Servant Leadership Culture

Mentors can be powerful. My mentor was Chief Justice Ronald Moon, who taught me by example about true servant leadership. In the 18 years I worked for him, I saw him give his heart and soul to the people of Hawaii.

For CJ, it was never about him. Rather, it was always for the public good. And so when I left the Bench seven years ago to join the Y, I was determined to help develop a culture of servant leadership at the Y.

Well guess what? To my surprise and delight, I found the servant leadership culture was already here.

Each day, I am struck at how selfless our staff are, how humble and how focused they are on improving the lives of others. The Y’s continued quest for servant leadership development expands beyond ourselves and into the programs we offer to help those at our Y and in our community. A major focus of our Y is emphasizing servant leadership with our youth, with a focus on character development.

Every day in Family Court, I saw youth who were disengaged from school, from their community and from their families. The Y takes these youth and literally transforms them into servant leaders – giving them purpose and confidence to then lead with humility, compassion, and dedication to others.

In the process, they become their best selves. And we become a better community.

Please take a few minutes to read about and watch in action a few of the many ways, with your generous support, we are developing servant leaders in our youth and for our future!

I hope that you will join me in making a donation in support of our Y’s Teen Fund.

Mahalo!

Mike Broderick
President & CEO
YMCA of Honolulu
Our Servant Leaders in Action!

Watch our video http://www.ymcahonolulu.org/support/teen-development

“IT was amazing... by the end of our sessions they were drawing doctors, police officers, astronauts and teachers when we asked them to draw what they’d like to be when they grow up.” Mark, Y College Student – IHS Children’s Program

Youth & Government

Middle and high school students learn how our democratic system works as they draft, debate and vote on their own bills and resolutions in a mock 3-day legislative session. Through the process, students learn how to act civilly while advocating for causes they care about.

Y College Camp

Title I students are supported and motivated to graduate from high school and strive for college. Over the past five years, 289 high school students have been positively impacted with 80% of them now pursuing a higher education – AND 47 (and counting!) college students have served as mentors for the program. Many of our mentors were College Camp students themselves who are now thriving in college and have chosen to come back to serve.

Keiki Outreach Program

Y college students visit with children living at IHS on Saturdays – teaching them through enrichment programs, serving as mentors and helping them see brighter futures.

Power Scholars

Financially and academically-challenged sixth graders receive summer lessons in reading and math paired with service activities that include helping at an organic farm, working in lo‘i and cleaning debris from trails and beaches. As they nurture the ʻāina, they also nurture themselves.

Alternative Seasonal Break

Y college students spend their school breaks working in diverse communities tackling an array of important social issues through community service and learning projects. Students have traveled to Molokai, the Island of Hawaii and even the Philippines working on environmental and building restoration projects and with youth centers.

Girl Power

Y college students mentor intermediate school girls in an eight-week program focusing on developing positive self-image, awareness of social media, and social pressures and its effects on health.

Y–PAR (Youth–Led Participatory Action Research Program)

Y teens address health and nutrition issues facing their communities by developing and implementing programs. Y teens have restored the community gardens at Waimanalo Elementary and Intermediate School, and are now part of a multi-year project to restore the lo‘i fields and grounds near Kawainui Fishpond and Ulupo Heiau, behind the Windward Y.

Y Tutors

Y college students work with economically and academically challenged elementary school students in the YMCA A+ afterschool programs to improve literacy and to provide homework help.