



United Way of
San Luis Obispo County



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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Volunteers “Make a Difference” in San Luis Obispo County

San Luis Obispo, CA – Over 450 people volunteered at sites around San Luis Obispo County on Saturday, October 24, as part of the 11th annual Make A Difference Day.

Cal Poly students, the Central Coast Volunteer Corps, the United Way Youth Board, and the Interact Club of San Luis Obispo High School were among the community members who worked for four hours, completing landscaping, painting, fundraisers and gardening projects. Organizers of the event estimate volunteers performed about \$41,000 worth of work.

The 25 volunteer site locations ranged from Cambria to Oceano, including such projects as: assembling meals for the AIDS Support Network; gardening with the Central Coast Salmon Enhancement; cleaning at Prado Day Center; acorn collection and preparation at the Dana Adobe with the Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo; and tree planting at the Cal Poly organic farm with One Cool Earth.

“All of the volunteers were eager to serve,” said Heather Demosthenes, an AmeriCorps Promise Fellow with The Community Center, who organized the event. “Everyone had great attitudes and energy. The volunteers were able to help the agencies accomplish a lot that day.”

This year’s Make A Difference Day was the 11th annual partnership between the Community Center at Cal Poly and United Way of San Luis Obispo County, to locally host the National Day of Service. Participants gathered together beforehand for a volunteer day kickoff, and were provided with a complimentary t-shirt. The event was co-sponsored by The Mortgage House.

The 12th annual event will take place on October 23, 2010. Local volunteer information and opportunities with various agencies are available year round at www.VolunteerSLO.org.

For more details on Make a Difference Day, visit www.volunteerslo.org/MADD2009.html or www.unitedwayslo.org.

Additional photos are available at <http://www.unitedwayslo.org/SpecialEvents>.

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This news release is available on the United Way of San Luis Obispo County website at <http://www.unitedwayslo.org/News/index.html>