Florida Baptist Children’s Home
Community Service Award Nomination
The Agamedes Chapter of Alpha Rho Chi

Project Details
For Submission to the Grand Council
Part I. Conceptual Statement

When we were a colony, we built a pergola for His House Children’s Home, and we decided that we wanted to do another construction project for our philanthropy event last spring. We want to make it a tradition to design and build projects for our philanthropy events every year to improve our knowledge of construction and to help the less fortunate. Last spring, we decided to help a different children’s shelter, Florida Baptist Children’s Home. The shelter provides a home for children of all ages that are homeless, orphans, or victims of abuse. After visiting the shelter, we noticed that the homes had several decks that were not in good condition. We decided that we wanted to rebuild as many of the decks as we could, keeping in mind the cost. We concluded that we could afford to fund and build two decks for the children’s shelter.

Part II. Project Objectives

1. Build and design two decks for Florida Baptist Children’s Home.
2. Teach our members, hands on, about construction from start to finish.
3. Most importantly, to have fun and help make the children’s lives better and time at the shelter more comfortable.

Part III. Principal Beneficiary

The main beneficiary is the children that live in the shelter. They have already been through so much during their life, and hopefully they will benefit from the two decks that we built for them.
Part IV. Sponsor
This project was funded entirely by our chapter through fundraising. We did not receive funding from any outside organizations.

Part V. Organizational Structure
The head of the project was our philanthropy chair, who received help from our worthy estimator with the budget, and the executive board with supervision during the construction process. Our philanthropy chair and his committee drew up plans and elevations of the two decks weeks before construction began. All of our brothers came together in one day to construct the two decks from the beams to the decking.

Part VI. Schedule
The construction of the two decks took place on February 25, 2017.
1. 1 month out- meet and greet with Florida Baptist staff, project ideas, and site declared.
2. 1 month out- Design with all dimensions and construction details completed with help from Architecture faculty to ensure the design would be structurally safe.
3. 1 week out- Collect materials needed to build two decks
4. Day of- Cleaned the site, tore down the old decks, constructed the beams, laid the decking.

Part VII. Budget
The project was funded entirely by our chapter through fundraising, our main one was our annual student and faculty art auction, so that the two decks could be a donation to Florida Baptist Children’s Home. The entire project cost about $2,000.
Part VIII. Graphic Documentation
His House Children’s Home
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Part I. Conceptual Statement

Before we were a chapter, during our time as a colony, something that our members agreed on cohesively for our philanthropy project was that we wanted to choose a project that would help the community and those that are less fortunate. Since most of us were architecture students, we decided that we wanted to build something because there are not many opportunities for all the students at our school to design and build a structure to life scale. His House Children’s Home is a shelter in Miami, FL, for children that are disadvantaged. The site of the shelter provides several homes for children of all ages that are homeless, orphans, or victims of abuse. The shelter had a backyard area with a few tables and grills that were not used frequently due to rain and heat making the space uncomfortable especially during South Florida summers. Our colony decided that we wanted to design and build a structure that would make the space more comfortable for the shelter to use, and so we chose a pergola.

Part II. Project Objectives

1. Design and build a pergola for His House Children’s home.
2. Teach our members, hands on, about construction from start to finish.
3. Most importantly, to have fun and make the shelter a little bit better one wooden beam at a time :)

Part III. Principal Beneficiary

The main beneficiary is the children that live in the shelter. They have already been through so much during their life, and hopefully they will be able to enjoy the space that the pergola creates.
Part IV. Sponsor

The University of Miami has an organization known as SAFAC, that provides funding for student organizations and their various projects. Since SAFAC did not fund the entire project, our colony made up for the extra costs through fundraising so that the Children’s Home would not have to pay for anything.

Part V. Organizational Structure

The head of the project was our philanthropy chair, who received help from our worthy estimator with the budget, and the executive board with supervision during the construction process. Our philanthropy chair and her committee drew up plans and elevations of the pergola weeks before construction began. All of our colonists came together during a two-day weekend to construct the pergola from foundation to columns to beams.

Part VI. Schedule

The construction of the pergola took place from November 14-15, 2015

5. 2 months out- meet and greet with His House staff, project ideas, and site declared.
6. 1-2 months out- Design with all dimensions and construction details completed with help from Architecture faculty to ensure the design would be structurally safe.
7. 1 month out- Submitted budget to SAFAC to receive funding for the project.
8. 1-2 weeks out- Collect materials needed to build pergola
9. 2-Day Weekend- Cleaned the site, mixed and poured concrete for the foundation, constructed columns, beams, and girders out of wood.
Part VII. Budget

The project was funded entirely by SAFAC, University of Miami student organization funding, and our colony. We held several fundraisers, our main one was our annual student and faculty art auction, so that the entire project could be a donation to His House Children’s Shelter. The entire project cost about $10,000.

Part VIII. Graphic Documentation