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THE LEADERSHIP ACTION GROUP
SERVICE FORUM

MARCH 27, 1993

JEFFREY ALAN BARRACK - LEADERSHIP ACTION GROUP:

I am really excited to see this turnout for the public forum that we've presented as the Leadership Action Group for the Lower Merion School District Township and the Greater Philadelphia Area. As you can look around and see, there are various representatives of the Philadelphia service community here and I am expecting more to show up as the afternoon rolls on. We have a number of fine presentations scheduled here for you. To my left and your right we have a panel of volunteer resource professionals and communications professionals, who work very hard to place volunteers in service projects and opportunities where they are needed. To my right we have two of our speakers, Frank Wilson and Harry Silcox. Trevor Ferrell, to our dismay, has fallen ill today. We are privileged that his father has come to tell Trevor's story for us. So we are anticipating a good adventure.

Please feel free between talks, or at your leisure, to browse the wealth of materials and information that are presented here.

The Leadership Action Group, for your information, is an organization that has been established within this past school year to breed and encourage open communication along the lines of National Community Service here in Philadelphia, to allow individuals and organizations to come into a

public--space such as this--to recognize one another and to recognize that there are other people working hard to encourage service, actively pursue service, and who are actually helping many people who need help in social and in organizational settings.

This forum has been designed to encourage an active and participatory communication amongst the community. As you look around here there are a number of community representatives that we recognize and a number who are strange and unfamiliar. I encourage you to say hello, to introduce yourself and exchange cards or information so that we can have a sense that this community is working together into the future along a national service program and agenda. The Leadership Action Group will function now and in the future as a mediator amongst your organizations through a communicative device that we are going to call a newsletter for right now. We are also going to mediate between the local organizations, such as yourselves, individuals, coalition which are being encouraged by the Presidential cabinet and staff. Community service has taken on national proportions and what we would like to do here is to recognize the local initiative and get that local initiative represented on the national front, because the whole heart of a participatory democracy is that individual voices are heard in people and individuals know that they can speak out and be heard.

So with that said I'd like to invite Mr. Frank Wilson who is the representative from the Lower Merion School District. Frank Wilson and I have been working together this year implementing a Service Learning curriculum at the Lower Merion School District. The curriculum is designed to range from kindergarten through graduation. Frank, himself, has been working a number of years in the school on community service. He has spearheaded a community service project for the school district, and, if, I may Mr. Frank Wilson.

MR. FRANK WILSON - LOWER MERION SCHOOL DISTRICT:

I want to take this time to welcome everyone to Lower Merion High School. To have come out on a Saturday afternoon to giving your time and commitment, it is heart warming to see so many people there. We hope we have some more coming in later.

I would just like to talk a little bit, and start out by addressing what the school district is doing in terms of educating the younger children coming up in our district. As Jeff alluded to, about two years ago I was given the charge to start and plant a program here in Lower Merion School District for Service Learning.

We are trying to de-emphasize "community service" as such and put more emphases on "Service Learning," because of the work community service, to some people in the public's eye, they look at that as a negative connotation, in that the criminal justice system is involved here and that there's going to be a penalty to do, and so forth and so on. You and I know that community service has a much broader base than that, but when you talk to some folks, that is what they view community service as: a penalty, or some type of penance that they would be happy to do.

Here at the school district we are emphasizing the learning aspect of it and we are trying to put it into a formal program. By that I mean it's not merely making cookies and collecting food and delivering it to a shelter-which of course has a very important aspect to it-but it is to get the students involved actually in learning what they are doing and reflecting on this and coming back to the classroom and linking the school with the community. This is a strategy that we hope to develop in the future.

We are, as Jeff alluded to, looking at the five year plan, and in our curriculum we would like to see Service Learning as a strategy, to be incorporated throughout the curriculum from kindergarten on through to the 12th grade. We do not have many models to look at in this particular area because not many districts in and around the area in which we

live are doing this. This is a relatively new idea. Some districts in Minnesota are doing it, Florida and places like that, but in the Pennsylvania area it was very hard. We researched and canvassed many school districts. It is hard to find a program that was integrated from K through 12th. So our committee basically started from scratch.

We did alot of research, did alot of readings, called experts in to speak and we looked at the issue of mandatory vs. optional Service Learning. What should we do? Should we make an elective or should we say the students must do this type of learning? From all the research that we gathered we came to the conclusion that we would like to use the word "require". That would require students to get involve through the classroom activities. Stay away from the word "mandatory" but let's somehow, instill it into the curriculum through the subject matter. Especially at the high school level where subjects are so isolated, rooms are isolated, teachers are isolated and students are isolated. We want to try to have an interdisciplinary, integrated curriculum. This of course would be the ideal.

We looked at the elementary school. In our elementary schools, presently, there are alot of things being done at Cynwyd, at Gladwyne, at Penn Wynn, Penn Valley, Merion. Many of the classroom teachers are doing things with organizations and institutions like Critical Friends, Bala Nursing Homes, Jefferson Park Hospital, The Lower Merion Watershed; we have

these things in and around our community. We are hooking up and linking with them. Anita Miller who is here today, she has many resources and many recommendations. She can put teachers in contact with some of these folks to do a type of activity that would require the students to become more active, not so passive. That's a key element that we want to stress. The teacher in this becomes more of a facilitator or a coach. They are not standing before a group of students who are passively sitting down in front of a teacher. "The kids would be more involved and active, not only in the classroom, but out in the community, and relate that back to the classroom. So, with our elementary schools, we are looking at a vision of a school-wide project." A school would possibly hook up with a Critical Friend in the community for, maybe, a year and then those activities would filter back and forth from school to the Critical Friend as the year goes by.

In the middle school we are looking at the team concept, where we have three or four teachers in a team, maybe 75 to 80 students, and the team, would come up with a theme for Service Learning. From that theme they would develop social skills, academic skills, and Service Learning skills in that area, and the team would decide, students and teachers would decide, what project they want to be involved with.

They then move on to the high school. We vision the high school as more of an independent, free thinking type of situation, where the student could plan their own project. The

teacher will not be telling the students what to do or agree with what the student wants to do, but the student must initiate the project. There would be small groups maybe two, three, four students, or possibly a single person, initiating a project that might fulfill a need in the community.

I've been working for two years with this and some of the projects that my students have been doing, I feel, has helped the community. I think of one as a very simple project, where there was a young man at Harriton High School and he was a volunteer fireman, at the Gladwyne Fire Company and he went on a fire with the truck to put out a classmates' house that was on fire and they ran about 300 feet of hose into this house. It took about 15 minutes to get the water to the house. After the fire was out, the student looked over to the right and, in the bushes in the brush, was a fire hydrant. He thought to himself, "If we knew that it was there we could have hooked this right up and saved about 15 minutes worth of work." So he came back to the Community Service Center and he said to me "I think I would like to do a project on pin-pointing where all the fire hydrants in the township, or at least in Gladwyne are. He started with Gladwyne. I asked why and he told me the story. He said, "If I knew where all the fire hydrants were, we were on a fire. A lot of us are volunteers. We could look at a pin map or look at the map where we are going and find out immediately where we could hook up to get water." So he went to the Suburban Water Company, he researched and they gave him some help and information, he came back and he got together and

put this brochure together with a map, pin-pointing where all the hydrants were. The other fire departments as well, thought it was a good idea and they were going to tackle that as well. His idea was a very simple thing, it was not a very involved project. But it was a very helpful one, I think, to the community.

We had students who went to the Overbrook School For The Blind, which is not too far from here. They have two schools, the international school and the domestic school and we had some exchanges with students from our high school with their school. We learned a little bit about their culture and they shared a day here at the school. We have students who tutor over there. They run a physical education program, activities for the kids, they have field days and that kind of thing. So we do have students doing projects with the Overbrook School.

One other project that I might mention was done last year at the Cynwyd School, where a student from Lower Merion decided that he wanted other students (little students) in the elementary to see where their education was going to lead them when they got into the high school. That it would put more meaning into their day. So he decided to develop lesson plans in physics, art and music. He got some of his high school friends together, they wrote lesson plans, they transported themselves and their equipment to the school, and for three days in the afternoon, they had a rotating schedule where they

presented lesson plans or course work with art and music and physics. The students really enjoyed it, because students were teaching students. There seemed to be alot of interaction and alot of fun out of that type of activity.

We have about 80 students in our program this year. We are about at the saturation point as far as tracking those students. We have currently courses, in the high school one Community Service. It is not integrated into the curriculum as yet. We hope it will be. I've been more less out in the wing handling the service group. We would like to intergrate this more into the total curriculum. It's a start. We got it into the curriculum due to the very hard work and politicing and cheerleading of Dr. Gilmore, who as some of you might know is the Vice Principal here and who is also a former teacher at Merion in the Challenge Program. Dr. Gilmore really planted the seed, wrote the curriculum and cheerleaded this program to get it off the ground. If it had not been for her I doubt very much that I would be standing here today. She really did an awful lot for us. Unfortunately, we are going to loose her this year, I think maybe unofficially, but she is thinking about retiring. I don't know if she signed her letter of intent yet, but she is seriously thinking about it and we would hate to see her go, if she does go.

One of the things that I tried to do was to develop some materials so that students would know a little bit about our program. I came up with a flyer that had on it a list of

maybe 25 or 30 organizations that we are currently using, and also, tell the students a little bit about what Service Learning and Community Service is all about.

Many of the high school students really didn't have a good idea at all as to what this was about and some of the people in the community when they called the high school and want volunteers, they really don't know either, what we are all about, in terms of what we are here for.

In our program we have a very formal process when we're in the classroom. We have 60 hours of service requirement in the field outside of the school day. Students go out in the evenings, they go on Saturdays and Sundays. They provide their own transportation, we don't transport them. We only have it open currently to juniors and seniors. No sophmores or freshmen are involved in my program, but we do have other students at those levels doing things in the community. They have alot of enthusiasm at that level and we want to try to harness that and put that into our total program. We are offering this program to 11th and 12th graders presently. They go out and perform 60 hours and they come back and we have our seminars. We have 8 seminars that the students go through throughout the course of the year. In those seminars we have things such as Leadership Development skills. We have a seminar in Communication. In fact, Jeff came in and asked me if he could put on a program for Leadership skills. He had a strong background with that and it went off very well.

We had students like Ryan Spensor, who is here today, who put together a program last year, when he was a junior, on Communications. His theme was "It's Not What You Say, But How You Say It" and he put that together and, again, that was a very effective seminar.

Just recently, we took a trip to Methactan High School, this past week with Rick Subers. Rich is the Community Service Coordinator at Methactan. He does a job similar to what I do here at Lower Merion. He has an excellent program. He's worked very hard at it and he is continuing to work at it. Rich is the kind of guy who will go anywhere, at anytime for Community Service or Service Learning. He is very committed to this. We've had an exchange with Methactan and the students got to know each other a little bit. They saw a different school or a different type of organization. We video-taped in their studio, questions that the student's thought about. For instance, why did I choose service learning? or where are you doing your Service Learning work? What are you receiving from this? What are you getting out of it? How could you recommend or recruit more students to get involved with this type of thing? It seemed to go over very well. We hope to use that as a kick-off to get other students more involved with the Service Learning.

Another quick project that came to my mind. A student we have video-taped all of our students in the field last year, doing service work. We had students at Bryn Mawr Tutoring

Center which is the Presbyterian Church in Bryn Mawr. They go two nights a week. So we have students involved in Literacy, we have them with Habitat For Humanity, in West Philadelphia. We've had some at Norristown last year-and they are represented here today. We have students down at Action Aids in Philadelphia, the Aids Task Force. We have students going to Trevor's Place Shelter and helping with the homeless. There are many different organization that we could mention that the kids are involved with. I think its a good connection, because it gets the kids out of the school and into the community and they see what it is like in a different perspective. I think its a good learning experience for them, as well as it has been for me. When I come back and I see these students in a different environment, in a different setting, I see them in a different way, much more mature, much more responsible, they are planning their own activities and they're doing their thing. They are making their committment to their community and for a student to do that I think its wonderful. It is heartwarming for me to see the committments that some of the kids make here at the school. I know they make them at other places as well.

What we did last year, we thought, maybe we could recognize our students in some way. So we came up with a T-Shirt that we designed. Each student last year received a T-Shirt with our logo on it and our Lower Merion School District Emblem and then on the back, we listed, in alphabetical order, the different organizations that the

students were involved with. They were asked to wear these shirts to their placement, to physical education class, to wherever they felt that they could wear them and, kind of, display a little bit of our program and pass the word along about Service Learning and what this was all about.

One last thing that I'll mention is the handbook that we developed through our school. It is a book the students received. It has our different seminars in it, it has their evaluation and how they are evaluated in terms of their placement. All of the different "does and donts" I guess. More less a little mini bible, if you will, in terms of how our program is operated and how it runs. We tried to get some things together and we've only been really involved with this for two years. We're still very young.

We have received a few grants for our program. One from Penn, who some of you probably know about. It is an organization that works in Harrisburg out of the Department Of Labor & Industry. They had given us a \$5,000 grant for three years.

We are in the second year of that grant. We have one more year left. We also received \$1,000 from the Pue-Heinz Foundation through the offices of the Pennsylvania Institute For Service Learning, which you will hear more about today from Dr. Harry Silcox who is seated here to my right. They have awarded us \$1,000 to explore and brainstorm and come up with a direction

in which we could implement the graduation requirement that might come into effect with Chapter Five Regulations. Right, now the Outcome Based Chapter Five situation is on hold, I guess, in the Legislature. I think it's out of the House Education Committee. The Senator still has to wrestle with it, but eventually, hopefully, this thing will pass and things will move on. That would require that every student who graduates from this high school, and every other high school in the state, would have to complete a project of some sort in an academic field. Service Learning could very much be involved with this. They identified 5 areas for projects and all projects fall into those areas. One would be Literacy and Education, Human Services, Environment. We have Fine Arts which as another area. You would also have Citizenship. At any rate, these are the areas where students will be able to get involved and pick different projects to work with.

So, there are alot of things happening. It is an exciting field to be in and I enjoy it very much. I enjoy the interaction with the students. I also enjoy meeting the people in the community and what they are doing. We have tremendous resources in this area. Not only in the Philadelphia area, but in and around Lower Merion Township, we need to start utilizing more. Our township building, for one, might be a good place to start with our Planning Commission, Recreation Department. We have all the train stations in Lower Merion Township. Narberth has set the scene on beautifying those through SEPTA. We have Ardmore, Bryn Mawr, Wynnwood and there are other train stations

that might take on a project whereby we could beautify them as well. So there are alot of things that could be done. We are looking for people to get involved, schools to get involved, students to get involved and teachers to get involved. Its going to take a big movement from everyone to make this thing go.

Jeff I think I am about ready to finish here.

JEFFREY BARRACK:

Thank you Frank Wilson. Something that we designed as a little recognition, because all four speakers are here on their own time; volunteering their services to the community, which is you people, and to a national community, which is watching through the video and audio recording systems that we have set up here. So anyway we've designed our little keys, the Leadership Action Group logo, because through your acts of leadership you really unlock many doors in your own lives. I just want to give this to Mr. Frank Wilson. Thank you very much for coming to visit us.

A couple of things I just want to run by you folks. I want to remind everyone to register at our registration desk because your names will go into our database and then we will get back to you through correspondence. We also have name tags now, if you would like to make some name tags for yourselves and put on your lappel. We have questionnaires, another effort

to record where our community is at. So there are a few question, just basic questions like, Have you been involved in service? What sort of service do you like to get involved with? That survey will then, again, go to your Federal Representatives. There is water and pitchers if anyone gets thirsty. There are some cups. So please help yourself. There is hard candy and the restrooms are right out in the hallway here if you need them.

One other thing is that we have a game that my mom, BettyAnn designed. What it is, is we have a number of short popsickle sticks and some glue and some markers. The idea is to take the popsickle stick, and either on the pad that is on the table, or, on the already glued down stick another take some markers and make your own design or your little mark or whatever you want and then glue the stick to the pad or to another stick in whatever way you want. The idea is that as each one of you puts a stick and glues it to the pad it will grow and it will actually represent a network of individuals who are all together in some fashion. I believe the idea is that we're going to take whatever object that you design to our next event and it will just keep growing.

I've got everything on the list. Great! Right now I have a number of special guest that came along to pay a visit. Mr. John Herzins is from the Mayor's Office who, apparently, is interested in service in the greater Philadelphia area and making a contribution to building the service community. Mr. John Herzins, I'd like to have him come up and say a few words.

In addition to that we have Pat who is from Marjorie Mezvinsky's office. I'd like to have her just come up and say a few words. Then we are going to introduce Trevor's father who is here to speak as our next speaker. So that's it for right. John Herzins.

MR. JOHN HERZIN-ASSISTANT DEPUTY TO MAYOR EDWARD RENDELL OF PHILADELPHIA:

I want to thank Jeff and Matt for inviting me here today. Matt recently called me and talked to me about this idea of having a Youth Corps program to help the communities in Philadelphia. Part of my responsibilities in the Mayor's Office is working in Community Affairs and that has given me the opportunity to travel throughout the city meeting with virtually every community in the city. What that has done for me is make me even more aware of the extensiveness of programs that our youth are facing in Philadelphia. All the Mayor's Community Commissions fall under the responsibility of my office and therefore, I've travelled in North, South, West Philadelphia and met with the schools, teachers and the youth and what we have seen out there is a vacuum. There is definitely a need for some type of community service that could help these students get back on the right track. In some of the communities the problems are so pervasive and extensive, I sometimes have to sit down and wonder where do we began. We are beginning in small programs like this youth corps.

This summer we are working with our Recreation Department in a volunteer program with our youth it's going to give us the opportunity to keep our Recreation Centers open full-time by using our high school students and grade school students in developing the programs in the Recreation Centers. We have just been notified that we will be receiving \$19 million dollars for summer job programs in Philadelphia. This is an increase of \$13 million from last year! So we will hopefully tie in the youth. I offer help, if any of you need to be tied into that situation, on how to go about that.

Another area that I hope to see going with this youth corps program-I will be meeting with the Operating Departments in the city to see where we could plug in the volunteers that we receive in this program into departments like Recreations, Library, our Art Commission, maybe even our new Convention Center. I think that this new program will give our students here in Philadelphia some way of community service and some way of committment to things other than school and jobs.

Right now I'm working with a group ASPIRA, which some of you might be aware. It is a Latino Community Group in Philadelphia. They provide us with high school volunteers. We are using them in the Mayor's Office, City Council, and DA's Office. This is the second year we're doing that and I can tell you the students that I have been working with, it has been really rewarding for me to see the change in some of them

from the beginning of the year to when they graduate in June. Some of the students that I have worked with, that have come to me, they have come from troubled families. They are doing poorly in school, they are withdrawn when they first come into the office. Eight months later, they are like new people. Although we are only working with them 8 hours a week, it has given them a sense of purpose. I think that if we can expand this in a larger way with this youth corp, I think it will only benefit the city in general. So I am just here to offer my support in any way I can. Matt knows how to reach me or you could call the Mayor's Office and I will be glad to help you in any of your programs.

JEFFREY BARRACK:

Thank you so much Mr. Herzins. We all appreciate the Mayor's interest in this service effort. Another special guest that I would like to introduce is Pat Reagan who is very busy in her life and working hard with Mezvnsky's office. Mrs. Mezvinsky represents the 13th District in our Congress. Here for a quick hello, Pat Reagan.

PAT REAGAN: DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE FOR CONGRESSWOMAN MARJORIE MEZVINSKY, 13TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA

I just want to commend Jeff and his colleagues on putting this program together. We are real excited. I

recently spent some time with Marjorie and spoke to her about this program. She's aware of it and really would like to extend any support she can to this organization. We depended upon high school students and junior high students today. Dave and Doug Young back in the back, are two people that we really depended upon in volunteering during our campaign and now we are asking them to come back and do internship programs with us. We just could not have gotten the job done. On the days that the voters came out they were there at 3:00 in the afternoon they were there and they really pushed us over the top. So we know how important it is to get young people involved. Marjorie is very excited and interested in supporting any program like this. So again, thank you for inviting us and whatever we could do in the future, let us know.

JEFFREY BARRACK:

I personally know the excitement when we, the people, can recognize that our Representatives and Congress-People are supporting local and grassroots organizations. I know from speaking to close associates, that many individuals miss that sort of attention from the government. So we appreciate the interest Mezvinsky's office.

Before I introduce Mr. Ferrel, I would like to pay special attention to all the organizations that showed up as booths around the forum. What I am going to do, at some point, is to ask each organization to come up and just introduce

yourself as an organization to the forum in a procession. We are going to do that I believe after our panelists speak. So everyone will be able to represent themselves and their organizations on the record.

So without further a due, I am sure that Trevor Ferrell and his Campaign to help the homeless is no mystery to any of you. Trevor and those involved in his campaign have become local heroes. Here to speak on behalf of Trevor and the Campaign is Mr. Frank Ferrell, Trevor's father.

MR. FRANK FERRELL-TREVOR'S PLACE:

Thank you very much Jeff. Yes, please forgive Trevor, he's not here. Oh, no wait a minute, I just choked on a little kiss. It is not that I was emotionally moved or anything. Its just that Trevor, in the 9 1/2 years of being on this campaign that he started, has only missed four speaking engagements. One was this morning, the second was this afternoon, and two others, I don't know when they were. So the kid has been very reliable and very supportive in his own work in many, many ways.

I am not here to preach to you, but I do want to let you know that there are so many miracles in this campaign. I mean, now those that don't believe in such things as miracles, you are welcomed to call it a coincidence or whatever you'd like, but I know myself what has happened is more than we ever dreamed would happen.

I had a shop over in Bala Cynwyd and Ted Goldsborough sitting over here, was a customer of mine, as maybe some of you were. I had a little T.V. shop and we sold inservice television sets and we got involved in other things after that, manufacturing a small device for a computer. But this son of mine. We live in Gladwyne and still do, live there then back in 1983, when on December 8th of 1983, Trevor came down to my wife and I Janet, his mother, of course. Janet and I were having some coffee after dinner and Trevor burst into the kitchen saying Mom!.. Dad!...quick turn on the T.V. set.

Well, he was supposed to have been doing his homework, and I don't know what he was doing watching television. But we turned the set on and, alright, he tried to tune the station that he was watching and it was too late to show us what he wanted us to see. I said "Trevor," whatever it was--"What was It?" and He said something about homeless people living on the streets. I said "you get back to your room and do your homework and forget that." Well, he got three quarters of the way back to his room and then he came back to us again and said "Mom-Dad" and I said "What!"--and he said "We've got to help those people"-- I said "What People?"-- he said "the people that are homeless." He said "they showed them on the streets, he said it's going to be freezing tonight" and this and that and again. I and my wife both said "look Trevor that's it, you go back to your room"..Now I know you're not used to kids nagging you but that's just what Trevor did. He came back for

the third and fourth time I guess. Then finally, while he was going back to his room one time I said to Janet, "you know this is a great opportunity to teach this kid a lesson. He thinks everybody lives out in the suburbs and has a couple of cars and maybe a swimming pool and lawn and a couple of trees and lets just go along with his thing to help the homeless down there." Now I have no desire to help the homeless. To me they were just lazy bums. I would not have harmed them in anyway but I did not think any--I wasn't a humanitarian or wasn't a bleeding heart, I wasn't what I am today about homeless. Anyway, we called Trevor back and said "yeah your're right Trev, we should go down and help the homeless. How are we going to do that? He said "well I have an extra blanket and a pillow." Well he brought the blanket and pillow and his mother and I went into our station wagon, got in, got on the Schuyhill Expressway. 20-22 minutes later we got off at 15th Street--listen I'm not going to go into every detail but we got on 15th Street, went south, and there at 15th and Moravian was a homeless man laying on the steam vent to stay warm. He had no shoes, only dirty soiled white socks and he had a very nice gray beard and Trevor and I got out. Janet, she stayed in the car.

Trevor brought the blanket with him and we walked over to this man. As we got out of the car we heard click, click. Janet was locking all the doors and she started reving the engine--I'm sure she would have just taken off if anything had happened to us, but thank god nothing nasty happened to us.

Anyway, we went over to that man. I didn't say a peep. I was just an observer in this whole thing. Trevor just knelt and tapped him gently. The man was startled. He had been sleeping, resting. He sat up quickly and Trevor said "it's alright, I just want to give you a blanket." The man was so grateful. He said, "Oh Thank You-Thank You" and Trevor said "I got something else for you." He went back to the car and he tapped on the window to his mother. He pointed under the dashboard. He had put the pillow up under there to keep it warm next to the heater and she handed him the pillow and he took that over to the man. Again he was thanked and blessed and he said good night to Trevor. Trevor said good night to him...and I waved or something. We got in the car. We drove around the block because we all wanted to see this man again. We did and he looked so much more comfortable. We felt so good about it. It sounds corny and tried I guess to some people but the best feeling you could possibly have giving somebody you don't even know something and they don't know you and it was just a wonderful thing.

Well anyway driving home it wasn't any talk. Janet didn't say anything, I didn't say anything. Trevor didn't say anything. We were deep in thought I guess. Later on I got into my shower that night and I started thanking God that I had a shower, and that I had faucet, I could adjust the temperature the way I wanted it. We had a refrigerator in the kitchen, like most people do. I mean if I needed a snack I could go

down for the snack. I started thanking God. Gee-I have a roof over my head and we've got electricity. So I would like to say that I went in to teach my son a lesson and Trevor taught his mom and dad a lesson.....and many others since then. That first night, it was a Thursday night. I went to work on Friday thinking about that man. I wanted to go in that night. I got back home Trevor was standing there at the door and said "are we going in again tonight Dad?" "Sure, what's mom think," well I didn't know whether she was going to go, but he thought he could persuade her and he did-it didn't take much to persuade her. We drove that time with a large heavy coat and it was really a man's coat, but it looked very feminine and it was at that time a fake fur thing. It was very bulky and, anyway, we took that in. We could not find the man that we saw the night before but we went around over to Broad Street and there was a lady sitting on a milk cart at the entrance of the Broad Street Subway. So Trevor got out and went over to her. She did not have any heavy clothing on. She looked at it and she held it up and she felt it and everything; she thanked him and thanked him. She folded it up and put it on her lap and she didn't - I don't know, some of them aren't entirely well-but this lady later came to live with us, at Trevor's Place.

Anyway, we went in the next night and the night after that and about a week and a half later we ran out of things to give away. So I thought that was it. So I said "let's go Trev, that's a shame we couldn't do that again." He said "we

can still do it." He said "all of our neighbors." So he went up the road, Riverview Road, where we live and knocked on people's doors. Our neighbors were very helpful. They gave him coats and blankets and pillows and gloves and scarves and things to give out to what he was calling the street people. That went on for about 2 or 3 weeks and then we started getting calls.

People would say "you know that kid of yours Travis, or Kevin, or whatever his name is, he's a good kid but we would appreciate it if you tell him not to disturb our dinner every night. We have run out of things to give away and appreciate it if he wouldn't". That wasn't just one or two neighbors but practically everybody on the road where we lived and so I told Trevor it's come to an end. Nobody's got anything else to give away. Well he got from his mother, which I wasn't aware of, three dollars that he had and took it over to the Main Line Times to get a -he knew he couldn't afford a display ad, but thought he get one of them little classified ads. He spoke with Susan Greenspan, who was not an ad taker, but a reporter, and still is, of the Main Line Times. He told her that he wanted her to take an ad out and this and that and what he wanted it for and everything. She said "Trevor would you mind if I did a story. I'm a writer and I would like to do a story. She got permission from the editor Ms. Townsend, yeah something like that. Well, they took photographs of Trevor giving out some things. One was to the lady on the Subway Entrance. That night he brought a little transistor radio for her and

anyway, what happened--They ran a front page story about my son, Trevor, with pictures and everything. Just that one story in a local newspaper generated an enormous amount of publicity. That one little front page article generated, and our address wasn't given at that time (but you could just look in the phone book) it didn't take any great genius to find our name and to locate where we lived and then people started dropping things off in our driveway. - And that wouldn't have been so bad, but we had a refrigerator, a sofa, a freezer, things were awkward to even to get over and they didn't wait to get a thank you or a receipt or anything else they just dropped them in the driveway and Janet was really upset, Wow was she upset. "Look what you've gotten us into now. All this junk out there and there's clothing and theres this and theres that." Well Mother Divine over in Woodmont in Gladwyne, Father Divine's Peace Mission Movement, Father Divine's Wife called to say that their peace mission movement wanted to give what the Main Line Times was calling, because they were intending of doing his story every week, a follow-up on what he is doing now and everything and they started calling it Trevor's Campaign For the Homeless.

So she said that she wanted to give Trevor's Campaign for the Homeless a building on Popular Street and that was great, because it gave us a place to shop all of this stuff that was dropped off in our driveway. We moved three homeless men in there. The people that we had been serving at night, maybe cookies or maybe either blankets or pillows or something

and who we had known for a few weeks and we invited them to move in there and to take care of the place. They lived there unsupervised, uninsured. We were naive. Stupid was what we were. We were ignorant, we didn't know about-we didn't consider any of that. We put a phone in there for them and they started answering the phone - Hello- "Trevor's place." and so that's how Trevor's Place got its name.

Then it got over the AP wires you know, Associated Press and United Press and all that stuff. Then CBS, NBC and ABC sent film crews down for the nightly news. It got national attention on the news of this little boy from the suburbs of Philadelphia out helping the homeless. Wait-that's not all, TBS of Great Britain and the BBC of London and ARD and CDF of Germany and CIGMA of France and Austria all sent correspondence and film crews too. Some did an hour long documentary on the kid and the work and how it was growing, it just kept growing and growing.

We bought the building next door to Trevor's campaign. The first was given to us, the second one was up for sale by the archdiocese in Philadelphia for \$240,000. It was a home convent for the sisters for the Catholic Community and they wanted \$240,000, which it was over priced. I considered an white elephant. It was quite a large building and the area certainly didn't-I mean that was over priced. - But anyway one of our Board members Father Mike Connelly of the Archdioces of Wilmington Delaware negotiated for us and got the price down to

an even \$100,000. But even then still the Board said it was ludicrous. They said "Frank You're A Dreamer, I mean we can hardly keep the doors open on Trevors' Place and here your're looking on some other Place."

Well Trevor had a dream, not a dream but he had a dream, but he had an idea that the actress Ann Baxter put into his head: that "someday" she said "if you open a home for homeless women and children I'll be an even more supporter of your work and your campaign" -and both Trevor, I and Janet all had that in our heads that someday we'd have a homeless center for women and their children and yet the Board wasn't willing to even consider it because we I think, we had three or four thousand dollars in the whole campaign account. They said it's crazy and they wouldn't even consider it, even if it was brought down to \$100,000.

So, I got the idea that I would ah-I said well, what if I could raise some money. I'll go to some substantial contributors and see what I could get for the new building. One of the girls in the office called it Trevors' Next Door, and that's where Trevors' Next Door came from. We printed up some little flyers from the photo copy machine, a photo of Trevors' Place and this next door program and said..."Help us take a leap of faith and contribute whatever you can so that we could open a home for homeless women and children." Well I went around to some deep pocketed people. People that were wealthy in this area, who had contributed before, knowing that

I could get something together, but I wasn't able to get something together. I didn't get \$10,000 together, I didn't get \$10.00 together, I didn't get a dime. Nobody gave me anything. They all asked me, as though I had some little note on my forehead, "Frank what's The Campaign contributing to this? What about your Board Members." Almost everybody asked me that and I had to say that they were waiting for me to raise money. Well we didn't raise anything and the Board just thought that was it. They said "Sorry it looks as though we not going to get it and we won't take that large of a step," or something like that. I don't know what they said.

But I got up at the Board Meeting and I said - "Ladies and Gentlemen, I thank you for your time, your volunteers. I know you're not making anything out of this." I said "Thank God it wasn't up to this Board the night Trevor wanted to go in and help the homeless." I said, "I'm sure you would all say that, 'Well, we'll go over to Ludington Library, Trevor. We'll read about homeless people and why they're there and this and that. We wouldn't like to go in there and touch or talk to them or anything.'" I got it off my chest. I made a few enemies on our Board, because I said that, but I just felt better and free that I had said that.

That meeting was on a Thursday night..real quick. That meeting was on a Thursday. The following Saturday, our office was on Spring Avenue in Ardmore. I usually go over to the office on Saturday's and Sundays, because its quieter and

it was raining. So I thought well I'll just sit out here in the car waiting for Trevor, he was coming over to pick up the keys for the Thrift Shop Van and he was going to do some pick-ups. While I was sitting in the car, a couple was walking up in the rain Jen and Leo BiBi of Glen Road over here. I recognized them because we had been doing a couple of conferences together, church conferences and things, and they were peeking in the window of the door. They saw the sign outside that said..."Trevor's Campaign For The Homeless" and so I invited them to come in. I said "come in out of the rain and I want to show you," because I love showing all the awards and things and they're a wonderful couple. Anyway, I showed them the awards and things and I gave them one of those little flyers, something like you'd find under a windshield wiper and the cleaners or something. All the time you come out of your car and you'd see it. It wasn't anything slick or polished, and nothing we've ever done has been perfectly slick and polish. But anyway they looked at it, and both of them looked at. I said I wasn't able to raise any money and they said... "Ah, that's a shame". They said that they had to be going. I said goodbye and then I got over to the phone and called Janet and asked her where Trevor was because I was waiting for him to give him the keys and she said... He's on his way over there now. Just about then the front door buzzer rang I said.. that's probably Trevor. I went to the door and it was Leo BiBi and he said, "my wife and I just had a budget hearing meeting and we've decided to give you \$30,000 for that Trevor's Next Door." Ah-Wow! ...I was so excited. Oh My...he

said "when do you need the money?"...I said "well within 30 days we can go to settlement. I'm going for a brain operation" (that's in June of 89') and I said "I don't have to be there for that." I said "Janet or Trevor, or our Board Chairman, I'm sure there would be someone that would be able to.... Thank You, Thank You, Thank You..." He said "you'll have that check within 30 days." Well the next day was Sunday, no-no wait, alright. The next day was Sunday I was sitting there with Janet, because I go into the office, its easier to get your paper work done on the Saturdays and Sundays there without the phone ringing and everybody coming in and everything. So the phone rang and I answered it and the voice at the other end, I recognized it right away, it was Leo BiBi and I immediately into these negative thoughts "Ah they've reconsidered" or "they maybe they should not of don"e...I don't know, I thought all the worst things in the world, but he was calling me to ask how long we were going to be there and I said "oh a few hours yet." He said, "well why wait 30 days? I want to drive over and give you that check." He drove over and gave us the check.

Now that to me makes it a miracle. I don't care what anybody,... well I do care what other people say, but I don't care, because to me it was a miracle. Because the BiBi's, they didn't know the office was over there. They went for a walk on a rainy day, or when it started to rain, I mean. they were still walking, they had to go over a bridge and get over Lancaster Pike (Route-30) make several turns. It wasn't a

direct straight line to our office from their home. To me they could of said ..."Let's go out another day, looks like its going to rain" or this or that, They couldn't at 180 different directions, they had no idea where they were going. O.K. I know I'm rambling on and on. Okay, they gave us the \$30,000 that Sunday. Leo came over with the check. The following Thursday, I had a breakfast with a friend of mine name Harry Howard. I showed him the little flyer and I showed him the check. I said that I just got \$30,000 from this man and his wife from Ardmore on Sunday. He said.."Well Frank, I can't do that" he said "but I'll give you \$10,000 and I'll take a full page ad out in the Philadelphia Inquirer." Now that was another 7 or 8 Thousand Dollars. So I called a special Board session to meeting and I said "well I've got \$40,000, gentlemen and ladies that is up for this Next Door Program and plus in the Sunday Paper you'll see a full page ad asking others to get involved."

Well with unanimous, actually one Board member did say no. Everyone else, it was unanimous, and said "yes get it." We got it. The HUD gave us some money, \$745,000 to renovate it and bring it up to Building Standard Codes and to staff it. That is just one of the many miracles in this campaign.

Anyway, I won't go on too much longer but I do want you to know that our books-I'm not here to sell books-they sell in the stores for \$9.00 and they sell in Canada for \$12.00. Ah-but if you do want a book, they're \$5.50 and if you want me

to sign, they're only \$5.00, because I love signing books. Anyway, so, they are over at the table.

I also have something on our Walk, which is coming up in April, April 17th, If you could get some of your students or some of your relatives or your family or something involved in this, we have plenty of these.

I also have volunteer applications that you may not use for Trevor's Campaign but for your own use. Like maybe Pledge-Drives. What we've got there, as we did, steal it from somebody else, ourselves. So anyway, Thank you, Thank you. Oh, Oh, Wait, Wait, Wait, Real Quick Please one last thing May I hold you one second.

I was home during the day and Trevor was in the dining room and he was playing with a remote car (playing with it) and he had it all apart...he loves to take things apart, more so than just controlling it he wants to see how it works. Anyway he had it all apart, I was in the living room and the phone rang and I answered it and the voice on the other side said "Mr. Ferrell" and I said "yes," he said.."My name is Fred Ryan, I'm with the White House. The President would like to speak with your son."

Whoo...Now I had a lot of complaints or alot things I'd thought, if I'm ever close to the President, I'm going to tell him. You know why spend all this money for armiments and

bombs when we've got people sleeping on the streets. Well I was so excited I didn't say a word other than, I covered the mouthpiece and I yelled to Trevor, "Trevor, the President's on the phone, he wants to talk to you." Trevor didn't answer at all. I said "Trevor, President Ronald Reagan is on the phone. He wants to talk to you. Get yourself in here...Gheez Get..." Anyway Trevor came into the room. Did I tell you he said "what does he want?" Yeah, before he came into the room he asked me "what's he want? ..." and I mean, I not going to say "wait a minute he's busy now, he's got this little remote control car and he's three or four parts"....anyway I said, just said "get yourself over here." He came over to the phone and I said "be respectful ...be respectful the President of the United States"...I didn't have to tell him to be respectful, he was already being respectful to those homeless souls that we serve every night on the streets and he treated the President just like he would treat anybody. A Gentlemen and nice. President Reagan invited him down to the Oval Office and that was the first of four different visits to the Oval Office. He was held..Trevor, was held up at the State Of The Union Address and President Reagan gave the Campaign For The Homeless, \$100,000. As valuable as that was, the credibility that they gave the Campaign, because before they would give us the money they had auditors and everything come up....I know, I could talk for an hour and a half...Ah Thank You and God Bless each and everyone of you. The books are over there and brochures and any questions I'll answer. Thank You.

JEFFREY BARRACK:

I want to just to give you our little key here. Oh Thank You. Alright thank you. Enjoy it. Oh Yeah that's yours. That was great. I hope our fundraisers were taking notes.

As you can see by the clock we started 15 minutes late everything is kind of skewed 15 minutes. I hope you don't mind that.

Before we go on to our next program, which is our panel of experts, I'd like to say that the Leadership Action Group is the organization hosting this event. I'd like to call the staff of the Leadership Action Group to just come up and just run by and introduce yourself to the group. So if all the Leadership Action Group Staff, Matt, BettyAnn, Chrisy and Kiri would just come up here. Holly, Andy, I'd just like everyone to introduce yourselves. Say hello to the group here, as the staff of The Leadership Action Group. I'm Jeffrey Barrack.

Hello, I'm Adoria Kanistanau, it's a great turn out; thank you.

Hi I'm Kiri Swenson. Thanks for coming.

I'm Andy Erlichman I hope you become a part of the public service thats going on. Thank you.

I'm Chrisy Manro. Thanks For Coming.

Hi, I'm Matthew Mehrman, and I'd like to invite you all to become the community service programing of the future and for now. So thank you for your presence.

Hi everyone, I'm Claire Wallace and again thank you for showing up today.

Hi I'm Holly Erlichman and this is great.

(Hi my name is Frank Ferrel and I'm with Trevors' Campaign. There are 19 Chapters around the United States, by the way, and we're not supporting them and they can't afford to support us, but they are following our lead and Trevor's lead. In February of last year, a young man in his mid-30's translated our book into the French language. He's got a campaign in Paris. A young woman from Italy is doing the same in the Italian language, they're translating and... Ah.. Come over to the table I'll tell you all kinds funny things!)

Jeffrey:

And last but not least...

Ah Yeah, I'm a parent. So parents tend to talk...
Jeff's Mother! Yes Jeff's Mother. A Parent. Like Who's
Parent...Welcome Everyone, thank you so much my name is
BettyAnn Barrack Cote... my son, my kid

JEFFREY:

And just by way of introduction, I'd like you all to feel free
to contact any of the members of the Leadership Action Group to
introduce yourselves personally, so that we can develop a
personal relationship with you and your organizations and
continue an ongoing dialouge for the future of the Philadelphia
Area Service Community.

Now moving right along, since we do have a packed
program here. How are we feeling over here. Our panel of
experts. We have Ms. Mary Mackie, from United Way, Ms. Anita
Miller from the Lower Merion School District and Ms. Anna
Doering from Women's Way. The way I see it is we have
approximately an hour and you can split that into I say 15-20
minute talks. Mary would you like to go first. O.K.

MARY MACKIE - UNITED WAY THANK YOU:

Good afternoon everyone. I am here not in my role as a staff member of United Way, but as Director of the Volunteer Center, which is a program housed by United Way. Less You think that the Volunteer Center is a place where we keep volunteers freeze dried to send out and sprinkle water on when they are called for. That is not the case. A volunteer center is basically an organization that tries to promote a positive climate for volunteering in the community. That is what we really see our mission as.

We fulfill that in several ways. One, by running a clearinghouse of volunteer opportunities. Places and organizations that have volunteers that need volunteers and where people can get referred to if they want to get involved. We do a tremendous amount of consultation and training to organizations who want to develop volunteering programs and want to learn volunteer management. Thirdly, we do some special promotions, which we hope open up the world of volunteering to people. Finally we do recognition of people that make contributions in the volunteer community.

There is just a couple of things that I could bring to you out of my experience today that I'd like you to think about. Those would be some concepts that have to do with volunteers as non-paid workers. Because once you get in your head that what people do is work, then how you as managers and leaders of volunteers begin to come into focus. All the kinds of things that happened in your paid work had better be there when you think about involving nonpaid people. There are three ways that you can get people to work. You can pay them. You can pressure them. You could persuade them.

In the paid world of work-which most of us are probably a part of-we know that there is alot of pressure that comes into paid work. Unfortunately sometimes in volunteerism, we do this too, we put pressure on. We call it God...My cousin Egor or I would get you if you don't do this for me. This is a real turn-off to the kind of motivation that people bring to volunteer service. It's those kinds of things that through our training programs we try to help people think about.

The other thing that I think is important is that you realize that you are really continuing, in this country and throughout the world (which is your part on the new face of things) that started as far back as the Mayflower Compact. It started out with the native Americans who were here when the first Europeans arrived and did some things. Like showing them to use herbs to grow local kinds of vegetables that were here

and how they might use them for their own sustenance. So volunteering and community service isn't new. What's new is your enthusiasm to be a part of it.

A couple other thoughts that I would like to leave you with. When you go out into the "not for profit" world, remember that many of the people have been out there for a long time working very, very hard. I was touched by what Frank had to say about what they did in terms of opening up Trevor's Next Door. It's hard to get these kinds of programs organized and funded on a continuing basis. One of the things that I hope happens in the whole Service-Learning Movement-and I hope that happens with President Clinton's new thrust in getting people involved in community-service is the people exhibit some kind of 'stick-to-it-iveness.' One of our problems as Americans is that we tend to like things that will get a quick fix. There are no quick fixes for the serious social problems that we are facing. I have some real problems if somebody is concerned with the field as a whole, whether you call it "community service" and you mean in a positive sense what we are talking about it. Whether you mean it in "community services." They do use it in courts. The kinds of things that make Zsa-Zsa Gabor or Mr. Milcando-in order to pay back to society. Whether you talk about it as probono-publico which alot of physicians and lawyers have done for a very long kind of time. Whether you call it citizenship or what. You've got to be for the long call!!!!.

The gentlemen that was here, I'm sorry that he left, from the Mayor's Office that was talking about visiting out in the community and seeing some of the problems that some youth have today. You cannot go in and in one summer time or in one year think that you're going to make an impact. You've seriously got to think about your time, your volunteer time and what you are willing to give, and what kind of an impact it will have. Mentoring is a very popular movement. We do a lot of Mentor training and people get frustrated, because they say.. "Well. Gee. I'm working with the kid and they don't seem to be turning around." "How often do you see them?" "Oh, an hour every week." Well, lets see, there is 24 in a day, they have seven days in a week. You have one of whatever that mutiplication is in terms of influence. So if you are going to get involved in some of these things, you really need to think about-especially if it is direct service with people-committing over the long term. Short term projects are fine, I encourage them in some areas of endeavor, they work out very well. But in other kinds of things you really need to be committed for the longterm. That's what I see the positive in both in service learning that is starting with K through 12 curriculums that is working through college campuses and all the kinds of volunteer work that goes on there.

I think that it will get through youngsters heads and into ours, then, as adults that we do have to be committed over a longer period of time. There is no quick fix.

So remember its work, and so all the things that you hate about your job, do not do to volunteers. O.K...All the bad things that your boss does..remember is a real turn-off when people are giving your time. So that's one thing I'll leave you with and the second thing is commit over the longterm. Thank you very much.

JEFFREY:

Thank you. Mary I'd like to present you with the Leadership Action Group key and thank you very much for coming out here and sharing your information.

If I may just say that Ms. Mackie has been an incredible enthusiast for us. We have had a number of dialogues with her on the telephone and, for your information, she has a wealth of information and history. So please feel free to utilize her. Next I'd like to introduce Ms. Anita Miller from Lower Merion School District.