Cats in the Community Day 2009

With your support, here’s what we accomplished for our 2009 partner, Tucson Urban League’s Project YES! Project YES is an after school tutoring and mentoring program for elementary school children.

- More than 500 University of Arizona faculty, staff and student volunteers contributed over 1,900 hours of time to complete an astonishing makeover of Tucson Urban League’s Project YES at 100 West 37th St. According to IRS guidelines that is a dollar value of more than $26,600.

- Generous cash and in-kind donations, valued at more than $46,000, covered project materials and supplies. 100% of gifts were put towards the project.

- UA graphic design class created and implemented the design concept throughout the site, including color scheme, design scheme, and the incredible murals that grace the outside walls and will ward off tagging, enhancing the neighborhood for years to come.

- Repaired and repainted entire stucco exterior of Project YES.

- Dedicated crew from UA and Mission View Elementary prepared and served breakfast, fresh Mexican buffet lunch, and snacks for the hundreds of volunteers.

- Completely renovated computer systems, including twenty refurbished computers, new software, and age-appropriate educational software. Cats Day volunteers removed several hundred “dead” computers that were cluttering the entire site, and donated them to World Care to be recycled.

- Created private tutoring area in previously unused area of the building.

- Designed a “resource room” in which the children can work with maps, encyclopedias, and conduct computer research for their school assignments.

- Steel crew fabricated 12 bases for picnic tables, and the phenomenal woodshop crew built and varnished 12 picnic tables with benches (divided between Project YES and Mission View Elementary School), 8 free standing benches, and a backpack rack.

- Procured grants for a shade structure, which will provide the children with much needed respite from the potentially deadly Arizona sun.

- Procured the donation and installation of carpeting for the private tutoring area, media room, resource room and front hallway.

- Arranged the donation and installation of state of the art security system.

- Trimmed trees, weeded, cleaned up Project YES grounds.

- Purchased 200 books and encyclopedias to enhance the Project YES library.

- Repainted US map at Mission View Elementary, adding the names of states to serve as a geography lesson.

- UA families built and painted 25 bird houses and decorated “Dia de los Ninos” bags for the children at nearby Mission View Elementary.

- UA volunteers joined their hands and hearts, and had a wonderful day of community service. The results will stand the test of time!