

For More Information Contact:

EmmaRose Chemidlin, Marketing Manager
Junior Achievement of New Jersey
609-419-0404
echemidlin@ja.org
www.janj.org



Pictured (L-R): Kanika Griffith, teacher at UC TEAMS; Jennifer Young of State Farm; Crystal Attidore, valedictorian; Joi Bethea, Principal of UC TEAMS High School; Karina Olivier, salutatorian; Dawn Schwartz, VP of Development & Communications at Junior Achievement of New Jersey

State Farm Donates \$10,000 to Support Service Learning with JA High School Heroes

Plainfield, NJ - For the third straight year, State Farm has generously supported the *JA High School Heroes*, one of Junior Achievement of New Jersey's premier service learning initiatives. With a \$10,000 contribution, State Farm has enabled more than 40 high school students at UC TEAMS Charter School to empowered more than 200 elementary students with vital career readiness and financial literacy education.

As JA High School Heroes, the UC TEAMS students serve as classroom role models for elementary students, teaching age-appropriate lessons about money management, savings and protection, business, and life skills while instilling confidence and driving home the economic value of a diploma. For example, the 1st grade program, "Our Families," helps students learn about the concepts of wants versus needs. In the 3rd Grade program, "Our City", students layout a small city with miniature buildings to see how city planning works and create business plans for their own restaurants. In the 4th grade program, "Our Region", students learn how companies earn money and how different regions of the country are better suited for certain different products and services.

This initiative helps students recognize the importance of establishing and maintaining healthy financial habits, and enables the JA High School Heroes from UC TEAMS Charter School in Plainfield to impart these values to youth in their lower grades and the neighboring Evergreen Elementary who often go without receiving direction in this aspect of their lives.

An Evergreen Elementary school teacher shared, "I liked how my students learned the value of education and how they learned from other young people how it related in achieving success in this globalized world." A UC TEAMS high school hero junior also noted, "I gained confidence as a leader and for reaching my career goals. Thank you State Farm and Junior Achievement."

About Junior Achievement of New Jersey

Junior Achievement of New Jersey (JANJ) is dedicated to giving young people the knowledge and skills they need to own their economic success, plan for their future, and make smart academic and economic choices. JA programs are delivered by corporate and community volunteers. They provide relevant, hands-on experiences that give students from kindergarten through high school knowledge and skills in financial literacy, work readiness and entrepreneurship. During the 2013-14 school year, JANJ will reach nearly 48,000 students in more than 71 school districts across the New Jersey. For more information visit us at www.janj.org. Follow us on Twitter and like us on Facebook.