

THE SERVICE LEARNING CENTER'S 2014–2015 ANNUAL REPORT



Compiled by:
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The Service Learning Center

Identity

Mission Statement

Service learning at Gateway Technical College creates mutually beneficial partnerships among our students, our faculty and staff, and our community. Through active learning, meaningful service, and reflection, students develop deeper awareness of the diverse communities in which they live and the value of civic engagement among community members.

Vision Statement

Through Gateway's learning programs, individuals internalize the value of civic engagement and actively transform their communities.

Definition of Service Learning

A teaching and learning strategy that integrates meaningful community service with instruction and reflection to enrich the learning experience, teach civic responsibility, and strengthen communities.

Service learning experiences are educational experiences that

- Identify a societal issue or context
- Are planned collaboratively by students and community partners
- Connect service opportunities to disciplines of study
- Identify attainable goals that are mutually valued by all partners
- Create opportunities for community partners to educate students
- Allow students to provide meaningful service activities
- Require reflection by the students
- Assess the outcomes for all partners
- Disseminate the results publicly



Dear Community Builder,

It is through your involvement and investment that our college continues to grow in service. At Gateway Technical College, we are proud of our students and staff for their community engagement. Service Learning is foundational to our comprehensive approach to education and civic responsibility. This year Gateway students contributed over 10,000 hours of community service impacting their lives and the missions of the organizations they served.

Together we strive to improve our community by empowering students to use service as a method of community and career success.



Yours in service,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bryan D. Albrecht". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Bryan D. Albrecht, Ed.D.

President and Chief Executive Officer,
Gateway Technical College

Gateway's Service Learning
projects have **saved**
the community
\$583,911!



Service Learning is the culture in Horticulture

The Horticulture program, by its very nature, attracts students with a love of the earth, a penchant to rejuvenate, and a sense of community. It's not surprising, then, that Horticulture students are very involved in service learning.

"The general public has an interest in gardening, and we bring a higher level of knowledge to our community and international partners—that's why we're successful," said Courtney Greve, Horticulture instructor. "Our students see how important the interactions are and therefore want to be a part of it. Plus, it's a resume-builder and a great way to meet people."

Locally, the Horticulture program has numerous partners including Hawthorn Hollow, Down to Earth Community Gardens, and Walkin' in My Shoes, all based in Kenosha.

The reciprocal relationship with Hawthorn Hollow sees Gateway students use the facility as an outdoor laboratory. In return, students complete service learning projects. Students helped with bed preparation and coordinated workshops at Down to Earth Community Gardens and started seeds, provided bed preparation and general education for Walkin' in My Shoes. Students also assisted in a kick-off event in May for Walkin' in My Shoes, which provides plots for low-income and homeless people.

Service learning is embedded in some courses within the Horticulture program. Greve has actualized a "Serving to Learn Locally" course, which took place during the 2015 summer semester and will have additional opportunities in the fall semester.

"The intention is to foster civic engagement," explained Greve. "We have helped on an international level with our trips to Belize, but we want to help locally, too."

The intention is to foster civic engagement. We have helped on an international level with our trips to Belize, but we want to help locally, too.

—Courtney Greve, Horticulture instructor

Horticulture will join forces with the Civil Engineering Technology–Fresh Water Resources and other engineering programs in its next journey to Belize in 2016. The multi-disciplinary endeavor will forge an aquaponics system for Belize High School of Agriculture.

Earth Day efforts

Horticulture students were among volunteers for the annual Pike Creek clean-up as part of Gateway's Celebrate Earth Day event in April. The volunteers plucked and disposed of garlic mustard (an invasive weed which deprives essential plants of nutrients). General trash was cleaned up as well.

New this year was a reflective discussion after the clean-up. Students and other volunteers had the opportunity to discuss what they learned and why the project was essential.

"Each year brings us different challenges along the Pike River," said Greve. "We can never have enough volunteers and hope to have even more next year."

Some students brought their families along to help out. All who attended were presented with a Service Learning certificate.

Belize trip doubles in program participation

More expansion in the works for 2016 return

Gateway's international education service learning programs in Belize has become a staple. Gateway students and faculty have built relationships with residents in the nation-state on the eastern coast of Central America.

The January 2015 project was expanded to involve six programs of study, offering more assistance to the diverse society comprising many cultures and offering more opportunity in service learning for Gateway students. The number of programs that journeyed abroad doubled over the previous year. Each program had 3–6 students represented on the program, amounting to 26 total Gateway students.

The programs included Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA), Early Childhood Education (ECE), Human Service Associate, Horticulture, Nursing, and Information Technology (IT). Of the six, ECE, Human Service, and PTA made their maiden voyage. The six disciplines were separated into 10 different community-based projects throughout the town of Orange Walk and surrounding areas.

The partnerships with Peacework and Orange Walk District in Belize began with the Nursing program in January of 2011. In 2013, Horticulture and Information Technology came on board.

Jomarie Coloriano, now employed as a student support specialist at Gateway, was a student at the college when she made the trip with the Human Service group in January of 2015. She said she has taken experiences she learned on the trip and has applied it in her current role in serving students at Gateway.

"It was a transformational experience," said Coloriano. "You have an opportunity to build new skill sets, like soft skills and teaching. It was a great way to combine the educational component with soft skills. When I see students here at Gateway, I look at them from a more holistic point of view and not seeing them as a one size fits all."

Human Service Associate program students provided drug prevention strategies to an initiative called BAM (Belize Against Marijuana). The team compiled data gathered from

Cultural competence has become very important in health care. This experience allowed students an opportunity to better understand a different culture . . .

— Traci Gotz, Physical Therapist Assistant instructor

more than 300 youth in Orange Walk, Belize, interviewing the locals on their perception and usage of the drug. They provided a shell of a curriculum to be used by the high schools in that particular area. The curriculum will be implemented by Belize's National Drug Abuse Control Council.

"The next Human Service group from Gateway to travel to Belize will add more meat to the curriculum," added Coloriano.

The Physical Therapist Assistant students worked with a senior center. The students went on home visits to geriatric





community members whom they instructed in exercises to help improve their strength and functional mobility. In cases where patients relied heavily on family assistance for care, the students instructed the caregiver(s) in proper body mechanics and exercises to help prevent injury.

"This experience was very beneficial to PTA students," said Traci Gotz, PTA instructor. "Cultural competence has become very important in health care. This experience allowed students an opportunity to better understand a different culture and modify their interactions as appropriate."

ECE students, led by instructor Christine Spang, created a Healthy Kids Curriculum at Carmelita Government School for 113 students, including units for health, safety, and nutrition concepts with an integrated approach. The curriculum was designed to meet the developmental needs, goals, and learning objectives for children, touching on the key learning domains of social/emotional, physical, language, cognition, and literacy.

"The curriculum sharing and development helped Carmelita teachers to see that they are on the same path as teachers in the States because they have the same concerns and similar challenges," said Keith Augustine, principal of Carmelita Government School.

IT students, headed by instructor Rebecca Marschner, visited multiple Orange Walk schools to implement a mobile computer repair clinic and offer workshops for students and teachers. They repaired and updated existing computers and worked with students on the topics of internet safety and security, password definitions and internet terms, using

search engines for research, and how to create a PowerPoint presentation.

In addition to the school visits, Gateway students offered a computer repair clinic for the Orange Walk community at the Town Council. The IT students were kept busy as community members continuously arrived throughout the day with computers to be worked on.

Horticulture students, led by instructor Courtney Greve, in partnership with high school students from the Belize High School for Agriculture, worked alongside more than 50 Trinidad Government Primary students to establish a school garden and donated 1,000 packets of seeds.

"The school and the children have benefitted from this project," said Carlos Vargas, Upper Division teacher at Trinidad Government Primary. "The garden will be kept by our students."

One Nursing and two pre-med students from UW–Parkside participated in a number of community-oriented health clinics, taught basic first aid, and spent a significant portion of their time working within the Northern Regional Hospital.

All six of the groups wrote a reflective blog on their experiences after each day. Like others who made the service learning trip, Coloriano was inspired, saying, "with my experience, it has motivated me to do more volunteer work here in our own community."

The service learning trips to Belize will continue to expand. Next year, it will be offered to all health care, EMT, engineering, and Dental Assistant program students.

AmeriCorps partnership strengthens ties with community

Gateway created yet another way to partner with the community it serves. Through Gateway's partnership with Wisconsin Campus Compact's Serve Wisconsin AmeriCorps Grant, currently enrolled students have the opportunity to serve with local non-profit agencies. The program is hosted by the John XXIII Educational Center in Racine.

Gateway AmeriCorps members increase the capacity of partnering non-profit organizations. Volunteers recruit additional volunteers, help to improve volunteer management practices, and increase the effectiveness of community impact assessment practices.

One individual in the program is Jeffery Gaffey, who has certificates from Gateway in Alcohol & Other Drug Abuse (AODA), Gerontology, and Aspects of Disabilities. Gaffey is working toward a Human Service Associate degree and feels his involvement with the AmeriCorps program will help diversify his education and insight.

"I wanted a new experience and I'm getting it," said Gaffey. "I see how working with these projects is giving me a different way of looking at people."

Some of the projects Gaffey is working on include helping instructors with nutritional classes for elementary and middle school students, gathering data from inner-city churches, and compiling listings of services for people in need in Kenosha County. Gaffey is also involved in various projects for the Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha.

The Gateway AmeriCorps program is considered quarter-time, requiring 450 hours of service, which yields a \$1,493 educational stipend after completion of service. In Gaffey's case, this will go toward completion of his Human Service Associate degree.

"The partnership with AmeriCorps strengthens our community ties," said Madeline Carrera, Gateway Service Learning Coordinator. "It allows us to place students who will actively focus on the services provided by our community partner and enables growth to occur naturally through the process."

This is something that can't be taught out of a book or in a classroom.

—Jeffery Gaffey, Human Service Associate student

Gaffey sees the alliance as a win-win.

"I can put together a range of things for those in their childhood to adulthood," he said. "The groups we work with get a student who is eager to help, and I get to live this experience. I'm getting hands-on involvement. This is something that can't be taught out of a book or in a classroom."

Nationally, AmeriCorps programs do more than move communities forward; they serve their members by creating jobs and providing pathways to opportunity for people entering the workforce. AmeriCorps places thousands into intensive service positions where they learn valuable work skills, earn money for education, and develop an appreciation for citizenship.



Gateway partnership with VIP Services flourishing

Students plan and implement projects for the disabled

Elkhorn-based VIP Services empowers people with disabilities—the majority of whom have cognitive disabilities—to explore and experience endless possibilities. VIP Services has been exploring collaborative service learning with various instructors at Gateway.

One of the programs involves Gateway Nursing students. Students promote healthy nutritional choices for VIP's clients while simultaneously having an opportunity to work directly with a special needs population and to reinforce the importance of therapeutic communication.

VIP Services could not be more pleased with the partnership with Gateway.

—Lynne Dempsey, volunteer coordinator, VIP Services

“My students would normally not be able to interact with those with cognitive disabilities in their own environment,” said Gateway Nursing instructor Vicki Hulback. “It’s an opportunity for students to learn different ways of working with patients.”

Some of the other collaborations have included a pre-technical writing class creating helpful materials to aid clients in one of VIP’s workshops on money management, as well as a workshop on nature photography. An “Activity Olympics” also took place to ensure exercise and an active lifestyle is a priority.

“The projects have been group-related, so they are collaborating together,” said Madeline Carrera, Gateway’s Service Learning Coordinator. “Some take leadership, and all play a crucial role in the planning and implementation stages.”

Each partner, VIP and Gateway students, benefits from the projects.

“Based on our client outcomes, Gateway students and faculty can focus the student-designed activities so they build on client interests and abilities while incorporating aspects of the student curriculum as well. This creates a win-win for both VIP and Gateway,” said Lynne Dempsey, volunteer coordinator at VIP Services.

The projects are course-based service learning, which means a Gateway instructor makes the connection and his/her students plan and implement the project. Most times, students are practicing skills they are learning in class, which is similar to a clinical setting, but with a different population. These types of projects with VIP Services enable Gateway students to apply what they have learned in the classroom in a real-world setting.

“VIP Services could not be more pleased with the partnership with Gateway,” said Dempsey. “We look forward to future projects with those we have previously worked with and anticipate working with other faculty and students as our partnership grows.”

“The goal is for both to have an equal benefit,” added Hulback. “That’s been achieved. We plan on going back.”



Groups call on Gateway for IT help

Students help adults to learn IT essentials

Gateway's Information Technology Project Management course is for fourth-semester IT students, but it's just as much about helping the community as it is to give students practical experience.

It is a capstone course, designed to give students the chance to apply the knowledge they have acquired throughout their education to real-world situations, and to encapsulate all the learning objectives of a student's program of study. The class is part of the curriculum for the IT–Software Developer and the IT–Computer Support Specialist associate degree programs.

The 15-week class includes three hours of instruction per week. However, the remaining 40 percent of the course load is project-based. These projects are mostly with outside non-profit organizations such as Peace Learning Circles, Racine Literacy Council, Help Desk Institute, Women's Resource Center, Imagine Kenosha, and Racine Friendship Clubhouse, to name a few.

"The class has been amazing," said IT instructor Wendy Klemp. "Students working with an outside partner is very valuable. They learn soft skills and time and quality constraints."

Mitch Weisrock, an IT–Software Developer program student, concurs with the scope of putting soft skills in play.

"You get a completely different perspective," he explained. "In class, you deal with people who are into IT. When I go out and teach an adult software skills, you learn quickly that you become the teacher and need to relate and communicate."

Peace Learning Circles has a "Connecting Generations" initiative in which IT–Project Management students play a key role. The students teach adults, most of whom did not grow up with any sort of advanced technology, about things like signing into Facebook and checking their email, up to advanced skills with tablets and iPads. This gives Peace Learning Circles clients technological skills which are considered basic in today's work place.

"The most important benefit of the partnership between

Peace Learning Circles and Gateway is the opportunity to build awareness for the organization while offering a platform to serve the community," said Peace Learning Circles board and fund development committee member Crista Kruse. "The partnership has superseded our expectations. The staff and students of Gateway have

The partnership between Peace Learning Circles and Gateway Technical College is a true testament to Gateway's dedication to community engagement. This is a prime example of how our students saw a void in the community, worked through logistics with the various partners, and created a sustainable system based on volunteering and compassion to address the needs of the elderly. This inter-generational approach through Peace Learning Circles and Gateway students/faculty creates a system of compassion and kindness in our community.

—Manoj Babu, Associate Dean of Business

been wonderful to work with and the feedback from the community has been overwhelmingly positive. I can't say enough positive things about the students; they have been amazing."

Student Kelly Mason, was heavily involved in Gateway's Celebrate Earth Day on the Kenosha Campus. She spearheaded the e-cycling project in which tech items such as computers and cell phones are recycled.

"I like teaching the public not to put products in the landfill," she said. "This is very much pro-recycling and it's not hurting the earth."

"These projects are practical applications of how things will go in the work environment," said IT–Software Developer program student Josh Revord. "It's truly a real-world environment."



Nicaragua, Costa Rica trip makes multiple service stops

Students gain international experience in clinics, hospitals and mobile sites

For the first time, Gateway Technical College took students on a service learning project to Nicaragua and Costa Rica as part of the college's Global Scholars program in August of 2014. The project was so successful it is now scheduled for every other year with the next one set for May of 2016.

As a Nursing student, being able to experience different cultures and see different medical situations in different countries is going to make me a more of a well-rounded nurse.

—Nichole Netzel, Nursing student

The project came about through Gateway's partnership with the Vida volunteer organization, a non-profit organization promoting sustainable community building. The aim of this project and partnership is to provide service learning experiences that allow participants to use skills learned in the classroom while assisting

grassroots programs in needy communities across two countries in Central America.

Twelve students in all from the Nursing, Dental Assistant, and EMT programs made the trip.

The team from Gateway started its 12-day project in Nicaragua before moving south to Costa Rica. Students worked in hospitals and clinics, doing everything from patient processing to patient diagnosis to helping implement medications.

"I helped in the emergency room and even labor and delivery," said Nursing student Sarah Christman.

Mobile medical clinics were set up during this trip in several communities.

"This was more of a hands-on trip than some of the others," said Chinedu Obowu, Gateway's International Education Coordinator.

"Our students would get to a different site nearly every day by 9 a.m. and would work through 5 p.m., so it was equivalent to a full work day."

During the dozen days outside of the United States, students





earned a couple of free days. They did recreational activities including things like zip lining.

"You get to culturally immerse yourself into something different than your own," said Nursing student Jessica Hegemann of the overall experience.

"As a Nursing student, being able to experience different cultures and see different medical situations in different countries is going to make me a more of a well-rounded nurse," said Nichole Netzel.

In addition to working in clinics, hospitals, and mobile sites, the students saw patients in their homes, a practice long since dismissed in the United States.

"We also made home visits and helped do a lot of teaching on the conditions they were experiencing," said Nursing student

Ashley Skendzie. "We taught interventions that they could do to promote well-being."

The return trip to Nicaragua and Costa Rica in May of 2016 is open to Gateway students studying in the health care field, including the new Veterinary Sciences programs.

You get to culturally immerse yourself into something different than your own.

—Jessica Hegemann, Nursing student

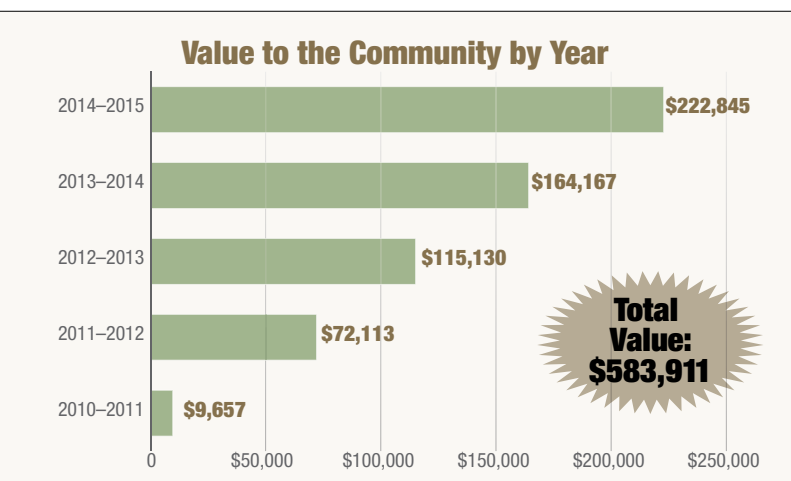
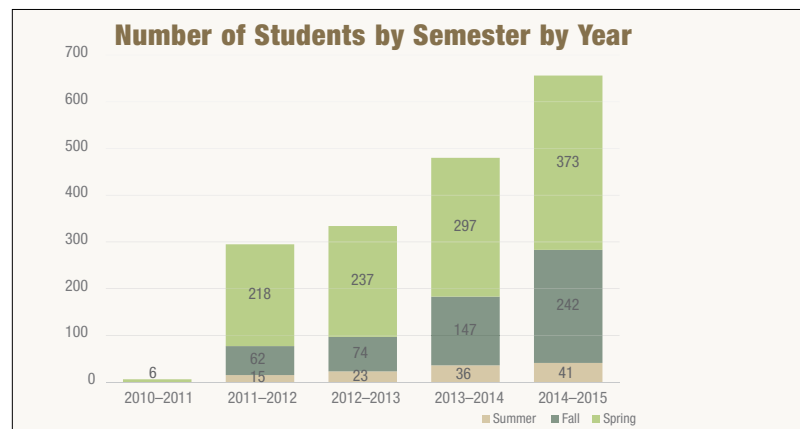
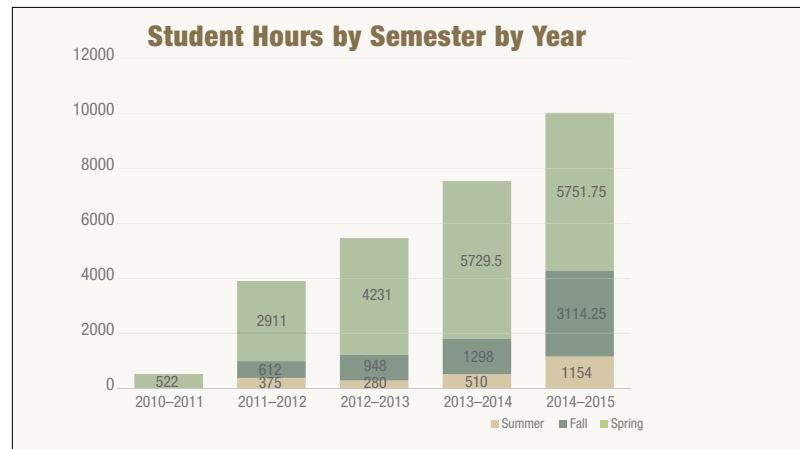
"I feel like it is life changing," summed up Nursing student Heather Haller. "I've spoken to students about this and told them it's invaluable."



Community Impact

Value of Service Learning projects in the community

Although service learning is an unpaid experience, the projects, products, and events that Gateway students collaborate on with area community partners do have a financial value. Each year, the Independent Sector, a leadership network for nonprofits, foundations, and corporations, estimates the value of a volunteer hour nationwide and for each state. For 2014, a volunteer hour in Wisconsin was valued at \$22.24—a 2.1% increase from 2013.



The Service Learning Center utilizes this hourly amount as an estimated value to give an overall dollar amount for the projects completed by students in the community. Although the value of Service Learning projects can be estimated at a higher amount, the ability to accurately calculate each project's value is not currently feasible.

To date, with these final calculations, Gateway Technical College's Service Learning projects have saved the community an estimated **\$583,911**.

Service Learning activity

Student involvement is a key piece of Service Learning. In order to better monitor the amount and quality of Service Learning projects, instructors send their projects and student participation data to the Service Learning Center for monitoring and feedback.

The Service Learning Center also finds value in collecting the number of faculty, course offerings, programs implementing service learning, and the overall engagement of all those participating. This year, we had **68 courses** offering **656** students opportunities to accumulate **10,020 hours** throughout the Gateway district.

Service Learning Projects

Summer 2014 projects

Horticulture

Horticulture classes incorporate forms of service learning including and beyond a connection between the farm and community. A new social trend toward understanding what we eat and how it grows has allowed students in the Horticulture program to develop connections between the Gateway Urban Farm, Kenosha Harbor Market, and the communities within the Gateway District.



Nursing

Each semester, Dori Groom's first semester clinical students tackle Introduction to Nursing and Community-focused Projects course. This summer, her five students completed projects in varying depths at Love Inc. in Burlington and Lutheran Services and the RecPlex in Kenosha. Students reflect within classroom discussion and through a final paper where they describe the impact the service has made on themselves as they begin their nursing careers.



Fall 2014 projects

Nursing

Beth Wolf's first semester Nursing students helped at the Hispanic Program hosted by the Jane Cremer Foundation where they administered 70 flu vaccines. Student interaction at this event increased the student's confidence and proficiency in administering immunizations. Students were able to alter their communication while working with the Hispanic community. For some students, it was the first time working with an interpreter and learning how to adjust their speech for effective communication. Beth Wolf said, "[My students] felt this was a very rewarding and humbling experience."

Mary Kay Belcher's Nursing students partnered with St. Monica's Assisted Living facility in Racine, where they prepared a fun and educational presentation for the residents that engaged and provided them with valuable health information.

Each semester, Julie Teeter's Nursing students visit two separate non-profit partners in Kenosha—the Moose Lodge and ELCA Outreach Center—where they perform blood pressure screenings and discuss topics like hypertension and blood sugar. Working with two different populations in a short period on the same tasks is very eye-opening to students as they learn how to work with diverse populations while administering the same quality care.

The students focused on health promotion in Peggy Isaacson's Nursing class held a health fair for the Hispanic Congregation at Emmaus Church in Racine this semester. They gave out

toothbrushes; measured children in need of car seats for proper fitting; measured for bike helmets; discussed bike safety, summer play, and strangers; and discussed nutrition and immunizations.

John Ujcich had two students participate in a pilot program where scoliosis, hearing, and vision screening was performed at Wisconsin Lutheran Grade School in Racine. These two students collaborated with Wisconsin Lutheran Grade School to ensure that the service given was what was needed. Mr. Ujcich stated that the students who participated did a great job in meeting this need.

Horticulture

Students in Kate Jerome's Urban Farming and Market Gardening class worked with farmers at the Kenosha Harbor Market this semester. They were able to share their horticulture expertise with vendors and clients of the market, learning a lot from conversations, information sharing, and their class.



Information Technology

In the semester leading up to her retirement, service learning advocate Linda Spaulding passed the torch of civic engagement to her colleagues in the IT department. Linda's classes focus on how IT skills can be used to benefit the community and how these experiences can develop leadership skills within the students. Her students work within the Student Technology Support Center or STSC focusing on how their skills can benefit the Gateway community. Additionally, students are able to choose other projects where their skills benefit a broader community. This semester, one student worked at the Kenosha Achievement Center and another at the Money Conference hosted by Asset Builders in Racine.

International Education Week

An exciting continuing project that started last year was the integration of English Language Learning students in International Education Week with the purpose of exploring diversity, immigration, and global cultures. ELL students from many classes collaborated

to create and present posters and information about their home countries, their home villages, and their cultural traditions. These projects meet a need of exposing Gateway students to different cultures and people, exploring cultural competencies, and, for our ELL students, conversational skills.

Spring 2015 projects

Health and Safety Day

Each spring semester, six programs collaborate to offer over 120 elementary-aged students a series of workshops related to health, safety, and wellness. This year, Nursing, Dental Assistant, Barber Technology, Pharmacy Technician, Surgical Technology, and Criminal Justice students worked together to offer the students from the Boys and Girls Club of Kenosha a series of fun, interactive, and age-appropriate activities aimed at establishing health living habits such as brushing and flossing, how to avoid stranger danger, and the difference between healthy food and junk food.



Nursing

Renee Seymour's Introduction to Clinical Care Management class partnered with the Division of Health in Kenosha County to participate in a health fair at a Kenosha Unified elementary school. Renee said: "The students prepared a hands-on activity teaching healthy food choices—build a plate. This was a very successful activity, and I was able to capture a few great pictures of Nursing students helping young school age children make healthy food choices for their plate. They also made laminated bookmarks with "hand washing" reminders on them, laminated hand washing signs, asthma informational pamphlets and hand-outs, laminated immunization signs, and a poster of reasons not smoke.

The glitter hand-washing activity was another favorite among the children!

—Renee Seymour, Nursing instructor

Julie Teeter's students participated in ongoing blood pressure

screenings at the Moose Lodge and ELCA Outreach Center.

One amazing outcome of this ongoing project is our community partners' ability to have reliable ongoing data of blood pressures. For example, one individual may not have the transportation or money to go to the doctor's office to monitor blood pressure, but our students' interactions with them enable them to have a record of blood pressure without having to deviate from their normal schedule.

Students in Susan Willing's Advanced Nursing Clinical tackled healthy living habits with young children. Nursing student Gina Schmitz provided an interactive handwashing presentation to children in a 4K class at Star Center Elementary School in Lake Geneva in February. Nursing students Amy Choi and Guadalupe Roginsky presented an informative and interactive presentation on healthy food choices for a 4K group at Every Child's Place in April.

Accounting

Each tax season, Accounting students receive IRS training to assist with United Way's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program. This year, students participated heavily in the Kenosha County VITA program, collaborating with the VITA staff and United Way of Kenosha County. Students worked several days in 3-4 hour shifts to prepare tax returns as part of the VITA program. They were engaged with the community and increased their knowledge of tax preparation. They all agreed they were happy to be able to help others.

Laurie McDonald, VITA Coordinator at United Way of Kenosha County, spoke on how impressed she was with the students who participated this year. "We had one student who could have run the whole show," she said. The presence of Gateway students enabled VITA to have enough staff to assist as many people as needed the help this year.

Horticulture

Students in Kate Field's Greenhouse Crops class partnered with two organizations this semester: Down to Earth Community Garden in Kenosha and Lakeview Elementary School's 4K class in Whitewater. Focusing on the knowledge gained in class, students tackled interactive teaching methods, sustainable growing practices, and information pertaining to everything from soil to table.

Students in Courtney Greve's Vegetable Science course worked with a number of community partners this semester: Down to Earth Community Garden, Walkin' in My Shoes, Hawthorn Hollow, and Gateway's Urban Farm in Kenosha as well as Chapel on the Hill Food Pantry in Lake Geneva. Students took basic skills learned in the classroom and were able to apply them directly to assisting those in the community. "Many were surprised," Courtney said, "as they were newer students, that they were able to do this." "I love incorporating this into my vegetable science course," said Greve.

Many students truly realized through reflection that they were able to take skills that they had just learned and were able to help others in the community. Many students felt very fulfilled from the experience.

—Courtney Greve, Horticulture instructor



Professional Communications

Often, grant writing is seen as an overwhelming task to many students, but one student in Rick Barribeau's Grant and Proposal Writing class wrote a real grant for AV equipment for A&D Biker Ministries in Racine. Rick's class gives students the opportunity to either write a "fake" grant or a real grant for a community organization. Throughout the semester-long class, students tackle the Request for Proposal (RFP) in small chunks to alleviate some of the intimidation that comes along with a RFP.

Physical Therapist Assistant

Students in Traci Gotz's Management of Cardiopulmonary and Integumentary Conditions course partnered with the Community Center in Union Grove to offer exercise classes for adults and older adults throughout the semester. These classes offered students the opportunity to develop and lead stretching and soft-impact exercises. Students were also able to offer one-on-one assistance to individuals with specific pain areas.

International Volunteer

International volunteer at ELCA Outreach Center and Women's and Children's Horizons

This year, the Service Learning Center partnered with United Planet, a non-profit organization in Boston, to host an international volunteer at Gateway Technical College. Adriana Fajardo came to us from Ecuador and spent a year volunteering at ELCA Outreach Center and Women's and Children's Horizons in Kenosha. Fluent in Spanish, Adriana helped both organizations translate materials for clients, translate for clients, and teach some Spanish classes. Adriana also takes classes at Gateway to improve her English.

Support

Service Learning course Design Workshop

Four times a year, the Service Learning Center offers a Service Learning Course Design (SLCD) Workshop for any faculty or staff interested in developing the components needed to implement a successful service learning project. Based on feedback from participants and interested faculty, the workshop was redesigned at the end of the 2014–2015 academic year for implementation throughout the 2015–2016 academic year. This workshop will be offered in August, October, March, and May.

Fifty faculty have now completed this workshop. Of the 50 participants, 33 or **66 percent have attempted or completed successful service learning projects.**

2014–2015 Workshop completers:

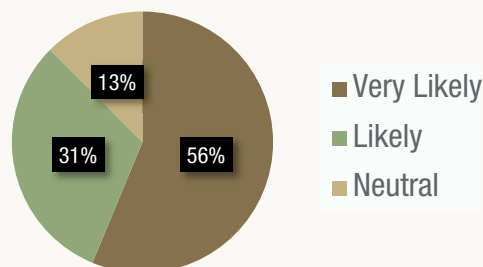
Christine Spang
Traci Gotz
Elizabeth Wolf
Pamela See
Takis Kinis
Danielle Hoffman

Faculty response

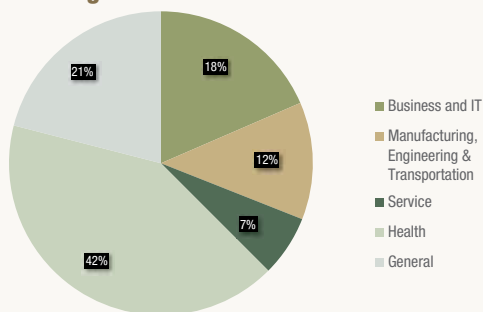
Each semester, when faculty send their projects and student activity, the Service Learning Center also asks for feedback on their personal experience. Did they like it? Did it go well? Will they continue? Each year, we receive a lot of positive feedback. A whopping **87 percent are likely or very likely to** continue to do service learning—and their overall satisfaction with the process—**94 percent** rate their experience at a **5 out of 5.**

Almost half of all service learning involvement since tracking began is held within the health career programs, which includes Nursing, Dental Assistant, Medical Assistant, and other health services programs.

How Likely to Continue Service Learning



Program Involvement to Date



Campus Connect database

For the past year and a half, the Service Learning Center has been working closely with Wisconsin Campus Compact to develop an online data collection tool that could be used by the entire Gateway community to collect service learning, volunteer, internship, club, field study, and clinical hours. In spring, we were able to beta test this database with the help of the IT students in Wendy Klemp's and Helene de Leon's IT Project Management classes. Their students participated by entering their hours, testing each link, and working together on a project to create how-to materials in both a text document and videos that would be available to all students and faculty using the database.

This database can be used to collect more than just student hours. It can collect daily reflection logs, partnerships, and opportunities as well. Additionally, it can be adjusted to suit specific club or program needs in what questions are asked and how the information is presented on the reports.

Recognition

Len laquinta Scholarship

Established in 2014, the Len laquinta Scholarship is an annual award available to a student dedicated to civic engagement, community and service, or club participation. Mr. laquinta's successful career held many opportunities for involvement in service learning and internships. "This opportunity to encourage civic engagement is very important to me," laquinta said. "No matter what we believe, none of us accomplish what we accomplish on our own. We are always helped by someone." The

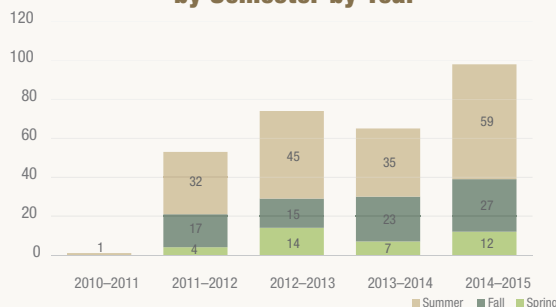
2014 recipient of the Len laquinta Scholarship was Sherry Bigalke, Marketing student who was able to use the award to help her complete her degree and enter her career.

Community partners

Since 2010, Gateway Technical College's Service Learning Center has developed over 100 partnerships in the tri-county area. In many aspects, these partnerships have evolved to suit both our students and our community's needs in ways that, as illustrated in the stories shared, have really created real impact.

Of the projects that have been submitted to the Service Learning Center, we have noticed a trend in which counties tend to have the most focus. Over 95% of projects done to date have been done in Kenosha and Racine Counties. From this data, the Service Learning Center will be focusing on Walworth County in the hopes of making substantial growth with the number of projects, partnerships, and impacts.

Number of Community Partners by Semester by Year



Faculty

Service learning would not be possible without dedicated faculty to lead and support. This year, we had 44 instructors implement service learning within their courses:

Ken Haling, Accounting
 Karen Comer, Barber Technology
 Heidi Gottfried, Dental Assistant
 Christine Spang, Early Childhood Education
 Elaine Asma, ELL/ABE
 Deb Hankel, ELL/ABE
 Ginger Karaway, ELL/ABE
 Laura Knudson, ELL/ABE
 Aracely Mouradian, ELL/ABE
 Miriam Perales-Handley, ELL/ABE
 Debra Solomon, ELL/ABE
 Mike Toudt, ELL/ABE
 Joanie Beinecke, General Studies
 Susan LaCanne, Graphic Communications
 Jon Mizer, Graphic Communications



Kate Field, Horticulture
 Courtney Greve, Horticulture
 Kate Jerome, Horticulture
 Helene de Leon, Information Technology
 Wendy Klemp, Information Technology
 Rebecca Marschner, Information Technology
 Linda Spaulding, Information Technology
 Mary Kay Belcher, Nursing
 Dori Groom, Nursing
 Vicki Hulback, Nursing
 Peggy Isaacson, Nursing
 Maryanne Kuiper, Nursing
 Diane Labanowsky, Nursing
 Renee Seymour, Nursing
 Christina Sima, Nursing
 Julie Teeter, Nursing
 John Ujcich, Nursing
 Susan Willing, Nursing
 Beth Wolf, Nursing
 Tamia Chapple, Pharmacy Technician
 Traci Gotz, Physical Therapist Assistant
 Rick Barribeau, Professional Communications

Service Learning Committee

Composed of Gateway faculty, staff, and administration, this committee focuses the direction of the Service Learning Initiative at Gateway in respect to curriculum, faculty development, and the campus-focused aspects of service learning. The 2014–2015 committee members:

Colleen Aird
 Manoj Babu
 Mike Boticki
 Soheila Brouk
 Madeline Carrera
 Kate Field
 Jerry Fox
 Kristin Gunia
 Traci Gotz
 Courtney Greve
 Dori Groom
 Ken Haling
 Kate Jerome
 Wendy Klemp
 Michelle Quinn
 Denise Schneider
 Stephanie Sklba
 Diane Skewes
 John Thibodeau

Service Learning Advisory Board

The Service Learning Advisory Board is a volunteer board comprised of community members with the express purpose of keeping the Service Learning Initiative at Gateway headed in the proper direction. This board is available for ongoing participation from members of the community, students, and faculty. The 2014–2015 board members:

Tracy Nielsen, United Way of Kenosha County
 (Chairperson)
 Kimberly Payne, United Way of Racine County
 Tamekia Shaw, Advancing Family Assets
 Karl Erickson, ELCA Outreach Center
 Kevin Cookman, HALO, Inc.
 Brenda Thomas, HALO, Inc.
 Lynne Dempsey, VIP Services, Inc.

Service Learning team honored

Gateway's Belize Service Learning coordination team was honored at Gateway's Employee Recognition event in April 2015. The group received the "Outstanding Team Award" for their efforts in coordinating and strengthening the Belize international service learning program.



Pictured left to right: Traci Gotz, Courtney Greve, Victoria Hulback, Madeline Carrera with President Albrecht.

Conferences

Wisconsin Campus Compact Annual Civic Engagement Institute—March 2015

At this year's Wisconsin Campus Compact Annual Civic Engagement Institute, Madeline Carrera represented Gateway's Service Learning Initiative by giving a short presentation on the Campus Connect database prior to its official launch at the beginning of the summer semester of 2015. This session was well attended and received. Participants left with a better understanding of the purpose of the database and an idea of how the launch would roll out.

Upper Midwest Civic Engagement Summit—June 2015

This June, Madeline Carrera traveled to Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minnesota, to present two sessions to attendees of the Upper Midwest Civic Engagement Summit. The first, titled “Bridging International” was co-presented with Hunter I. Riley, Peacework Field representative from the previous two years in the International Service Learning program to Belize. It was a very well attended workshop with a lot of engagement, interaction, and questions. Participants left with handouts of a sample of the Global Change Agent Curriculum developed by Peacework and the pre- and post-experience worksheets developed by the Service Learning Center. The second, titled “Introduction to the Campus Connect Database,” was a 15-minute mini-session that was extremely well attended and engaged in such a way that it spilled over into the hallway afterwards. Conversations with other colleges and universities in Wisconsin and Illinois are ongoing for the exploratory benefit of using this database in their departments. Participants left with a better understanding of the database and more questions as to how it could be used on their own campuses.

Future

Campus Connect Database Rollout

As stated above, this database began campus-wide roll out in the summer semester of 2015. User training sessions have been offered once a week for all faculty, staff, and students. The materials developed by the students in Helene de Leon’s IT Project Management have been added to the Service Learning Blackboard community site for all faculty and students to have access.

As the upcoming year progresses, this database will evolve and adjust to suit the needs of our faculty and students. Please view at: <http://gtc.wicampuscompact.org>

International Service Learning Expansion

Peru

The newest addition to the International Service Learning program list is Peru. As promoted to students: “Participants will travel to Peru to engage in a global enrichment experience with a focus on leadership and service. Students will stay and assist with needed service projects at Casa Hogar Juan Pablo II, which is a home for orphaned and abandoned children.” This opportunity will be at the end of spring semester and the beginning of summer in 2016. Watch for the results in next year’s annual report!

Third party providers

One of the greatest assets to planning an International Service Learning program are third party providers such as Peacework,

Vida Volunteers, and United Planet. These partnerships have enabled us to offer so many quality International Service Learning programs. Through these partnerships, we have been able to establish lasting relationships within the communities we serve abroad—something that would not be possible without their support, expertise, and hands-on approach. For that, we thank our partners for working with us to maintain these amazing opportunities. Without them, we would not be able to offer new, various International Service Learning opportunities.

Large Days of Service

Community partner feedback

This year, we attempted a service-focused event on Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Unfortunately, we had to cancel the event this year but have high hopes for 2016. We turned our attention instead to Earth Day. This event turned an existing community service activity into a service learning activity by instilling some pre- and post-reflection to the 20 or so participants. The limited success of these larger service days prompted us to ask our community partners, “What do you think?”

The feedback given by community partners was surprising but understandable. Large service events like this that are so popular nationwide aren’t always what our community partners need. While it is a great opportunity to knock off the to-do list, there is limited capacity for deeper service in a short three- to four-hour window.

Therefore, although we would like to continue the possibility of a large service event for MLK Day and Earth Day and potentially will be able to do so, the the creation of more large service events may very well not be in our community’s best interest.

Closing

Each year, the service learning community at Gateway Technical College grows. The Service Learning Center is honored to grow with each and every student, faculty member, and community organization with whom we partner.

