



Charles Lafitte Foundation Announces Champions of Change Program

The New Jersey-based Charles Lafitte Foundation's (CLF) Kid's Corner has launched the Champions of Change program, designed to help kids develop the power to change the world through community service, volunteerism and philanthropy.

The Champions of Change program's first initiative helps empower kids to run their own book drive, providing a step-by-step instructional toolkit to youth across the country for running a successful book drive to benefit a non-profit organization of their choice.

The Champions of Change toolkit walks youth through the process of planning and executing a successful book drive, from choosing a non-profit beneficiary, finding a location, and collecting and distributing books to the selected organization. The toolkit includes a sample letter to the non-profit beneficiary, permission letter and thank you note for the book drop location and social media graphics to help spread the word.

"I have seen the efforts of running a successful book drive firsthand, and I am extremely excited to share this program with kids across the country," said Kyra Citron, director of the Charles Lafitte Foundation's Kid's Corner.

Citron has run three book drives and collected a total of 10,000 books that were donated to the Bridge of Books Foundation, which subsequently honored her as an outstanding supporter at its annual fundraising event. Now, Citron looks forward to sharing her knowledge and experience with other kids.

"Kid's Corner is all about empowering kids to make a difference in their community and Champions of Change is a perfect example of our mission in action," Citron said.

"Planning and implementing a book drive is perfect for kids," said Jennifer Vertetis, president, Charles Lafitte Foundation. "Collecting and donating books as a service to the community helps to reinforce the importance of reading and volunteerism. It's also a great way to fulfill community service projects for a Bar/Bat Mitzvah, Confirmation, or youth clubs like the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts."

More information is available at www.charleslafitte.org/kids-corner.