

Service for Peace Volunteers "Sweat for Shade" for Students at King/Chavez Middle School in Barrio Logan

Over 30 volunteers pitched in to build a sunshade and paint benches for students at the King/Chavez Charter Middle School in Barrio Logan, in the "Sweat for Shade" service project organized by the San Diego chapter of Service for Peace on Saturday, October 21, 2006.

The volunteers represented a wide cross-section of people from around San Diego County, including Service for Peace volunteers, members of the Association of Chicana Activists (ACHA) at San Diego State University, other SDSU students, members of the La Mesa Sunrise Rotary Club, and students and staff of King Chavez Charter Middle School.



"I thought it was so great how these many people that didn't even know us came and helped my school become better," wrote one King/Chavez student about the project. "It was fun and I felt great helping out. This event helped me want to do even more."

Located in Barrio Logan, near the foot of the Coronado bridge, King/Chavez Middle School is a charter school within the San Diego Unified School district. Using classrooms located on grounds leased from a local church, it has achieved test results that place it in the highest possible category when compared to other schools with similar demographics.

Volunteers met at the grounds of the school to build a place for students to sit out of the sun while eating their lunches. They also painted existing benches and other structures on the campus. Volunteers will meet again November 11th to put a roof on the sunshade and continue painting at the school.

The hours of hard work were followed by a delicious lunch prepared by Hiromi Thurston, a Service for Peace volunteer. Bob Millar, a professional painter, volunteered his time supervising the painting project, while Rotarian Lew Anderson and San Diego Family Church Pastor Walter Frank led the team that built the sunshade.



Service for Peace is an organization dedicated to organizing service projects that do real good in the community, while teaching leadership and a spirit of public service to the participants, many of whom are youth or young adults.

"Service for Peace is working to raise up a new generation of American leaders," said David Roberts, director of the San Diego Chapter. "Service is a fantastic way to learn what people really need in our society these days. It develops a hunger for helping that cuts right through the barriers that divide people in our communities."

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