

The A-Team Newsletter

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Service Project

Public Relations Ariell Peters, Nacajha Young, Vice President Cristina Loera, Audrey Vansteenbergh, President Stephanie Loera, Treasurer Juanita Lowry-Bennett, Secretary Citlali Salas

Service Project: Samaritan Inn

Located in McKinney, the Samaritan Inn is more than just a place to spend the night. It is a comprehensive program that teaches self-sufficiency and life skills to restore people to independence through training, support, and personalized case management. The Inn helps meet the needs of individuals and families experiencing homelessness. On a typical night, approximately 160 people sleep at the Inn, of which 60 are children.

The kitchen staff prepares over 175,000 meals a year at the Inn. The Sponsor &

Serve a Meal program helps greatly reduce food expenses and allows volunteers a hands-on opportunity to interact with the residents.

On December 4, the A-Team sponsored lunch for a day at the Inn. Chili dogs, black bean and corn salad, a salad bar, desserts, and drinks were served. The A-Team helped set up the food, served lunch, and helped clean up.

Afterwards, the A-Team was given a tour of the Inn by former A&M-Commerce A-Team member, caseworker Brandy Stockton.

Fundraising Event: Bake Sale

To raise money for their service project, the A-Team held a bake sale at Atwood's located in Sulphur Springs on November 20.

Members of the A-Team donated delicious baked goods that quickly sold out. The A-Team reached their goal of \$200 to sponsor a meal at the Samaritan Inn.



Laporshia Jones, Vice President Cristina Loera, Public Relations Ariell Peters, President Stephanie Loera, Courtney Holt, Lacie Palmer, Audrey Vansteenbergh



Laporshia Jones, Public Relations Ariell Peters, Nacajha Jones, Vice President Cristina Loera

Trunk-or-Treat

On Halloween, A-Team members volunteered at the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) event, Trunk-or-Treat. Volunteers handed out candy, popcorn, drinks, and cotton candy to children from the community.

Dia de los Muertos

Dia de los Muertos (Spanish for "Day of the Dead") is a Mexican holiday that focuses on gatherings of family and friends to pray for and remember loved ones who have died. Hispanic Outreach and the Hispanic Student Association put on a celebration at the amphitheater to celebrate this holiday. A-Team volunteers decorated for the event and served *pan dulce* to staff and students that attended.



President Stephanie Loera, University President Dr. Keck, and Vice President Cristina Loera

2nd Annual Presidents Networking Night

President Stephanie and Vice President Cristina attended a networking night where they had the opportunity to meet University President Dr. Keck and Student Regent Stephanie Martinez. This was a wonderful opportunity for the A-Team officers to network with faculty, staff, and other organizations.

Dylan's Drivers

Dylan's Drivers was born from a drinking and driving tragedy that took the life of Dylan Ballard in 2011. This non-profit organization's goal is to prevent similar tragedies in their community. A-Team members help give Lamar County residents free, safe, and confidential rides home.

Thanks-for-Giving

In collaboration with Campus Activities Board (C.A.B.), the department of Leadership Engagement & Development (L.E.A.D.) hosted an opportunity to help low-income families in the Commerce community have the ultimate holiday experience by providing 15 families with a full Thanksgiving dinner with all the trimmings, along with a few goodies for the children. A-Team volunteers helped decorate the holiday packages as well as helped deliver them.



Vice President Cristina Loera, Grace Campbell, President Stephanie Loera



President Stephanie, Secretary Lali Salas

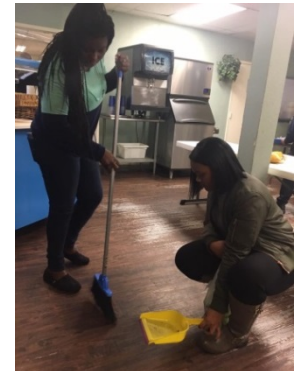


Secretary Lali Salas, Grace Campbell, Public Relations Ariell Peters, Vice President Cristina Loera

Volunteer Pictures

If you are a member of the A-Team and want your volunteer pictures to be featured in our next newsletter, please contact Public Relations officer, Ariell Peters.

Thank You to Our Volunteers!



A-Team Officers

President:
Stephanie Loera

Vice President:
Cristina Loera

Secretary:
Lali Salas

Treasurer:
Juanita Lowry-Bennett

Public Relations:
Ariell Peters



Don't Forget to Follow Us on Social Media!

Facebook: The Advocates at A&M

Instagram: @tamucadvocates

Twitter: @tamuc_advocates

Email address: advocates.tamuc@gmail.com

