

Earth Day 2016

Associates from Kumon North America's Field Support Center (FSC) celebrated Earth Day by volunteering at a nearby park. Almost 50 Associates from IT, Finance, Materials and Instruction and Kumon University joined volunteers from the community to beautify the Teaneck Creek Conservancy. Mr. Ikuto Usui and Mr. Hiroto Yamashita from KIE's Management Support Team also participated in the Earth Day event.

Volunteers divided into teams for different activities such as weeding and removing invasive species, planting shrubs and flowers and removing litter and debris. A team of especially hearty Kumon Associates removed the hulking chassis of a rusted automobile encrusted deep in the ground. Others straddled the sides of the damp creek and pulled trash from the water or dug holes and planted bushes. It was



a hot day for the month of April. Everyone enjoyed a boxed lunch together in the park after work was done.

"We really appreciate all of the people from Kumon coming out and helping make the park better", said Alexa Marquez, Director of the Teaneck Creek Conservancy. "We're lucky to have neighbors like you that care about nature and will volunteer to work with us." A sycamore tree was planted in honor of Earth Day. Participating in the planting were Ms. Marquez, KNA President Mino Tanabe and local officials.



Kumon's Earth Day initiative attracted the attention of the news media. A local newspaper and a camera crew from Channel 12 News covered the event. A reporter interviewed KNA President Mino Tanabe for the television news. "As a global organization," Mino told her, "we always look for a way to help the environment and im-

prove green awareness." The news report was broadcast eleven times throughout the day.

In the afternoon, KNA Green Team members gave an update on their activities at the monthly FSC managers meeting. Associates explained that Kumon's green initiatives are an organic part of our mission and values, having their origin in the Kumon Philosophy, the Kumon Way and The Next 50 Grand Design.

