My Own Sense of Home DIY Project

Civic Circle Area: Listen and Learn

The impact of COVID-19 continues to change our daily lives and routines, but volunteering and civic engagement are just as important as ever. This project can be modified to adhere to social distancing guidelines set by local and national authorities, to do virtually or to do at home and deliver via mail or drop off.

Over 1.4 million children in the United States experienced homelessness during the 2016-17 school year. This project covers how homelessness denies people a sense of place and stability by having students draw pictures of their homes to begin a discussion on what it means to have a home.

What You Need:
- Blank white paper
- Colored construction paper
- Markers, crayons, paint and/or glue

Steps:
1. Draw your home or a particular room in your home, like your bedroom or kitchen.
2. Remember to include yourself and your family! Draw the special objects and actions that make your house feel like a home.
3. Attach your drawing to a piece of construction paper. At the bottom, write, "Home Is ________" and fill in what home means to you. Tape each drawing together to make a picture quilt.
   - For a socially-distanced option, create digital drawings or have participants take photos of their drawings to create a digital collage.
4. On a piece of construction paper at the center of the quilt, write "What Does Home Mean to You?"

Reflection Questions:
- What similarities and differences do you notice in the group quilt?
- How might being homeless affect kids’ sense of belonging?
- How can you help others have a sense of belonging?