

Village of Lombard
255 E. Wilson
Lombard, IL 60148
April 25, 2013

Village of Lombard Board of Trustees,

As you know, there are so many outstanding volunteers and supporters in this community that have assisted all of the great Community Outreach being done in Lombard. However, there are times when a young person in this community recognizes a need in our community and works hard to help.

Julia Pate was to do a service project, encouraged by her home of faith. Julia chose First Things First Infant Needs Outreach, because "it helps kids". With her mother's help (Heather Pate) Julia initiated a "product/fund raiser" for First Things First. With a partnership with Walgreen's on St. Charles, Julia made a poster, had fliers and encouraged others to help. Mom shared that "about 90% of the customers we spoke to donated something! Their generosity filled 3 shopping carts and gave us another \$72 in cash to spend at the Dollar General, which filled another cart!"

Not only did Julia recognize the needs of others, she also became a Public Relations Person for First Things First, by sharing our mission and our services! According to Julia's mom, they were "humbled by the community's support" and that Julia was so excited to turn in all that had collected.

In 1999, when Rev. Rob Hatfield and I came up with the model for First Things First, our goal was to address the most precious and vulnerable members in our community. Our goal was to engage community in addressing the needs that families have and for the past 14-15 years our community has responded. It is especially heartwarming when a young person understands these needs of others and makes it a priority in their own life to make a difference... Julia Pate (with support from her family) is that young person!

Peace,
Sandra J. Hill, MSW
Outreach Coordinator
First Church of Lombard, UCC