



WITH DISTINCTION FOR GENERAL COMMUNITY SERVICE

Fundraising

American University

Community & Economic Development, Education, ESL, Senior Citizens, Fundraiser, Service Learning

Washington Initiative Program

The Washington Initiative Program allows undergraduate business students at American University to enroll in a 2-credit service learning course. In the fall of 2005, the students worked on a fund-raising event for a local group, Hoop Dreams Scholarship Fund, applying skills in events management. Twelve students took the class, working closely with both the nonprofit staff and H.D. Woodson High School on an online EBay auction which raised \$1,500. In addition to honing their fundraising skills, these twelve students also developed mentoring relationships with students.

During the 2nd semester, a new set of students in the course applied their skills to help low-income, elderly and limited English speaking residents complete their tax forms. The 21 students completed 12 hours of training provided by the IRS's VITA Program. They then provided more than 500 hours of free income tax assistance. The overall program served a total of 1600 taxpayers, who received over a million dollars in returns.

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WITH DISTINCTION FOR GENERAL COMMUNITY SERVICE

Fundraising

California Polytechnic State University

Education, Homelessness, Hunger, Fundraiser

Students in Action

Students in Action is grant program that gives funds to student leaders to be spent on a service project in their community; at Cal Poly Homelessness Awareness Week was created from the Students in Action grant. On Sunday, April 23, 2006, approximately 55 students including students from Greek Life, the Week of Welcome orientation program, and Student Community Services organized a food fundraiser. Over 1000 pounds of food were donated to the Aids Support Network Food Pantry. On Tuesday, April 25, 2006, an open microphone was held from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm wherein students, staff, and community members could speak about homelessness in the community. Following the open microphone, there was an event that involved people eating soup while learning of different community programs they could volunteer with in order to help the hunger and homelessness in San Luis Obispo. That evening, students gathered in the University Union Plaza to discuss homelessness with a gentleman who is homeless and a sleep out followed. The sleep-out garnered about 15 people, including the homeless gentleman who shared stories and songs and gave students an idea of what it was like to be homeless. On Saturday, April 29, 2006, a fundraising walk was held. Over \$1400 was raised and donated to the local day shelter and overnight shelters. Overall, the total participation in Homelessness Awareness Week was about 250 people. The Students in Action program is funded by the CSU Chancellors office and Learn and Serve America.

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WITH DISTINCTION FOR GENERAL COMMUNITY SERVICE

Fundraising

Hamline University

At-Risk Youth, Hunger, Literacy, Day of Service, Fundraiser

30-Hour Famine

The 30 Hour Famine takes place on Hamline University's campus and in the surrounding communities in February. During the Famine all participants fast for 30 hours while learning about hunger and homelessness and while participating in various local community service projects. Participants also raise money by finding sponsors for their fast. Each year a planning committee organizes and plans the events that will take place during the 30 hours that all participants are together fasting. In 2006 there were about 50 participants including high school students and Hamline students and faculty. Over five thousand dollars was raised and distributed by World Vision to feed hungry children in the US, Africa, and Asia.

Some of the community service projects included helping Habitat for Humanity build a set of houses, sorting books for Books for Africa, baking cookies for a senior home, and data entry for Housing Minnesota, among other activities. Some of the other activities that occur during the 30 hours of fasting include a benefit concert open to the public involving Hamline student and faculty groups. All attendees participate in a game that focuses on an aspect of hunger; in 2006, the topic was what homelessness and hunger looked like in Kenya and different things that a young person living in that area of the world might deal with on a daily basis. The goal is for every participant to come away from the 30 hours having a greater understanding of hunger and advocacy.

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WITH DISTINCTION FOR GENERAL COMMUNITY SERVICE

Fundraising

Hobart & William Smith Colleges

At-Risk Youth, Community & Economic Development, Education, Literacy, Fundraiser

First Book

First Book Geneva is the Hobart & William Smith College campus sponsored chapter of First Book, a Washington, D.C. based non-profit organization that works to establish personal libraries in the homes of America's children living in need. A critical factor in children learning to read and growing up with a love of books is the presence of books in the child's home. First Book's mission is to provide a home library for children from low income homes. First Book Geneva earned an initial grant of 4000 books which it is in the process of granting out to children enrolled in America Reads, Jumpstart Geneva, and other local agencies such as the Child and Family Resource Center that serve children and families.

Additionally, First Book utilizes fundraised dollars to purchase books through First Book for \$2.50 each and buy large cartons of books when they are available on-line. Approximately 10 students serve with community members to decide on granting of books and formulate fundraising strategies. This program has benefited hundreds of children and has the potential to impact hundreds more.

A unique event was a "Speed Read" held at the local comedy club prior to the regular show. Tickets were sold by the group with a percentage going to First Book. Participants, who included the Colleges' President, Director of Athletics, Presbyterian minister, head of the community lunch program, an America Reads partner principal and the director of Literacy Volunteers competed to see how far they could read aloud from a children's book in 15 seconds. It was a positive event for everyone involved, with a crowd of over 150 at the club (double the normal crowd) and raising \$1,000 for books from ticket sales and a donation from the club. The group will continue in the future and partner with the local Rotary Club on the Bright Red Bookshelf Project, which will place bookshelves in areas throughout the city and allow children to take books to keep for their libraries. The shelves are replenished through donations.

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WITH DISTINCTION FOR GENERAL COMMUNITY SERVICE

Fundraising

Kalamazoo College

Culture/Arts/Performance, Education, Hunger, Day of Service, Fundraiser, Service Learning

Empty Bowls

On March 4, 2006, over 450 people from Kalamazoo gathered on Kalamazoo College's campus for a common purpose: to raise awareness of local and global hunger and to raise funds to feed the hungry in Kalamazoo and abroad. Twenty-four percent of people in Kalamazoo live in poverty. Our Empty Bowls event was patterned on a national model in which people make clay bowls together, and then hold a simple meal at which they share soup and bread. Afterwards, they take home a bowl as a reminder of the hunger in our world. The guests included our Kalamazoo Public Schools partners (children and families); Kalamazoo College students ("K"), faculty, and staff; many community members. Donations and a silent auction of pottery raised \$5500 for Kalamazoo Loaves and Fishes (a food bank) and Heifer International. Moreover, Empty Bowls demonstrated the power of art and the joy of community building, as the people of Kalamazoo embraced this simple idea and found unique ways to participate.

Art major and service-learning and Americorps scholar Breigh Montgomery coordinated Empty Bowls for her Senior Project. Two service-learning classes participated: the Classics class, "Cool Cities: Carthage and Kalamazoo," researched hunger; 16 students in "Ceramics: Handbuilding I" assisted with 12 ceramics workshops where over 125 homeless people, "K" students and public school kids made over 500 bowls. The community's generosity was apparent in donations from local restaurants and Sodexo Food Services, a kiln supplied by Pfizer, and a grant from the Kalamazoo Community Foundation. In the future Empty Bowls at Kalamazoo College will continue to be an important event.

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WITH DISTINCTION FOR GENERAL COMMUNITY SERVICE

Fundraising

Missouri Western State University

Education, Health/Nutrition, Day of Service, Fundraiser

Jump Rope for Heart and Hoops for Heart

The American Heart Association and the Health, Physical Education and Recreation Department at Missouri Western State University have been in partnership for the last 25 years conducting Jump Rope for Heart and the past 10 years with Hoops for Heart to raise awareness to fight the number one killer – heart disease. Jump Rope for Heart involves up to 15 area elementary schools with 500 participants who have raised over 1 million dollars during the twenty-five years; including over \$27,000 for this year. The Hoops event involves eight area middle schools with 250 participants and raised almost \$7,000 this year.

University students are responsible for running the events, with Phi Epsilon Kappa officers as the masters of ceremony. 50-60 students from many classes assist with the events. Public school students either jump rope or play 3-on-3 basketball for two hours and are eligible for prizes that are given throughout the event.

In conjunction with those programs, the Health, Physical Education and Recreation Department at the University sponsors a pizza-swim party for the elementary school that raises the most money. The university students provide education for the children and parents on preventive measures and statistics relating to heart disease.

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