

Kristen Dalrymple

Education is the key to the empowerment of the younger generation. In 2014, I created a program that teaches elementary school students how to become leaders of the community through volunteerism. Children for Change teaches elementary students how to be an influence in our society through crafts, guest speakers, and service learning project. Students have partnered with a local nursing home, a South African orphanage, the local fire and police departments and homeless shelters.

Since its creation in 2014, this program has influenced the lives of over 100 kids and has won two prestigious awards, the Youth Service America Ohio National Child Awareness Month Ambassadorship and the Duke Energy Cincinnati Museum Center 2016 Difference Makers Award.

Children for Change recently hosted a Global Youth Leadership Workshop, where students in kindergarten through sixth grade completed service projects for police officers and learned about our impact on the environment. Students made goody bags, paper firetrucks and paper police cars for the policer officers and firefighters who dedicate their lives to help our community. In the second session, an environmental educator cam from our local aquarium to discuss the environmental problems that humans are creating today, such as finning, burning of fossil fuels and the benefits of recycling. Students made flowers out of water or pop bottle lids to place at local elementary schools and put a plan in action to make an impact on saving our planet. Children for Change works to teach as many students as possible about the benefits of leading their classmates and community in volunteerism and make an impact in the world.