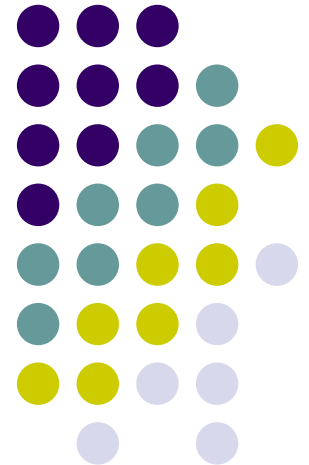


# Leveraging Volunteers and Creating a Culture of Appreciation

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# Overview of Project Transformation



- Summer reading & after-school programs, serving 900 children and youth
- Faith-based org with partnerships with 80+ churches and organizations
- Volunteers serve in three primary ways:
  - Reading one-on-one with children in summer
  - Providing meals to AmeriCorps members
  - Tutoring children in after-school program



# Leveraging Volunteers

- Focused on bringing groups of volunteers from churches
- Train and equip church/org contacts to serve as “volunteer coordinators” for us
- These volunteers then recruit groups from within their churches/organizations for short-term volunteer activities

# Leveraging Volunteers, cont.



- School groups
- Eagle Scouts / Girl Scout Gold Awards
- Volunteer Center of North Texas
  - Disney Program
- Sororities/Fraternities

# AmeriCorps Member Involvement



- AC Members are the face of the organization
- Build strong connection between members and churches/orgs
- Boomers really connect with young adult members as many have kids in college
- Volunteers don't just serve children in the program, but serve/support AC members

# Culture of Appreciation



- Volunteer Celebration Banquet
  - Free thank-you event for all volunteers
  - A volunteer usually selected to speak as part of program
  - Children's art projects used as table centerpieces & take-aways from the event
- Thank-you postcards/invitation to banquet written by AC members
- Focus group lunches following volunteering

# Evaluating the Volunteer Experience



- 99% of our 1,500 volunteers had a positive experience and would like to volunteer again
- Survey given for every volunteer, capturing:
  - Age range, how they heard about PT, why they chose to serve, whether they understood our mission, etc.