

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
YOUTH LEARN TO “PAY IT
FORWARD”

DATE: DECEMBER 20, 2006

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: VICKI CRAVENS
(214) 334-2773 (cell)
vcravens@comcast.net
www.leadershiplano.org

On Thursday, January 18, 2007, Plano Youth Leadership (PYL) will hold Session IV, “My Impact on Others”, for its 2006-2007 class. The purpose of PYL is to train tenth grade students in leadership techniques and community awareness to prepare them to make a positive impact on the quality of life in the Plano community. Through a series of monthly class sessions, which run concurrently with the school year, students develop the confidence and knowledge they need to succeed in leadership positions while learning about service opportunities around the community. The January session is designed to teach participants the concept of “paying it forward” – one of the overarching themes of the PYL curriculum.

Session IV will bring together several social services agencies in the Plano area in order to expose the students to the many volunteer opportunities available for them to donate both their time and their talents. Agencies represented include The Turning Point, Collin County Children’s Advocacy Center, CITY House, and Journey of Hope. Students will be presented with several different role-playing scenarios in which

they will be required to ask for some form of assistance from these agencies. The students will try to put themselves in the shoes of others and come up with the best way to deal each scenario. According to Mia Mbroh, PYL Board member and session chair, “Our goal is to emphasize the leadership traits of empathy and the ability to inspire others, along with motivating the students to deal with challenges in life.”

In late January, Plano Youth Leadership (PYL) will begin accepting applications for its 2007-2008 program. Students who are currently enrolled in the 9th grade and planning to enter the 10th grade during the 2007-2008 school year are eligible to apply if they reside in the area serviced by the Plano Independent School District. For more information, visit www.planoyouthleadership.org.