



Community Service Across the Garden State

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New Jersey HOSA Chapters are filled with very active and community-minded members. They have done many types of service projects within their community which has not only affected other peoples, but the members themselves. Members help with various organizations as part of their own organization.

The Salem County Vo-tech Chapter has done many projects that have benefited their community. They started out by collecting donations for Autism Speaks at the county fair. Also, the chapter has volunteered at Angel Food Ministries, a food distribution service, where they unload, pack and bring people food. Other activities include a non-perishable food drive for local food pantries, a coat drive for needy families, and caroling at the county nursing home. All these actions have inspired members to pursue community service projects on their own.

The Middlesex-Woodbridge chapter has done many projects in their local healthcare community. This includes a blood drive, a walk for breast cancer research, and performing clinical activities at Raritan Bay Medical Center. They also visit with people at nursing homes and day-care centers. They have done food drives for local churches and clothing drives for the Lupus Foundation. The members have been affected positively and have become more involved in HOSA.

Other chapters have been quite involved in their communities and have shown what HOSA is all about, specifically projects involving children. Bridgeton High School's Chapter participated at the Cohansey Zoo's "Boo at the Zoo". Sixty members cleaned and carved close to seven hundred pumpkins for children. HOSA has also impacted this chapter by encouraging members to become healthcare professionals. The Bergen County Vo-tech Chapter goes to a local day-care center biweekly. There they read to the children and teach them basic hygiene habits such as washing their hands and brushing their teeth. HOSA realizes it is important to help the youth, as they are a part of our future.

All over the nation projects like these are being done to benefit the entire country. These are examples of what your HOSA chapter can do. A major part of HOSA is community service, and it is up to our members to carry this tradition on into the future, one community at a time.