

Henoud agrees, “Not only have I gotten help with finding jobs, but Solomon has also taught me how to use the computer.”

## Global Youth Service Day is Fun & Educational

**Global Youth Service Day (GYSD)** is an annual global event that highlights and celebrates the ongoing contributions of youth to their communities through volunteer service and service-learning. Millions of youth across the world participated this past April in the 21st annual GYSD, including young residents at several CHP properties in Virginia.

At the **Lafayette Apartments** in Williamsburg, **AmeriCorps member Dan Emmanuel** coordinated a service learning project on global warming for the Lafayette community. Resident children learned about the Greenhouse Effect and other environmental issues, and also created a poster campaign to educate the community about environmentally-responsible living.

The Yorktown AmeriCorps members teamed up with the **Woods at Yorktown** children to paint a garden wall and plant flowers that were donated by the **York County Master Gardeners**. The **Yorktown Square** and **Rivermeade Apartments** youth received a brief lesson in proper planting techniques from **Resident Services Site Coordinator Cheryl Guardia** (a York County Master Gardener), then set to working planting donated flowers along the entrance to their community. “Everyone is proud of the kids’

hard work, especially as they continue to care for the flowers they planted,” commented Guardia.

At **Cross Creek Apartments** in Portsmouth, children planted flowers in front of the community center, then participated in a follow-up discussion led by AmeriCorps members about the importance of pride in their community and the place where they live. The conversation included the benefits of keeping neighborhoods clean and treating them with respect so others would too.



*Children at Portsmouth’s Cross Creek Apartments learn about gardening during a hands-on Global Youth Service Day project.*