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Camp Fire USA, YVC and Rotary Club of Seattle NE partner to provide programming for youth in Lake City.

(Seattle, WA) – Camp Fire USA Central Puget Sound Council and it's affiliate, Youth Volunteer Corps (YVC) have partnered with the Rotary Club of Seattle NE to provide programming for older youth of the Lake City community at the Lake City Library in Seattle beginning in April of 2008.

Camp Fire & YVC will actively recruit 40-50 youth, age 11-18 to participate in service learning projects in the area. Camp Fire/YVC will provide curriculum methods and supplies for all the activities offered as well as healthy snacks for the planning meetings. "We think this is an excellent partnership for both parties and the youth of Lake City." said Theautrey Brown, YVC Program Manager, "Rotary is committed to the community and YVC is committed to helping young people realize their full potential as builders of community and agents of change through participatory community service." The youth will receive at least 800 hours of service learning experience that they can credit toward their school's community service requirement. Those service learning experiences can include helping the homeless, mentoring children, working in community parks, working with the elderly or disabled etc. Lan Nguyed a YVC team leader noted, "A YVC Volunteer learns many important life lessons not always found inside a classroom or textbook. Completing a service project is the key to having a successful and meaningful experience. Youth gain a sense of unity, teambuilding with peers, establish lasting friendships and make a measurable contribution to their community."

Camp Fire/YVC will also provide at least one trained adult leader to supervise the youth during projects and meeting times. All Camp Fire USA staff and adult volunteer leaders are background checked with the Washington State Patrol and the Sex Offender Registry.

The Rotary Club of Seattle NE facilitated the arrangements with the Lake City Branch of the Seattle Public Library to provide the weekly meeting space and the Library has graciously agreed to provide the youth group access to phones, fax, first aid supplies and other resources in the building as needed.

The weekly meetings will begin April 1, 2008 and continue through August 2008, excluding holidays. For more information or to join the group please call Theautrey Brown at 206-461-8550 ext. 230 or e-mail him at: Theautrey-b@campfire-usa.org.

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Camp Fire USA is one of the nation's leading not-for-profit youth development organizations, serving nearly three quarters of a million participants annually. Camp Fire USA, with national headquarters in Kansas City, Missouri since 1977 and Council headquarters in Seattle since 1911, provides all-inclusive, co-educational programs in hundreds of communities across the United States. The Central Puget Sound Council is the largest Council in the United States (by membership) and serves King, Kitsap and North Mason counties. Camp Fire USA's mission is to build caring, confident youth and future leaders. By design, Camp Fire USA's programs include family and small group experiences, after school programs, camping and environmental education, child care and service learning. The Camp Fire USA experience builds confidence in younger children and provides hands-on, youth-driven leadership experiences for older youth. Youth Volunteer Corps (YVC) is an affiliated program of Camp Fire USA and promotes civic responsibility through volunteerism among youth ages 11-18. The program welcomes young people from diverse ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds and actively involves them in community problem solving and asset building through structured volunteer service. YVC service learning projects combine meaningful service with education and reflection. For more information, visit www.campfire-usa.org/YVC.

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