Volunteer Highlights: Juarez, Mexico

Juarez, Mexico

Volunteers visited Guillermo Porras Muñoz Preschool to carry out activities including: painting of interior and exterior buildings, facades, planters, sidewalks, ramps, exterior mesh, recreational areas and tree liming.

La Vid - Centro de Protección para Niños A.C., an institution dedicated to provide shelter, food, and homework assistance to children whose parents are unable to care for them on a daily basis received a visit from Lexmark volunteers who participated in games and activities with the kids and provided coloring and craft activities. They also shared lunch together.

Kids gathered at the Centro Familiar de Ayuda (The Family Help Center), felt the energy of volunteers as they shared a day filled with fun and laughter. Games such as a modern version of “Rock, Paper, Scissors”, musical chairs and a jumping rope challenge brought out everyone’s competitive side. Coloring and drawing activities were also provided and lunch was shared by all.

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The 2019 tree planting campaign was named “Plantemos hoy para tener oxígeno mañana (Let’s plant today, to have oxygen tomorrow).” The Escuela Primaria Federal Educar para la Libertad, an elementary school, and the kindergarten “Catalina Moreno Terrazas” received 70 trees each as part of this event. The young volunteers benefited from learning how to prepare the land and plant the trees.

Employees participated in the United Fund Program “Let’s Read”. The “Let’s Read” program seeks to encourage reading from an early age by facilitating access to books within school classrooms. Volunteers lined books to help prolong their life when read by preschool students.

Teen girls at the Centro de Amor y Superación, an Institution that provides full time shelter to girls, ages 10 to 18 shared a day with Lexmark employees who brought activities and gifts to share. The day started with an icebreaker, followed by an assortment of games including: drawings, Lotería, board games, “Rock, Paper, Scissors with hulas,” and catching bean-filled ballons with towels. The girls shared their dreams of future careers through drawing in a heartwarming activity. A shared lunch provided additional time for the girls to share their experiences, and
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Lexmark employees and local university student volunteers from the Universidad Tecnolóógica de Ciudad Juarez (UTCJ) revitalized the Escuela Secundaria por Cooperación No. 8357, a middle school with an attendance of 270 students. The group's goal for the day was painting four buildings, with three classrooms each, and one restroom building. The school's students selected two shades of blue for the building to match the school’s mascot—the dolphin. Thanks to everyone’s hard work, all five buildings were completely painted in about four hours, with time to spare to paint the planters and small details.

Residents of the Asilo Casa Esperanza senior center enjoyed socializing with Lexmark volunteers during a breakfast of red tamales and warm chocolate. After sharing the meal, the group enjoyed board games, lottery, dominoes, coloring and nail painting for the ladies.

Lexmark partners with Consejo Regional para el Desarrollo de la Educación y Sustentabilidad (CONREDÉS), a regional council for education and sustainability. The organization aligns workforce development efforts between business and academic sectors. CONREDÉS arranges industrial site visits for university students, providing them the opportunity to experience plant operations first-hand. Visits to Lexmark have been focused on problem-solving and improvements in areas such as supply chain, facilities and lean manufacturing processes.

Volunteers traveled by bus to Albergue Santa María, a shelter that provides care for children (ages 1 through 18 years) who are up for adoption. With the help of donations from different companies and institutions, the nuns who run the shelter provide food, care and education. Volunteers led a dynamic icebreaker, followed by a popular emoji crafting activity and soccer matches. The volunteers prepared lunch for the children and engaged them in academic trivia where they could earn prizes. The day ended with a piñata filled with candy.