



## **SEMINAR PROGRAM**

### **“Empower Your Teens to Change the World”**

#### **Overview of SPARK THE WAVE**

*SPARK THE WAVE* empowers youth through educational programs to be great volunteers and community leaders.

*SPARK THE WAVE* is a 501(c)(3) organization incorporated in Pennsylvania that serves the Philadelphia and Washington, DC communities. *SPARK THE WAVE* operates after-school and weekend seminars, providing an opportunity for middle and high school students to develop their skills in effective communication, leadership development, service learning, project planning and the awareness of diversity issues.

For students who wish to pursue advanced training, *SPARK THE WAVE* offers a 6-day residential program for a nominal fee, which covers room, board and educational materials. In keeping with our mission of encouraging service, most of our staff are volunteers. The summer camp, called *Wave Week*, is for students in grades 7-11 and is held on a college campus near Philadelphia.

To maintain the momentum generated at *WAVE WEEK* and our seminars, students completing our trainings are offered access to a long-term mentoring program. Each student has access to adults with expertise in areas such as non-profit management, fundraising and volunteer programming. Through this mentoring, we help increase each student’s likelihood for success in the world of service.

*SPARK THE WAVE*’S educational programs were formed and tested over more than three decades as a youth initiative formerly known as the Leadership Development Center (LDC) of the American Red Cross of Southeastern Pennsylvania. To expand training opportunities to more students, community leaders and former LDC staff created *SPARK THE WAVE* as a distinct organization in January 2004.

Every year thousands of teens perform millions of hours of service. The fact is that few of these youth receive any specialized training that could improve their ability to make a greater impact in the community. It is our belief that the young adults who complete our programs will return to their service groups (school, religious and/or community-based) better prepared to make a greater impact in their community. This impact eventually will reach far beyond the youth participants of the program. As young leaders with the commitment and skills to turn caring into action, these teens will certainly make positive contributions to their communities for many years to come.

**Go to [www.sparkthewave.org](http://www.sparkthewave.org) to learn more!**

## **Seminar Program Overview**

SPARK THE WAVE will deliver its services to any school, service organization, or house of worship that believes in teen volunteers and service. We will provide middle and high school students with a seminar aimed at developing their skills and harnessing the power they have inside to make a difference. Our hands-on, fun lessons & activities increase teens' ability to be better volunteer members and leaders that make a greater impact through their service. The STW staff will provide that training and then follow up with long-term mentoring for the students.

William Gallagher 1/10/06 2:31 PM

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## **How Are We Going To Accomplish That?**

STW will work closely with you to construct a curriculum that best meets the needs of your group. Whether you want a 15-minute "short" or full-blown weekend training, we will incorporate the skills you and your group wish to improve upon.

## **The Skills Your Teens Can Learn**

- Communicating more effectively
- Diversity awareness
- Taking the lead in a group
- Speaking to get people to listen
- Getting a group to work more efficiently
- How to increase the impact that you, and your group, can make in the community
- Motivating team members
- How to plan a great volunteer event
- Personality strengths and weaknesses and how to improve on both
- The confidence to know that teens CAN and DO make a difference

## **What SPARK THE WAVE Will Provide For The Training**

- Curriculum development, production and distribution.
- Development of participant packet.
- Trained STW staff to facilitate the program
- Production and distribution of the participant packet
- Program supplies

## **What We Request From You**

- Communication and advertising within the community.
- Recruitment of the participants.
- Attendance on-site by a representative from your organization during the training to deal with logistical issues that may arise.
- Use of your facilities and payment of all expenses associated with the facilities
- Meals and snacks at the training (if appropriate).

## **Staff**

We have dozens of staff members (both teens and adults) that live in the area and have years of experience running trainings for teens.

## **STW's Impact On Teens**

Sixty percent of teens in America report participating in volunteer activities. Not only does society benefit from their service, but also those involved in community service report higher levels of personal confidence and satisfaction from the experience. Keeping teens involved in meaningful activities also reduces the likelihood of risky behaviors and 2/3 of today's adult volunteers began volunteering when they were youth.

Unfortunately, few youth receive any specialized training that could improve their ability to make a greater impact in the community. While many non-profits and charities welcome free help, they are in particular need of skilled volunteer support. That is the gap our program will fill.

### **Alumni of SPARK THE WAVE programs say it best:**

➤ "I learned so much that will help me become a better person for myself, others and my community." Paul, 16.

➤ "It has given me the skills to be a better leader, student, friend and person." Kiana, 14.

Strong words! In fact, **75% of the past students trained by our staff got MORE involved** in their service groups when they went home and over 90% recommended us to a friend.

## **The Program's Impact On Your Group**

We know you want to do more with the teens you have volunteering for your group. You just don't have the time, training or resources to make it happen. With our help your teens will be better prepared to take on the tasks that you ask them to perform. This will ultimately allow your group to reach more individuals through your service in a more efficient manner.

## **Contact**

If you are interested in learning more or wish to schedule a seminar, please contact our representative in your area.

### **In the Philadelphia area**

Contact Richard Fernandes  
267.784.4235  
Richard@sparkthewave.org

### **In the Washington, DC area**

Contact Bill Gallagher  
202.294.6366  
bill@sparkthewave.org

**We look forward to meeting your service leadership needs!**



## **Training Possibilities**

We at *SPARK THE WAVE* are excited about the prospect of running a seminar for your group. STW strongly believes in the mission of our fellow non-profits (organizations, schools, and houses of worship). We have reduced pricing for these groups in an effort to help them prepare more teens for the important work that they perform. We are willing to be flexible with you if our pricing would pose an undue challenge for your group.

### **1/2 Day Training**

Have a few hours or just a couple specific topics that you would like to cover with your group? Choose from our seminar menu to design the short program that is just right for you. Then, our trainers will come to your site for up to 4 hours of lighthearted learning.

### **Full Day Training**

Could your group really use a few more pointers? Then perhaps a full day is right for you. We will design a day full of fun educational activities to inspire your teens to reach their full potential with your group.

### **Multiple Seminars Spread Over the Course of a Year**

(Ex. The 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of every month)

Want to bring more concepts to your youth, but don't have the time in the schedule to do it all once? Then this may be the best option for you. Our trainers will work with you to design a program that meets all of the service leadership needs of your group. Then, we will spread those lessons out over the course of a week, month or a year. You choose.

### **Multi-Day Leadership Institute**

Perhaps you have a large block of time in your schedule to put on a program that would best meet your needs. You dream it up and we will help you build it. Our trainers will design a custom program that meets all of your needs. If you choose this option we could work with you to include a service project, focused speakers, and/or social activities.