**PROJECT REFLECTION**

**Washington Supreme Basketball and**

 **Jason Lee Cheer Vendor Fair and Car Wash**

NADIA CALDWELL

LEAD CERTIFICATION

EXPECTATIONS

 In terms of how my expectations compared to what actually happened, I feel they were different, but close. The cheerleaders were really excited and worked really hard at the car wash. Out of 15 cheerleaders we had 13 show-up, which is a better turn out than previous years’ fundraisers. I had not expected that. I also did not expect to be manning the vendor fair alongside the basketball coach. However, it was nice as I made connections with different vendors. Which turned out to be good as two of the vendors I met have considered sponsoring girls. All together the cheer team made 1013 dollars, and that was way more than we could have asked for.

 With the high flow of cars coming to the car wash, the majority of the girls were working at the car wash. We had a few girls on different corners waving banners to get people’s attention. We had hoped to have girls in the vendor fair, however, it did not work out that way. Instead of guiding the girls as was planned in my team work plan, I ended up working the vendor fair.

REACTION/RESPONSE

 I think that I responded well at the event. As a leader, I tried to be true to my leadership goals. By stepping in and manning the vendor fair allowed the girls to work where they were making the most money. As a leader, I wanted to help the girls to feel accomplished and they did. I do think I could have found another way to assist the girls. I could have waved signs so one of the girls could have been in the vendor fair. However, I learned that there are multiple ways to foster the agency of others. Not solely by sitting back and allowing them to do their thing, but to also step in when they need you to.

TEAMMATES

 I believe that my teammates would have considered me very helpful. They would have said that I did step in when they need my help and work with them when they needed me to as well. I think that they would agree that I didn’t simply take over and do everything, but allowed them to ask for help if they needed.

 I think that they would recognize that I was committed to collaborating with them and that I was on board for the common purpose. As we were all there to raise money for the girls the common purpose was easy to be on board with this. From my sights, they were very pleased with my help.

There really was no controversy, with the exception of clean up. We had vendors who had trouble cleaning up with in the time frame. It was easily handled. We (coaching staff) politely informed them that we needed to be out of the building in 15 minutes. There is room to improve as we could have specified more clearly the time schedule.

CHANGE

 I would like to believe that this project helped contribute to some greater positive social change. I know it did within our team, what we earned is enough to cover four girl’s uniforms. On top of that this event got the girls faces out into the community and potential got sponsors for the team.

 These girls attend a middle school that is a lower socio-economic class community. They come from homes that could not afford to necessarily pay for the entirety of a $250 uniform packet. These girls worked hard and raised money on their own for their uniforms and that is something they can be proud of. This event changed them and how they see their world, you could see it in their radiant faces as their heard how much they made.

 Not only did this event effect change for the girls, but also helped the community. The hilltop area of Tacoma has been through a lot. From extremely high rates of gang violence in the 90s’ to now facing gentrification. Not often did the Hilltop get to have such open exposure to community engagement. Although gentrification is notably not praised, the community is seemingly more open to interaction. There girls being out their brought all sorts of characters to the event. It was so exciting and communal. We had a vendor barbecuing and selling other foods and they made as much if not more than the cheerleaders and basketball players combined. This event did, in my opinion, bring some positivity to the community.