



February 12, 2010

University of Houston students,

The Metropolitan Volunteer Program (MVP) needs your help. **The UH organization, which handles community outreach initiatives, is in need of volunteers for its “Rock the Block” event on April 17th at Emancipation Park (located near Elgin and Dowling).** This program, which is traditionally held over Homecoming Weekend, has been moved to the spring semester in an effort to expand its reach into the community.

Our focus is on the youth within the Third Ward, particularly the students at Ryan Middle School. Over the past decade Ryan had been considered among the lowest performing campuses in Houston ISD. During that time, enrollment at the school had slipped about 50 percent to just 500 students. In 2008, the school underwent a dramatic facelift, bringing in new administration and an upgraded teaching staff. The new group has been a breath of the fresh air, but more needs to be done.

MVP is asking for you to support the new administration and their students by volunteering some of your time from 8:00 a.m.-to-2:00 p.m. on April 17th, working side-by-side with Ryan students to clean up the yards and exteriors of homes within the Third Ward. Afterward, stay for free food and festivities at Emancipation Park. We are also looking for volunteers to help us get permission from residents to work on their homes and/or yards. We would like to complete these pre-screenings by April 7th.

Please notify Scott Godley – scott.r.godley@gmail.com – if you would like to participate. **Volunteer hours can be awarded to participants. The deadline to sign up is Friday, March 12th.** Thank you for your consideration.

Metropolitan Volunteer Program
53 University Center Underground
Houston, Texas 77204-3031
713-743-5200