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LIFESTYLES

Volunteer of the week

October 28, 2006

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MELVINA ANDERSON, 19, of Detroit.

Organization: Capuchin Soup Kitchen's Children and Youth Program in Detroit.

Special Awards: The Young Adult Award of Excellence for representing the highest standards of service in the community and the Gold Presidential Award for the 510 hours she volunteered during the past year. The United Way sponsored both awards in April 2006.

How she got started: Melvina Anderson has been involved with the Youth Program since its inception seven years ago, first as a participant and the last two years as a volunteer.



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What she does: Anderson is a motivating force for youth who attend the Capuchin Soup Kitchen's Children and Youth Program. She volunteers between six and eight hours per week, tutoring youth of all ages and supervising a weekly computer class. Anderson helped organize and coordinate a group that helps adolescent girls understand and accept their bodies as well as handle peer pressure. She also helps serve food in the Soup Kitchen, sorts donations and assists with clerical work to keep the youth program going.

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Personal: Anderson is a full-time student at Lewis College of Business and sings in the choir at Peace and Goodwill Missionary Baptist Church in Detroit.

If you'd like to help: Contact the United Way's George W. Romney Volunteer Center at 313-226-9430, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays.

To nominate a volunteer, contact Antionette D. Griffith at 313-223-4496 or agriffith@freepress.com.

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