

“Young Neighbors in Action”

Young Neighbors in Action is a Catholic service-learning program for teams of older adolescents and adults. Teams travel to locations across the United States to serve, learn, pray, and meet other groups. For a week, the teams serve with an agency, study social justice and Catholic social teaching, and reflect on their experiences. For the past four years, Age-In-Place has partnered with the Young Neighbors in Action, providing a service site for the program’s participants. Students spend a week, volunteering from 9 to 3 each day, working in yards, painting, and cleaning seniors’ homes.

During the last week of June, AIP enjoyed working with an exceptional Young Neighbor’s group. The students and leaders went above and beyond the call of duty, working overtime and with an abundance of enthusiasm. For example, on Monday the group helped staff clean up one of CCGH’s homes after a flood. Over 8 inches of water had damaged a basement apartment. The group sorted the senior’s belongings, moved furniture, removed carpet and padding, cleaned water-damaged areas, and bailed water for 5 hours. If this wasn’t enough, part of the group returned later to continue bailing until the damaged storm drain was repaired. The group demonstrated the selfless nature of service and the crucial role that volunteers play in Age-In-Place.

