Beautiful People : Kelly Gordon-Minott of the Carver Center

Friday, May 15, 2015

Known affectionately by her 200 kids as Miss Kelly, Kelly Gordon-Minott is singlehandedly changing the lives of Port Chester teens. Kelly goes above and beyond her position as Carver Center Teen Center manager, and her generosity of spirit is an inspiration to us all. Here are just a few of the community service programs she runs:

* Midnight Run (preparing/delivering care packages of toiletries and bag lunches for the homeless). This is the most popular volunteer event. Teens ask: "When is the next Midnight Run?" as soon as they pull into Carver after returning from New York City.

* Relay for Life (2014 & 2015)

* Rafael Palomino Dinner Party, when teens help the chef prepare/serve at a dinner party

* Salvation Army - organizing donations

* FSW Sharing Shelf (the teens have volunteered at the warehouse and two FSW Girtopia Shopping Day events, shelving and organizing clothing donations and hosting the Spring Girtopia Shopping Day event)

The teens also volunteer their time at the food pantry at Carver, and events such as the annual Carver Center Benefit and the Apawamis 7th and 8th grade dances, which are annual fundraisers.

The teens are scheduled to volunteer at POTS in the Bronx and during the summer they will have the opportunity to participate in one volunteer event each week. In addition, the Teen Center is developing a community service/volunteer initiative for fall 2015. Their goal is to have all Teen Center members participate in at least two community service/volunteer projects during the school year.

If you didn't know about Miss Kelly, hopefully you now have a good idea of the great work she does and how much she truly gives of herself to the youth of our wonderful village.

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This column was created by the Port Chester Beautification Commission.

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