



City Year's Global Youth Service Day a big success

By STAFF REPORT
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City Year New Hampshire mobilized more than 900 children and youth to participate in the 23rd annual Global Youth Service Day (GYSD) on April 15.

Six hundred elementary school children were engaged through five Manchester elementary schools where City Year corps members serve as tutors, mentors and role models for at-risk youth. In addition, 300 students were mobilized at Seabrook Middle School, and more were mobilized in Nashua.

Established in 1988, GYSD is the largest service event in the world and is now celebrated in more than 100 countries. On GYSD, children and youth address their community's needs in partnership with families, schools, community and faith-based organizations, businesses, and governments.

In Manchester, City Year corps members, ages 17-24, planned and implemented every aspect of the day's events, mobilizing 600 elementary school youth through a variety of projects designed to improve the schools and their surrounding neighborhoods and to get the children familiar with being active, engaged citizens.



Students work on a painting project for Global Youth Service Day at Seabrook Middle School.

Projects took place at Beech Street, Bakersville, Gossler Park, Parker-Varney, and Wilson elementary schools. Projects at each school varied, and were determined through input from each school's administration. At each school, student body surveys asked the students for their ideas on what improvements they'd like to see in their school or community.

Projects included murals and other painting projects, landscape beautification, indoor and outdoor construction projects, neighborhood cleanups, and

school legacy projects designed to be passed down and sustained from year to year.

City Year New Hampshire unites corps members for a year of public service. Corps members seek to address the dropout crisis by mentoring and tutoring elementary school students in the classroom and by leading powerful after school and Saturday programs designed to keep children engaged in their communities, excited about school, and on track to graduate from high school.