



High Praise for City Year Workers

52 members will work in Manchester’s six elementary schools as tutors and mentors.

By Ted Siefer
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The Red Coats are coming – along with the khaki pants and Timberland boots.

City and school officials recently welcomed a new crop of City Year workers, the largest contingent the city has seen as the organization makes Manchester its headquarters.

More than 50 members of the national service program will work in six Manchester elementary schools this year. They will tutor, mentor and serve as role models for at-risk kids.

Speaking before a crowd at City Hall Plaza, Mayor Ted Gatsas said the members of the corps made a strong impression last year.

“The students, teachers, principals know who the people in the red jackets are. Last year, they were a little apprehensive. But this year, they welcome you with open arms,” Gatsas said.

District Superintendent Tom Brennan praised the young people for taking on what he conceded was a challenging assignment.

“You have a tough road ahead,” Brennan said. “But you bring to the city a diversity our kids need to see. You’re their role models.”

The 52 City Year workers hail from



City Year workers line up in their red jackets during a welcome ceremony at City Hall. They will tutor, mentor and serve as role models for at-risk kids in Manchester elementary schools.

around the country, from Los Angeles to Louisville, Kentucky, and many are recent college graduates.

A large portion of them are also from the Granite State, including John Hathaway of Stratham who is a project leader.

“I serve because one day the world will be a better place. Until then, I need to be better for it,” Hathaway told the audience, before making way for other members to introduce themselves.

In addition to the introductions at the ceremony, the group demonstrated its esprit de corps, marching and doing warm-up exercises in unison.

A large portion of City Year New Hampshire’s funding comes from corporate sponsors, including Comcast, National Grid and Heinemann Publishing, and company representatives were on hand for the ceremony.

Another person who attended was Clay Whitfield, who lives in a building where corps members live alongside some of the students they’re seeking to help.

It isn’t just in the schools,” Whitfield said. “These people are role models 24 hours a day. They show kids how to conduct themselves with pride. They’re awesome.”