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Juvenile Probationers Bring a Little of Fiesta to Nursing Home Residents



On Saturday, April 21, 2012, young and old came together to share a little of San Antonio's Fiesta spirit. Thirteen youth from the Bexar County Juvenile Probation Department held a bingo for elderly residents at Mission Oaks Manor Nursing Home located at 3030 Roosevelt Avenue.

These youth joined millions of other young people around the world who created community change as part of Global Youth Service Day, the world's largest and longest-running service event. Now in its 24th year, Global Youth Service Day (April 20-22, 2012) was celebrated in more than 100 countries. Bexar County juvenile probationers used their afterschool

time to plan and create art works with a fiesta theme, such as piñatas, necklaces and bracelets. They then led a Mexican bingo (Loteria) where they gave their art creations as bingo prizes to the elderly residents at Mission Oaks Manor.

One youth reflected on her experience by declaring that "... Going to the nursing home was very heart-warming The elderly people were very patient, sweet, funny, and really smart But I ... teared up because the elderly need special attention" Another youth summed up her experience: "God is our Father and we are all his children."