



Digs – Summer 2017

VA Juniors 14 Elite Selected Team Travel Source Community Service Award Recipient

Adapted from a press release by Bill Kauffman, USA Volleyball



Virginia Juniors 14 Elite from the CHRVA region was presented Team Travel Source's inaugural Community Service Award and a prize of \$1,000 on the opening day of the 38th Annual USA Volleyball Girls' Junior National Championships in Minneapolis.

The Team Travel Source Community Service Award is presented to one junior volleyball team that has made it a mission to improve its community through service and is committed to making the world a better place to live.

Virginia Juniors 14 Elite had come face-to-face with homelessness during its travels for volleyball. Instead of just walking by and ignoring the issue, the team members decided they wanted to do something to help.

The team completed a service project called "Blessing Bags." These Blessing Bags were gallon-sized baggies filled with practical items such as toiletries, snacks, and water as well as gift cards to local restaurants. Each team member took these bags with them to a recent tournament in

Philadelphia and handed them out to the homeless on their walk to the venue. According to its nomination form, the joy and satisfaction the team members experienced while carrying out the service project allowed the athletes to see that they really could make a difference in the lives of others and that there is no greater joy than giving back.

“We put together bags of socks, oatmeal, sandwiches, and everything that someone who is less fortunate would need for a week,” said Virginia Juniors 14 Elite captain Sarah Jordan. “We just wanted to give back and be grateful for what we have.”

[View the full press release on USAV’s website.](#)