

FCCLA Hotline

*Pennsylvania
Association FCCLA
Volume 21, Issue 1*

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Family, Career and Community Leaders of America Pennsylvania State President's Message



Hello Pennsylvania FCCLA! Your State Executive Council and I are honored and excited to work with you during 2009-2010 as we take Pennsylvania FCCLA "Beyond the Label." During our lives as high school students, we often see a label stuck to each of our peers, our friends, and ourselves. Have you been labeled a geek or nerd? Or maybe you're considered a punk, goth, skater, prep, jock, or any of the limiting and restricting labels that are attached to us as we find our own interests and personalities. Labels such as these often attempt to sort people into simple categories. They give way to stereotypes and prevent originality. However, you, as an FCCLA member, are

free from these labels and limitations, and you have the power to encourage others to go beyond their labels. The main goal of every FCCLA member as we recognize our state and national theme should be to treat everyone fairly, avoid prejudice, and keep an open mind towards everyone despite their outward appearance or pre-existing label. Reject stereotypes by not placing them on other people or subscribing to them yourself. If you are expected to act a certain way, enjoy certain activities, or have certain interests because of how you look, how you dress, where you live, or who your friends are, do not let that determine who you are. Always be yourself, regardless of your label, your looks, or your expectations.

However, it is not just people who can go "Beyond the Label." Are you a member of a small chapter, or one that you feel could participate more in community service or National Programs? Take your chapter "Beyond the Label." Organize a membership campaign, volunteer at your local food bank or community event, or propose a National Program project for your chapter to complete! If you feel that things could be improved, be the one to take initiative and create change! Every one of you, as true student leaders, has the power to inspire others and provide the leadership that can change your school and community for the better. A thought that always inspires me as I work towards my goals is: Never doubt your ability to do anything. Regardless of your age, your environment, even your past decisions, you always have the ability to do or become what no one thought possible.

FCCLA members: I challenge you to take all of the labels assigned to you, whether it be geek, nerd, punk, skater, jock, cheerleader, or any other label that confines your personality, and throw them all out. Leave only one label in place: Family, Career, and Community Leader of America.

Ethan Deitrich
2009-2010 State President

2009-2010 State Officers:

President– Ethan Deitrich
First Vice President– Jarrett Miller
Secretary– Jacqueline Neff
Vice President of Membership– Jared Sullenberger
Vice President of Recognition– Amanda Morales
Vice President of Elections– Nathan Morrissey
Vice President of Public Relations– Julie Bush
Vice President of National Programs– Lalitha Durlin
Vice President of Meetings– Spencer Johnson



2009-2010 State
Executive Council

National Leadership Conference in Review

The National Executive Council kicked off the national theme “Beyond the Label” at the 2009 National Leadership Conference. With more than 6000 people in attendance, FCCLA took over Nashville TN and the beautiful Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center, to show everyone “What’s it all about?” With amazing keynoters and workshop presenters this year’s NLC had to be one of the best. Also this year FCCLA has partnered with the Children’s Miracle Network for the National Community Outreach Project entitled “Dig It.” Promoted by Disney Channel’s Simon Curtis who is a leukemia survivor that was helped by the Children’s Miracle Network, and Monti Montanez from the band Menudo who wrote a song to promote FCCLA’s “Dig It” program. For more information about the National Outreach Project go to the national website www.fcclainc.org. So come on everyone help Pennsylvania go “Beyond the Label” and set your goals on Chicago, Illinois, for the 2010 National Leadership Conference.

Spencer Johnson
2009-2010 Vice President of Meetings



Be A Part of It by Reaching 2010 by 4/2010

FCCLA chapters come in all shapes and sizes. Be recognized for your recruitment success! This recognition program accounts for diversity- all chapters that affiliate with their state and national headquarters by March 1 are eligible for recognition in one or more categories. After you recruit new serious members and you increase your membership status, your chapter gets a choice of a Be Part of It! certificate or a Be Part of It! lapel pin that can be worn at state or national events. After increasing membership status, your chapter is rewarded with a limousine ride to a restaurant of your choice. Recognition is everyone’s responsibility and utmost greatest resource. You can use easy step-by-step instructions, ideas, and hints on making your year successful. FCCLA recognition is a commitment throughout the organization, and it is a great responsibility of your fellow members, chapters, and advisers at all levels to help you get recognized. This challenge is to move forward and toward new levels in chapters, regions, states, and as a combined national organization with the help of every FCCLA member. This year’s membership campaign is “2010 by 4/ 2010.” This campaign is supposed to help the organization reach 2,010 members by April 2010. The membership committee also decided that we would eliminate the award “Bakers Dozen” and replace it with the new award called “Give Me 10.” This award is for chapters that increase their members by ten. Chapters reaching this goal before State Leadership Conference will receive a certificate and be invited to a Membership Mixer at the State Leadership Conference.

Jared Sullenberger
PA FCCLA Vice-President of Membership

Hotline Editor
Julie Bush
Vice President of Public Relations



2009 National Recognition



Pennsylvania FCCLA



STAR Events Winners

Applied Technology

Senior – *Gold Medalists* Kiersten Mullins, Kiersten Steele, York County School of Technology

Career Investigation

Senior – *Gold Medalist* Kate Peterson, Cedar Crest High School

Chapter Service Project Display

Senior – *Gold Medalists* Katie Adkins, Cruz Hassler, James Buchanan High School Senior Chapter; *Silver Medalist* Melissa Harlan, South Williamsport Junior/Senior High School
Occupational – *Silver Medalists* Angela Lopez, Shannon Patrick, Ashley Weiss, Cumberland Perry Area Vocational Technical School

Chapter Service Project Manual

Junior – *Gold Medalists* Ashley Angle, Tori Nolan, James Buchanan High School Junior Chapter

Senior – *Gold Medalists* Denise Garver, Hanna Wooley, Mohawk Senior High School; *Silver Medalists* Jacqueline Hohl, Sierra Deangelo, Hillary Flook, South Williamsport Junior/Senior High School

Chapter Showcase Display

Senior – *Gold Medalists* Taylor Burnham, North East High School; Scott Krug, Jacob Smith, Cambria Heights Area Senior High School

Occupational – *Silver Medalist* Brandi Davis, Columbia-Montour Area Vocational Technical School; *Bronze Medalists* Katelyn Hallman, Crystal Garner, Bryana Gates, Center for Arts and Technology Pickering

Chapter Showcase Manual

Senior – *Silver Medalists* Charles Timmons, Rebecca Starliper, James Buchanan High School Senior Chapter

Occupational – *Silver Medalists* Jennifer Hornickell, Kate-Lynne Shaak, Heather Schwenk, Lebanon County Career and Technology Center; *Bronze Medalists* Briana Miller-Brandel, Caitlin Olson, Brittany Rossi, Berks Career and Technology Center West

Culinary Arts

Occupational – *Silver Medalists* Samantha Cancro, Lehigh Career and Technical Institute, Juana Mauras, Pottstown High School, Cody Fisher, Berks Career and Technology Center West

Early Childhood

Occupational – *Silver Medalist* Brittany Bowers, Northumberland County Career and Technology Center

Entrepreneurship

Senior – *Bronze Medalists* Alyssa Beagle, Lyssa Rupert, Danville High School; Occupational – *Silver Medalists* George Evans, Anika Kennedy, Krista Lewchenko, Beaver County Career and Technology Center

Focus on Children

Occupational – *Silver Medalists* Alica Bastress, Melissa Gotthard-Shumate, Staci Sweigart, Cumberland Perry Area Vocational Technical School

Hospitality

Senior/Occupational – *Silver Medalists* Courtney Myers, Colby Hunter, Central Westmoreland Career and Technology Center

Illustrated Talk

Senior – *Silver Medalists* Brittany Bird, Taylor Rupert, Danville High School
Occupational – *Silver Medalist* Lacy Cochran, Central Westmoreland Career and Technology Center

Interior Design

Senior – *Silver Medalist* Ashley Seneta, North East High School

Interpersonal Communications

Senior – *Bronze Medalist* Kimberly Spike, Cedar Crest High School
Occupational – *Gold Medalists* Samuel Miller, Felicia Seebold, Cumberland Perry Area Vocational Technical School

Job Interview

Senior – *Gold Medalist* Lacey Vallery, Cambria Heights Area Senior High School
Occupational – *Gold Medalist* Devon Miller, Lehigh Career and Technical Institute

Life Event Planning

Junior – *Silver Medalist* Alyssa Wills, Cambria Heights Middle School
Senior – *Gold Medalist* Brad Mikitko, Cambria Heights Area Senior High School
Occupational – *Silver Medalist* Alexander Medlar, Pottstown High School

National Programs in Action

Senior – *Gold Medalists* Heather Lechleitner, Katie Gregory, Northwest Area Senior High and Middle School

Occupational – *Gold Medalist* Chelsie Lang, Berks Career and Technology Center East
OCD

Parliamentary Procedure

Junior – *Silver Medalists* Ryan Hoelke, Alex Schriefer, Breana Gilkinson, Nikki Johnson, North East High School

Recycle and Redesign

Junior – *Gold Medalist* Julie Bush, Warrior Run Middle School

Promote and Publicize FCCLA!

Junior – *Silver Medalist* Brady Millin, West Forest Junior/Senior High School

Teach and Train

Occupational – *Silver Medalist* Aida Santos, York County School of Technology

Scholarship Recipients-

Samantha Cancro, Lehigh Career and Technical Institute; Juana Mauras, Pottstown High School; Cody Fisher, Berks Career and Technology Center West; Courtney Myers, Colby Hunter, Central Westmoreland Career and Technology Center; Alyssa Beagle, Lyssa Rupert, Danville High School; George Evans, Anika Kennedy, Krista Lewchenko, Beaver County Career and Technology Center

USA Academy

Julie Bush, Warrior Run High School; Ethan Deitrich, Nathan Morrissey, Catasauqua High School; Jacqueline Neff, Jared Sullenberger, Charleroi Area High School; Spencer Johnson, Columbia-Montour Area Vocational Technical School; Ashley Oliver, East Forest Junior/Senior High School; Tori Nolan, Ashley Angle, Charles Timmons, Katie Adkins, Rebecca Starliper, Cruz Hassler, James Buchanan High School; Jarrett Miller, Brady Millin, West Forest Junior/Senior High School

Adviser Recognition

Adviser to Adviser Leaders Deborah Dobies, A. W. Beattie Career Center; Mary Alyce Knauff, Forest Area School District
Spirit of Advising Deborah Dobies, A. W. Beattie Career Center
Adviser Mentor Sally Matje, Columbia-Montour Area Vocational Technical School; Deborah Waughen, Warrior Run High School
Adviser Academy Sasha Gregory, Susquenita Middle School

Has Your Chapter Been Recognized?

More times than not we hear about another PA FCCLA chapter going beyond the label. Now you may think to yourself and say, "Well my chapter has gone beyond their label." Well why not get recognized for it? Being part of the Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America, there are many ways your chapter can be recognized for their outstanding efforts in getting involved in FCCLA.

Advisers know how hard each student works, but there are times when you get a student who excels over the others or really shows their desire to make a difference in FCCLA. *Chapter Member of the Year* is an award given to a member of your chapter that has given an exceptional contribution to the FCCLA organization. Not only do the students work hard but so do the advisers. From experience I know that if it wasn't for the advisers a lot of the opportunities in FCCLA would not be available to students. *Adviser of the Year* is another award, but is given to an Adviser who has made outstanding contributions to FCCLA.

Other awards like the *Local Chapter Service Award*, *State Service Award* and *Honorary Membership Award*, are also recognition opportunities chapters can consider. Perhaps there is an adult that has given or shown outstanding service to your local chapter; they may be a perfect nominee for the *Local Chapter Service Award*. Or maybe that adult has shown outstanding service to both the local and state levels; what a perfect nominee for the *State Service Award*. The *Honorary Membership Award* is given to an adult, who has truly shown stupendous service on the local, state, and national levels.

Another way your chapter can be recognized is through your membership campaign. Each chapter that increases their membership by ten members will receive the *Give Me 10 Award* at the State Leadership Conference. This Award will replace the *Bakers Dozen Award*.

Many of the FCCLA Chapters are working hard to make a difference in their family and community; they are going *Beyond the Label*. Be recognized for what you do; it not only boosts your confidence, but the confidence of others, showing them they can make a difference. I encourage you to go online to www.pafccla.org and look at the Nomination Forms. Be recognized for what you do!

Amanda Morales
2009-2010 PA FCCLA
Vice President of Recognition



Attention Chapters!

Send in articles or highlights about your FCCLA chapter! Include information about planning, conducting, and evaluating projects, national programs, and examples of integration with family and consumer sciences education. Send information to PA FCCLA Public Relations. Go onto our state website: www.pafccla.org then to Public Relations, click Chapter Shoot Out Page, and this is where your articles could be! Jersey Shore Middle School already has submitted some of the things their chapter does and your chapter could too!

We Want to Promote, But How?

Public Relations is so important with FCCLA. When you need to know or find something about FCCLA, both state and national websites are very useful. On the national website you want to go to the news and media part. One of the parts to look under in news and media is “Teen Times.” This is one way to introduce FCCLA by handing out the magazine to your community. There is also a lot of information in the magazine to use. When starting a chapter you could hand out “Teen Times” to students in the school and have them look through the magazine and see that FCCLA is a great organization.



On the national website for Public Relations, when you click on the news and media section you get information about national chapter relations, resources and media. It explains why media is important. When I hear about media I think about someone advertising things on the radio, internet or television. This is another good way to let people know about an event that is happening. When advertising you can use the four Ws: Who, When, Where, Why. On the radio you could talk about what FCCLA is and what the event is that you are holding. On the internet depending on what site you put your information on, if it is not an FCCLA site then write a report about FCCLA and include pictures of people at an FCCLA event to give them ideas. Also, write about the event you are doing and if you did this event before include pictures from the previous years. On the TV you could have a chapter officer, state officer, or even a national officer and have them explain a little about FCCLA and then your chapter members could give information on the event that is going on.

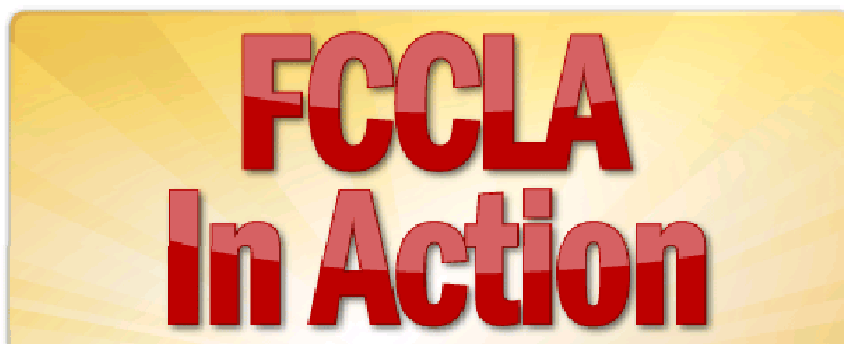
The national website has some good ideas with Public Relations. Our own state website does, too.

On Pennsylvania’s website for ideas on public relations you would want to go to the part where it says Public Relations News and Media. There they have many different places to go, such as Why FCCLA, Promoting FCCLA Tips, and the FCCLA Brochures. Why FCCLA explains ways that FCCLA helps the Schools, Students, Teachers, Family and the Community. Promoting FCCLA Tips is a marketing plan on promoting FCCLA within the chapter and state. The FCCLA Brochure includes the National Programs, competitive events, our goal, purposes, creed, a part for the adviser, and explains about FCCLA the Ultimate Leadership Experience. Many chapters want to get the word out about FCCLA. However, they are not sure how to do this. Using “The Guide to Promoting FCCLA, Brand...Promote...Fundraise” will help to inform the public about FCCLA. This guide is very useful. It includes: What is FCCLA, FCCLA National Programs, Competitive Events, FCCLA Planning Process Overview, FCCLA Logos Do’s and Don’ts, FCCLA editorial style guide, and media information.

Different ideas to promote FCCLA are using placemats in restaurants, bookmarks at libraries, inserting pages in local pamphlets, and bumper and window stickers.

At the local level you could have a night where the school would come and learn about FCCLA. Handing out brochures would be great! Some other good ideas would be to make some posters and hang them up at local stores, and even make bookmarks to have your community library hand them out. There are so many different ways to promote. Just start with one and go out and promote!

Julie Bush
Vice President of Public Relations



Youth and Violence Symposia

During the month of May Ethan Deitrich, Mrs. Emert and I attended a Youth and Violence Symposia sponsored by the Pennsylvania Department of Health. We represented Pennsylvania FCCLA. Ethan and I were the only students who attended it. Throughout the symposia we learned many facts and stunning statistics of Pennsylvania's annual death and injury rates due to violence for different age groups. Because I am just as old as some of these kids that have died or been injured, it was very alarming to see the amount of people in my age group who were in these statistics. I learned the different kinds of injuries, and how the injuries are categorized. Another interesting thing was hearing the adults take on the statistics and how they try to prevent and promote safety. This is where Ethan and I came in, we basically acted as liaisons to represent the young adults of suburban Pennsylvania. We gave our thoughts and descriptions of what we've seen. Also, we tried to help the adults in the room get more ideas of how to increase safety.

When everyone who attended introduced themselves we told them we represented Family, Career and Community Leaders of America. We told them what we do and how we can better ourselves through the information from the symposia and how we could possibly improve the Pennsylvania Task Force with our ideas and opinions. We informed them of our National Programs and of our STAR Events and how they are used to inform the member who is taking on the challenge. We gave good examples of these programs such as FACTS and STOP the Violence. This gave the attendees a good idea of how FCCLA works to make sure it covers all of the different parts of life that could be troubling yet overcomeable. I can really say that the Youth and Violence Symposia was very eye opening and it pushes me to make a difference in the state of Pennsylvania to find ways to decrease those alarming statistics.

Nathan Morrissey
Vice President of Elections



Welcome the PA FCCLA State Coordinator

Pennsylvania FCCLA would like to congratulate Mr. Gregory Nothstein on accepting the role of State Coordinator. An alumnus from Catasauqua FCCLA, Mr. Nothstein served as the Pennsylvania FCCLA State President in 2003-2004, and the Alumni and Associates representative to the Board of Director from 2004-2009. Mr. Nothstein is looking forward to promoting the mission and purposes of FCCLA throughout the state!

Shine On

Teens today are eager to be independent. They are figuring out who they are as individuals, what their beliefs are, and what interests them. And yes, these teenage years are filled with pimples, drama, and peer pressure - but maybe, just maybe there is hope for them.

The FCCLA national program Power of One can help an individual member learn skills that will enable them to become more independent and overcome some of these teenage obstacles. Power of One provides opportunities to make relationships stronger, achieve more confidence, improve job skills, and gain independence. The participating member completes all five units which are: A Better You (helps improve personal traits), Family Ties (improving relationships), Working on Working (preparing for a career and job), Take the Lead (develop better leadership qualities), and Speak out for FCCLA (promoting FCCLA and positive experiences). Upon completion, the member is recognized by the state and their achievement is then sent on for national recognition by FCCLA. Both the state FCCLA website, www.pafccla.org, and the national FCCLA website, www.fcclainc.org, contain information about the national programs. Power of One opens new doors for personal growth and leadership development.

Other FCCLA national programs can be used to fulfill each unit. For instance, in the first unit, A Better You, you can set any goals from improving health to polishing up a new found talent. The FCCLA national program Leaders at Work recognizes students who strengthen and sharpen skills for a career, job, and leadership. These skills can help in a wide range of career fields such as early childhood and family and consumer sciences education, production of food and services, home décor, and clothing and textiles. So let's say that you love to cook and also love to serve your community. For Leaders at Work, volunteer at a local shelter by preparing food and helping serve to the residents. By doing what you enjoy, you can help others and complete your first unit in Power of One.

Everyday brings new challenges, surprises, and joys to all of our lives. Every young child dreams of becoming a star. FCCLA provides many opportunities to its members not only to become that star, but to help them to shine their brightest. Power of One is one of those opportunities. As a teen myself, I know times are tough, but through this program you can boost your confidence and allow inner strengths to shine through. So be a star, go "Beyond the Label," and achieve greatness through Power of One.

Lalitha Durlin
Vice President
of National Programs



Our Number One Goal!

The State Executive Council has set this year's goals for the state association. The number one goal is: To promote awareness and increase knowledge of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America by conducting public relations campaigns to reach parents and communities in Pennsylvania. As the Vice President of Public Relations I would love to see this goal accomplished! I am asking if you could go and promote FCCLA to your parents, schools, and community. An idea could be to go to a town meeting and have a presentation on what Family, Career, and Community, Leaders of America is. If you need some hints on how to promote FCCLA, look at the "We Want to Promote, But How?" article on page five.

Julie Bush
Vice President of Public Relations

Help: We Need A Partnership!

By: Jarrett Miller

Hello everyone! I am your 2009 – 2010 First Vice President, Parliamentarian, and Chairperson of Development. One of my goals is to help the organization run as smoothly as possible. From assisting the State Executive Council in Parliamentary Law to partnering with corporations, my job is to help you!

Partnerships benefit our organization very much. We use our partnerships as resources for our chapters, state association, and our national organization. Partners can supply the needed resources an organization like ours needs, as well as financial support. A quote from the Pennsylvania FCCLA website, “Partner groups have access to curriculum materials, grants, and human resources.” Not only can our organization prosper from partnerships. The partners also receive our help as well. An example is last year’s National Outreach Project, Feed the Children. National FCCLA partnered with Feed the Children and they prospered from our large donation to stop child hunger in America.

Our state association has partnerships, but one of the large partnerships is the National Organizations for Youth Safety (NOYS). NOYS helps teenagers become leaders in all the aspects of their lives. NOYS helps teens to promote healthy life styles. National FCCLA also partners with NOYS. Find information about youth safety at www.noys.org. PA FCCLA also partners with the Pennsylvania Bankers Association. Many of these partnerships are beneficial to our organization and we use them to participate in our National Programs in Action. As you can tell already, the Pennsylvania Bankers Association would participate in “Financial Fitness.”

Partnerships can be very influential to your chapter as well. For example, my chapter works with our local Lion’s Club. The Lion’s Club helps my chapter with financial aid, but in return wants to know what FCCLA does in the community and in what ways they can participate.

If your chapter has a chance to partner with another organization or a corporation, take the steps to accomplish that goal. It is very worthwhile and if you need any help you can always contact me or our State Facilitator, Mrs. Sue Fisher for help. Our contact information is listed below.

Jarrett Miller
2009 – 2010 Pennsylvania FCCLA
First Vice President
www.pafccla.org
jmiller.pafccla@yahoo.com

Sue Fisher
State Facilitator
www.pafccla.org
sufisher@state.pa.us



Teach and Train STAR Event

Over the last couple of years, FCCLA has changed and added some new STAR Events. Last year, there were two new events and one of those two is Teach and Train.

What is Teach & Train?

Teach and Train is an individual STAR Event that is judged based on an individual's research of a profession in the teaching/training field. Each participant will choose an occupation in the education field and with the information gathered, they must complete a portfolio, a lesson plan, and a ten-minute oral presentation. Along with these requirements, Senior and Occupational participants must also complete a shadowing experience with someone in the field they are researching. Some examples of careers in the education field include: high school teachers, middle school teachers, elementary school teachers, vocational school teachers, etc. The participant may choose a specific subject as well like art, history, math, English, or even a language course.

Forming a Portfolio

There are a few key elements that should be included in the portfolio portion of the project. The first element is a self assessment. This section should include answers to important questions about why the career was chosen and what got the participant interested in it. Also, questions that may arise while researching the career should be answered. Both the lesson plan and shadowing experience should be summarized in the portfolio. Last, but not least is the follow-up and bibliography. The follow-up should include thank you notes and a summary of what could have been done to help the project run more smoothly and the bibliography should include any research sites or books as well as the people who helped. All of the required parts of the portfolio can be found in the STAR Events Manual on the National FCCLA Website.

Tips for Success

1. Follow the Rules: Points can and will be deducted for not following the rules in the manual.
2. Get It Done Early: Procrastination will only hurt you in the long-run.
3. Use the Rubric: It is your most valuable resource.
4. Be Prepared: Write your speech ahead of time. Again, procrastination will only hurt you in the long-run.
5. Write, Edit, and Rewrite: Rewriting is NOT a bad thing.
6. Note Cards Can Be Your Best Friend: If you are prone to forgetfulness, jot down a few ideas to keep you going.
7. Practice, Practice, Practice: The more familiar you are with what you want to say, the better it will sound and the easier it will be to remember.

Jacqueline Neff
PA FCCLA State Secretary

Getting to know our Keynoter for our 2010 State Leadership Conference!

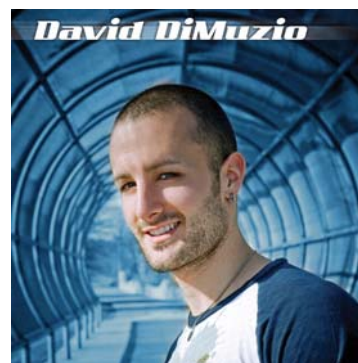
This year for our SLC keynote speaker we have David DiMuzio; David is a professional entertainer. When he was ten he became obsessed with juggling. Then for the next 6 years he practiced juggling for three hours everyday! He has decided to leave his house and go on tour. He has some songs on his website! Check out David's website: www.daviddimuzio.com. David also has Myspace, Twitter, and Facebook!

Keep in touch with our SLC keynoter!

Myspace- www.myspace.com/daviddimuzio

Twitter- www.twitter.com/daviddimuzio

Facebook- www.facebook.com/daviddimuzio



PA FCCLA Statewide Community Service Project

Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) has chosen Children's Miracle Network as the 2009-2011 National Outreach Project. In partnership, the 2009-2010 Pennsylvania FCCLA Statewide Community Outreach Project is Children's Miracle Network.

To help support this project, national FCCLA has created a campaign called **DIG IT!**; each chapter can work in their community to grow flowers, each flower representing a miracle. While doing so, the chapters can raise money that will be donated to a local Children's Miracle Network Hospital. Expect a **DIG IT!** kit to arrive at your school in September, which will include all the information and materials needed to get started. Read more about **DIG IT** in the September/October 2009 "Teen Times" and check the national FCCLA website to find resources and a lesson plan for **DIG IT!** FCCLA is awarding prizes as an initiative for all chapters to do their best! So, start planning and be on the look out for the **DIG IT!** kit so that you can make miracles happen in your community! Chapters may also develop projects in partnership with Children's Miracle Network that best utilize their interests, skills, resources, and needs.

Children's Miracle Network

Established in 1983, the Children's Miracle Network has been helping children by supporting improvements in health care for millions of younger people around the world. Contributions account for countless pediatric programs and services which impact the lives of young people who are battling every kind of illness and disease. It takes care of babies who have to be weighed in grams instead of ounces and teenagers who are missing out on growing up.

Children's Miracle Network's mission is to come up with funds and create awareness programs along with partners for the hospitals' foundation and the children they serve each day. It is a non-profit organization that raises money for more than 170 children's hospitals. Countless numbers of people have also come together in their community for local sick and injured kids. It improves and saves the lives of 17 million kids per year with the help of partners who hold thousands of special events and fundraisers year round. The organization has raised more than \$3.4 billion to date.

Zachary seemed to be a normal 13 year-old seventh grader. He had always been healthy. When bruises started appearing, it was brushed off as simply the results of being an active boy. It wasn't until Zack began complaining of other symptoms such as rash, fever, loss of appetite, that Zack's mother knew he needed to see a doctor. After blood tests were done at the doctor's office, Zack was immediately sent to Children's Hospital Boston for more testing. Within 12 hours, Zack and his mother found out that he had acute lymphoblastic leukemia which is the most common leukemia in kids. Similar stories can be found, naming children who suffer everyday from a disease or illness. That is why we chose Children's Miracle Network as Pennsylvania FCCLA's statewide community service project. We can help kids like Zack keep comfortable and get well again. Find a hospital in your area that is part of the Children's Miracle Network at <http://www.childrensmiracletnetwork.org/HospitalSearch.aspx?state=PA>.

Social Networking

Do you tweet? We tweet now, too! Be sure to follow PA FCCLA on Twitter! To follow, visit <http://twitter.com/PAFCCLA>. While you are surfing the web, be sure to learn about the latest FCCLA happenings on Facebook, too! Just search for "Pennsylvania FCCLA" to become a fan!

