

TESSA KOMINE RECOGNIZED AS MEDFIELD FOUNDATION 2009 YOUTH VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

The Medfield Foundation proudly recognizes Tessa Komine as its 2009 Youth Volunteer of the Year for her multitude of activities, but especially for promoting youth volunteerism through her creation, Project S.O.S. (Sharing Our Service).

Tessa Komine, a senior at Medfield High School, has already volunteered for over 10 years in Medfield, for the Children's Library, the Animal Shelter, the Chancel Choir at the United Church of Christ, and most she recently executed an ambitious Girl Scout Gold Award Project to encourage volunteerism amongst Medfield youth. Capping her ten years as a Girl Scout, Tessa created a year-long program she christened Project: S.O.S. (Sharing Our Service) organizing other girls to together perform diverse community service projects around town. Over 75 girls participated and over 950 people benefitted from Project: S.O.S., which made blankets for the Thomas-Upham House, cooked soups and stews and held a Valentine's dance for the Council on Aging, stocked the Medfield Food Pantry, stuffed activity bags for veterans, made 100 invitations to the Medfield Relay for Life event, among other projects. Project: S.O.S. was so successful and well received that Tessa continued it a second year.

Tessa interned on various aspects of "Fenway to the Runway," a fund raiser for the Red Sox Foundation, she provided assistance to campers as a camp counselor and stable-hand during Equestrian Day Camp at Boggastow Farm, she volunteered for three years through Youthworks! doing work mission projects in Pine Ridge, South Dakota, Queens, New York, and Houma, Louisiana. Tessa was a World Vision 30 Hour Famine Participant for three years to help raise funds and awareness for world hunger. Tessa won a Daily Point of Light Award from the Points of Light Foundation, a national award for efforts in youth volunteerism, and earned a Presidential Volunteer Service Award at the Gold Level for three years for a combined total of over 800 hours of service.

Tessa was a member of the National Honor Society and the Spanish National Honor Society. She earned a Certificate of Appreciation from the Veteran's Administration Boston Healthcare System and Girl Scouts Gold Career and Gold Leadership Awards. She has taken honors courses both at Medfield High School and Laurel Springs School, a distance learning school. Tessa has been active in Girl Scouts, the Senior High Fellowship Group at the United Church of Christ, Students Against Destructive Decisions, Warriors for the Homeless, Medfield Music Association, Northeastern New England Choristers Guild, music and theater productions, and as an equestrian. Next year Tessa will attend Northeastern University's School of Business Administration.



The Medfield Foundation will present the award at a reception at the Kingsbury Club from 4:00 - 6:00 PM on April 4, to which the public is invited.