



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SUMMER TEAM UP CHALLENGE CHAMPIONS AWARDED \$10,000

Student-led Groups from The ARC of San Antonio, Destination Imagination and Wreaths Across America Awarded \$10,000 to Continue Community Service Projects

SAN ANTONIO (August 15, 2012) – Silver & Black Give Back has awarded three student-led groups \$10,000 each for their participation in the Summer Team Up Challenge, presented by AT&T. From a collection of 10 semifinalists, groups from The ARC of San Antonio, Destination Imagination and Wreaths Across America were selected as Champions for the Summer Team Up Challenge.

SUMMER TEAM UP CHALLENGE CHAMPIONS:

The ARC of San Antonio: For their project, developmentally disabled teenagers packed and distributed pet food for homebound seniors and families on food assistance that might not otherwise be able to take care of their four-legged friends. The group packaged and distributed more than 2,000 pounds of dog food over the course of the summer, manned its own Meals on Wheels “pet food” route and worked on their motor and communication skills through their project participation. The ARC of San Antonio will use the money awarded to continue and help those families and pets in need.

Destination Imagination benefitting Child Safe: The Destination Imagination teams from two north side schools held fundraisers to renovate the sensory therapy room at Child Safe, a charity that serves sexually abused children. Through their fundraising, the group was able to paint a mural and provide new toys and furniture to help create a calming and safe environment for kids in the sensory therapy room at Child Safe. With the money awarded, the Destination Imagination team will also renovate the waiting room at Child Safe.

Wreaths Across America: A youth ambassador for Wreaths Across America and 30 of her friends created a “Youth Army” with the goal of putting a wreath on every veteran’s grave at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery for the holidays. Through their fundraising efforts, they hope to honor the fallen heroes and decorate more than 120,000 graves on National Wreath Day Dec. 15.

The Team Up Challenge is a youth-led service-learning initiative that encourages students to apply what they are learning in the classroom to the real world, bringing education alive in powerful ways. Students create projects that address needs that will help improve their community in one of five categories: Arts & Culture, Education, Environment, Health & Wellness or Uniformed Services.

Ten Team Up Challenge semifinalists received \$1,000 to work on their projects throughout the summer and the three champions are awarded prize money to continue to implement positive change in our community.

Applications for the 2012-2013 Academic Year Team Up Challenge are now available on TeamUpChallenge.com.

About Silver & Black Give Back:

Silver & Black Give Back is a public charity that invests in our community in partnership with the entire Spurs Sports & Entertainment family of teams: the Spurs (NBA), Rampage (AHL), Silver Stars (WNBA) and Austin Toros (NBA Developmental League). Silver & Black Give Back supports youth sports and youth led service programs throughout San Antonio and South Texas. The two premier initiatives of SBGB are the Team Up Challenge and Spurs Youth Basketball League.

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