sealable bags.
  - Tote to contain the bag.
  - Specific supplies for projects. (Example: Tennis balls for dog toy.)
- Virtual platform to host meetings (Go To Meeting, Zoom).
- Good headphones/microphone.
- Google account (optional).

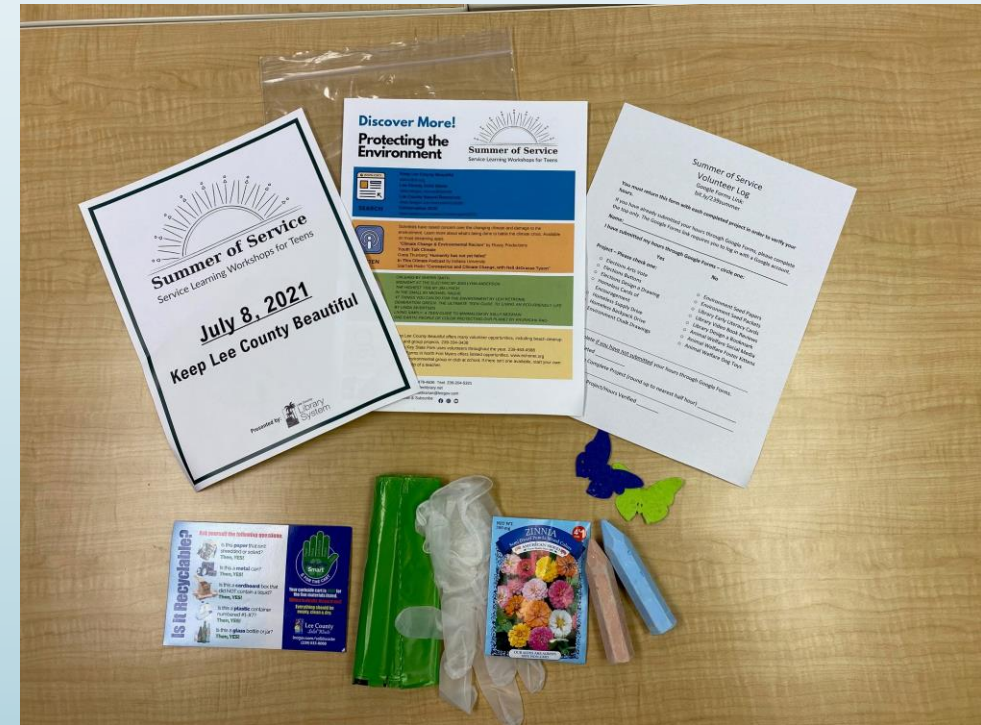


# Supply Kits for Service Projects

## Complete Kit



## Weekly Kit





# Planning & Implementation Process

## **Six months out:**

- Identify dates, invite guest speakers, develop topics and projects, develop clear guidelines and expectations for teens and speakers.
- Recruit staff helpers – at least one to help monitor chat.

## **Four months out:**

- Market program to teens and begin registration.
- Create Resource Sheets with project instructions.

# Planning & Implementation Process

## **Two months out:**

- Purchase supplies and assemble kits.

## **One month before program:**

- Send kits and roster to branches for pick-up.
- Create spreadsheet for attendance and projects.

# S.O.S. Flyer

- Schools.
- Library Branches.
- PeachJar.
- Community Partners.
- Social Media.



**EARN SERVICE HOURS**

**Summer of Service**  
Service Learning Workshops for Teens

Earn volunteer service hours this summer from the comfort of your home!

This six-week virtual program features weekly guest speakers, service projects and group activities.

Space is limited, register now!

 **More details available**  
[www.leelibrary.net/sos](http://www.leelibrary.net/sos)

 Lee County  
**Library System**

Call: 239-479-4636 • Text: 239-204-5321  
Chat: [www.leelibrary.net](http://www.leelibrary.net)  
Email: [askalibrarian@leegov.com](mailto:askalibrarian@leegov.com)  
Follow & Subscribe:   



The school is neither endorsing nor sponsoring this event, product or service, nor endorsing the views of the sponsoring organization.

# Planning & Implementation Process

## **While In-Session:**

- Send follow-up **after each program.**
- Send reminders for volunteer paperwork.
- Answer questions about program and projects.
- Prepare end of program survey.



# Planning & Implementation Process

## End of program

- Collect, sort and verify projects, tally hours and send verification letters to students.



# Expected Outcomes

- Teens will learn about community issues and local agencies that help find solutions.
- Teens can earn a minimum of 25 Service Hours by attending all six workshops and completing at least one program a week.



# Actual Outcomes

- 100 Teens were registered for the program.
  - 25 summer camp.
  - 11 ghosted.
  - 64 fully attended.
- Teens earned 1578 hours (avg of 16.5 hours per teen).
  - Range 1- 79 hours.
- Survey (34 responses)
  - 100% would recommend this program to a friend.
  - 100% learned something new about an organization or service that is offered in the community.



# Unexpected Outcomes

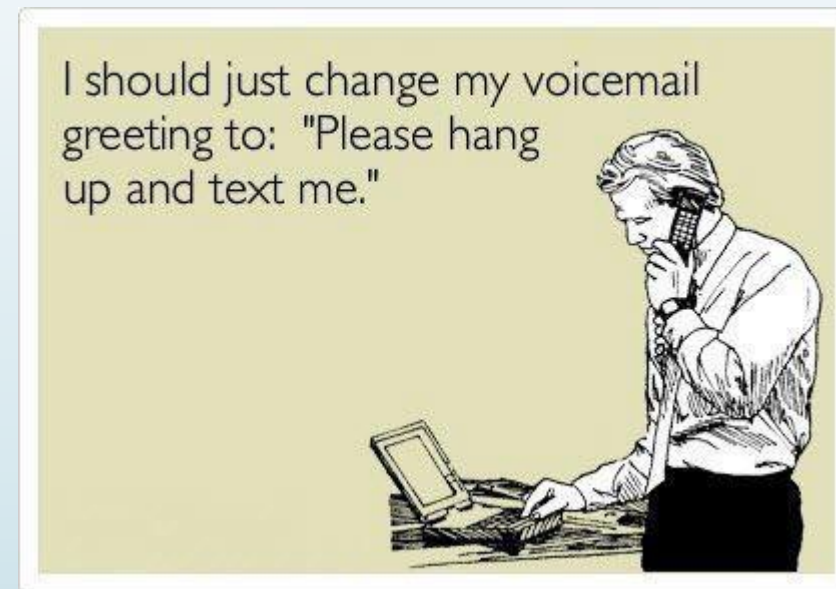
- One teen earned an internship with guest author, Greg Forbes Siegman.
- The participants created a Discord group chat to share info, keep in touch and talk outside the program.
- So.Much.Gratitude. – Parents and teens thanked me throughout the summer for offering this program.
- Teens have asked if this program will be offered again.





# Challenges

- Technology
  - County offered limited options
  - Teens unfamiliar with Go To Platform
    - Mobile vs. Desktop
- Communication
  - Text vs. email vs. (gasp!) phone call
  - Bulk communication



# Challenges

- Transportation to pick up kits and drop off projects.
- Shortened summer, Covid, collecting projects, working with teen camps.
- Collecting Projects – delays, extensions.
- Working With Teen Camps.
- Unexpected delays with courier.
- Underestimated time needed to verify projects/hours.



# Teens at Work

**DO YOU LOVE PETS?**

Want more information?

You should Foster. Lee County Domestic  
Attention: Foster  
5600 Barr  
Fort Myers,  
Foster Coordinator  
239-533  
Email: fostering

It's an Important way  
too reduce euthanasia  
of adoptable pets

**Love your furbaby?**  
Foster-to-Adopt Program

This program allows adopters that  
may not be sure what dog will fit



**YOU WANT A CHANCE TO BE HEARD DON'T YOU?**

Get pre-registered to vote!



# Recommendations

- Is this something your community would benefit from?
- Do you have the technology and staff to offer this program or something similar?
- What is your budget?



# Recommendations

- Work within your organization to find potential partners.
- Speak with the school guidance department.
- Advertise to parents.
- Listen to your teens.



# Moving Forward

- Program will be offered as a hybrid next summer throughout the system – virtual and in-person options.
- Guest speaker at start of program.
- Introduction workshop will kick-off event.



# Moving Forward

- New presenters will be rotated into the program.
- Develop a better process to work with summer camps.
- Reimagine the volunteer logging sheet for efficiency.



# Additional Resources

- Landing Page: [leelibrary.net/sos](http://leelibrary.net/sos)
- Google Forms Volunteer Log Sheet: [bit.ly/239summer](https://bit.ly/239summer)
- Google Forms Survey Template: [forms.gle/mGt3hbKV7P1UC1ba8](https://forms.gle/mGt3hbKV7P1UC1ba8)
- PSA for schools: [youtube.com/watch?v=vll\\_MHfOD1k](https://youtube.com/watch?v=vll_MHfOD1k)







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Ron DeSantis, Governor  
Laurel M. Lee, Secretary of State  
Florida Department of State  
Division of Library and Information Services

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