



Putting the Puzzle Together

By Meghan Homa

There are many ways to get involved in your community from helping youth and peers, the elderly, and even animals. One way of volunteering time to help your community is raising money for HOSA's National Service Project, the Alzheimer's Association.

Puzzle pins, a fashionable and creative fundraising project, are simple to make and can be worn on clothing, pinned to backpacks and key chains or anywhere you decide to put them.

Here are the steps you need to take to make the puzzle pins. At your next HOSA meeting, determine what materials you will use. The materials you must have are puzzle pieces, tacky glue or the glue of your choice, and closing pins to glue on the back of your puzzle creation. Other materials may include paints, gems, glitters, and stickers for a personal touch. Be creative! Once you have completed your puzzle pin creations, decide the cost. One dollar is generally a reasonable amount. You will also need to determine how and where you will sell the pins – school and nursing homes are always a good choice. Nursing homes will usually let your HOSA chapter become involved in helping and learning about your elderly community members. When you have sold all your puzzle pins, have a group of HOSA members present the money to your local Alzheimer's Association as part of HOSA's National Service Project.

This is a great way for HOSA member to learn about Alzheimer's as well as have fun while giving to the community.





Just A Little Bit of Faith

By Michelle McCray, South Carolina HOSA State Reporter

For me, becoming a HOSA state officer has been one of those life-changing experiences that helped build faith in myself. When I joined HOSA in 2004, I never imagined that I would one day become a state officer. Now, here I am a year later and loving every moment as South Carolina's State Reporter!

Being a good leader requires diligence and patience. I was not sure I had what it took to meet those requirements. Balancing schoolwork, continuing local chapter commitments, and serving as a state officer takes a lot of work and acceptance of responsibility. But in the end, it is worth all of the time and effort that you put into the position and your responsibilities.

Three weeks before South Carolina state officer applications were due, my friend Javona Hickman, South Carolina State Secretary, and I both decided to back out of the selection process. We were unsure if we had what it took to be dedicated and successful state officers. However, after thinking more about the challenge, we both decided we could accomplish anything as long as we did our best and worked hard.

Now, I can honestly say that being an officer is definitely worth the dedication and efforts required of the position. From my experience, I have learned that your greatest enemy can be yourself. You will never succeed if you don't believe you can. South Carolina's state officer team works hard, and it shows in everything we do. It is amazing what you can accomplish by having a little faith in yourself. Try it – you will see a difference in your life and in the lives of the HOSA members you touch!



SC State Officer Team
(l to r)
Connie Taylor,
Historian; Javona
Hickman, Secretary;
Stephen Harden,
President, Brittney
Earle, National
HOSA Region III Vice
President;
Heather Coggins, Vice
President; and Michelle
McCray, Reporter.