



Teacher Academy Food Drive



Construction builds doghouses for Lulu's Rescue

### **Community Outreach for the Holidays** **Polytech students give back**

As 2014 draws to a close we all look forward to spending time with family and friends, parties, shopping, and holiday dinners. It's also a great time to give back to those in need, and students at Polytech have stepped up to the plate to do just this in a variety of ways.

- The Construction Science Program donated building supplies and their time to construct 12 doghouses for Lulu's Rescue, a volunteer animal rescue non-profit organization, just in time for the winter season. The doghouses will be distributed to families in need during December to protect outdoor family pets from upcoming harsh winter weather conditions.
- The student organization, SkillsUSA, adopted local families for the holidays in conjunction with the United Way of Hunterdon County. The Education, Visual Arts, Health Science, Nursing, Law Enforcement, Cosmetology and Culinary Arts programs at Polytech participated by collecting money, purchasing, wrapping and delivering presents for each of the families. There are a total of eight families who have been adopted.
- The Education Programs; Teacher Academy & Early Childhood Education Programs hosted a food drive at both Polytech campuses and collected 10 large boxes of food. All items were delivered to the Flemington Food Pantry on November 26<sup>th</sup>. Several students from the programs and their instructor, Natalie Guarino, also volunteered at the Norwescap Food Bank in Phillipsburg on Saturday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>. They worked in the warehouse boxing, sorting and labeling food.

- Another student organization, FCCLA (Family, Career & Community Leaders of America), adopted a family through REACH Education Services, which serves families with special needs. The FCCLA students, who are from Early Childhood Education and Teacher Academy, are collecting money to purchase presents for each family member. The presents will then be wrapped and delivered just in time for the holidays.
- Animal Technologies/Large Animal student, Veronica Lees, organized Polytech Project K9, a holiday supply drive for K-9 units, both dogs and handlers, deployed overseas through the US War Dog Association, a nonprofit organization of former and current US Military Dog Handlers. The students in both Large and Small Animals are running a children's book drive and are collecting gently used children's books for ages 3-6 years. The books will be sent to the Whitehouse Preparatory School.

Community outreach programs give students the unique and rewarding opportunity to share their skills and knowledge while helping others. Through these volunteering efforts teachers promote citizenship, and students have the opportunity to assist those in need. "I am extremely proud of our current projects and how eager our students are to assist members of their communities." Dan Kerr, Principal.

For more information about our programs, please visit us at [www.hcpolytech.org](http://www.hcpolytech.org).