

Impact Program

ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021



IMPACT PROGRAM
Community Engaged Learning



Compiled by Madeline Carrera, Impact Program Coordinator


Dear Community Builder,

This past year was a time of unprecedented gravity. COVID-19 disrupted our communities and took the lives of thousands of individuals, leaving grieving loved ones behind. Unemployment, economic losses and social and political unrest were all around us. Nevertheless, our communities responded with resilience, perseverance and a desire to be better than we were before.

This year has also been an incredible opportunity for slowing down and focusing on what is most important in our lives. Gateway’s vision of making life-changing educational opportunities a reality has never been more needed. The Impact Program has adapted to meeting the restrictions of our virtual environment so our students can meet their learning needs creatively, appropriately and responsibly.

Since 2011, the Impact Program has helped more than 5,000 students spend 65,000 hours working on more than 822 community projects that contributed \$1.5 million in added value to our community. We are humbled every day by the commitment of our students, staff and faculty that is demonstrated in the stories presented within this year’s annual report. We invite you to join us as we continue offering amazing community-engaged learning opportunities that support our students and community.



Sincerely,

Bryan D. Albrecht, EdD
President and CEO
Gateway Technical College

The Impact Program

Mission Statement

The Impact Program fosters opportunities for engagement that encourage active learning, meaningful service, and cognitive reflection.

Through these activities, students develop a deeper awareness of the diverse community in which they live, skills that will serve their future careers, and an understanding of the value of civic engagement and their role in the community.

Vision Statement

We are the gateway to engagement opportunities for community and career/skill enrichment.

Values

Within the Impact Program, we value:

- Learning opportunities that encourage growth both personally and academically
- Diversity in opportunities and experiences
- Intentional connections between community and campus
- Purposeful links between theory and practice in action
- Well-rounded, dynamic learning opportunities that encourage each individual to recognize their role in a larger community

Gateway’s engaged students
have saved our community over
\$1.5 million
since 2011.



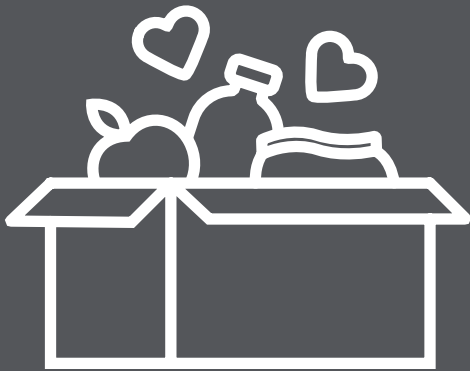
This Year In Numbers



Service Learning Hours

	Hours Completed	Students Engaged	Engaged Courses
2020-2021	1853	178	29
Since 2011	64,632	4,991	482

Pounds of Food
Donated
3,500 lbs.



Number of Virtual
Projects Undertaken

19



Funds Secured
by Student Grant
Writing Efforts:

\$35,000

Earth Day Electronics
Recycling:

29

pallets of
electronics
recycled
(or 2 ½ U-Hauls)



2 Videos Sharing
At-Home Service
Opportunities for
MLK Day of Service
and Earth Day/
EcoFest



A Year in Review

The 2020-2021 academic year has been a whirlwind of challenge, resiliency and upheaval that encouraged strength of character and community at Gateway Technical College that should be recognized. During this time, we also hosted several activities encouraging connection despite social distancing and working/learning from home. Here are some examples:

- Drive-through donation drives: Food and hygiene items were dropped off at each campus and brought to local food pantries and homeless shelters.
- Volunteer “take out”: Students made no-sew tie blankets which were donated to local homeless shelters and/or restocked local little free libraries with a provided bag of books.
- Virtual volunteering:
 - Smithsonian Museum transcription project.
 - Mapping Prejudice Project.
 - Crisis Text Line and 7-Cup Crisis lines.
 - Be My Eyes.

Other significant areas of engagement included:

- Students and staff cleaned up and handed out supplies during the cleanup efforts following civil unrest in Kenosha.
- CNC students organized a drive-through donation drive to send more than 1,100 nonperishable food supplies to the Racine County Food Bank.
- Veterinary Technician students provided care to local animal hospitals and shelters.
- Nursing students provided COVID-19 vaccines and service to elder care facilities, assisted living facilities, nursing homes, and hospitals.
- Accounting students partnered with the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) programs in Kenosha and Racine, helping complete taxes for individuals and families.
- Horticulture students provided information for growing food at home either in the yard, raised beds or via containers.



A Year in Review



Several classes had multiple projects:

- IT Project Management teams worked with the following organizations:
 - Elkhorn Area School District: Students conducted maintenance and cleaning on in-school technology.
 - Racine Zoo: Students created a plan for installing a kiosk for finding memorial bricks, trees and benches throughout the property.
 - Every Child's Place: Students created age-appropriate desktop set-up for kids.
 - Kenosha/Racine Poet Laureate Program: Students created a social media marketing plan and updated website formatting for ease of use.
- Rick Barribeau's Technical Writing students worked with a number of nonprofits this last academic year.
 - Three students secured grants totalling \$35,000 for local nonprofits.
 - Students developed materials including a brochure for the Kenosha Yacht Club's summer workshops, a letter of intent for Walkin' in My Shoes and letters of intent for Hawthorn Hollow.
 - A student built a website for Dementia Friendly Community Initiative (DFCI) as part of her internship.
- Joint efforts between classes and Habitat for Humanity of Kenosha helped support two new builds.
 - Bob Kaebisch's Architecture students designed blueprints for houses to be built in Kenosha. Two blueprints were selected to be built starting Spring 2021.
 - Aaron Schauer's Arboriculture class pruned and cleared out trees to prepare for groundbreaking and building efforts
 - Students from both projects have returned to help with the home building efforts despite their project ending.

Although it was a different year, we are proud of how our Gateway community came together.

Recognition



Newman Civic Fellow

This year, we were proud to announce Gateway Technical College’s first ever Newman Civic Fellow: Megan Bahr! Newman Civic Fellows are an inspiring group of community-committed students who are already making an impact in communities where they live, learn and serve. I had the distinct pleasure to sit down with Megan at the end of her Newman Civic Fellowship year. The following is an excerpt from the Kenosha News publication in Summer 2021.

Many of the interactions Megan had in this past year were focused on civic engagement. She was able to speak with legislators and leaders from around the country about a number of topics. She recruited volunteers and volunteered at polling places for the November election.

“Before I started the whole fellowship, I never saw doing anything public service related or anything political because it can be very dividing. But after this whole experience, I can definitely see myself running for school board or something,” Megan said. “What I really took away from this is that there isn’t just one way to lead. We can all lead in our own way.”

Congratulations and well done, Megan.

To read the full article, bit.ly/megan-bahr.

Len laquinta Scholarship

Established in 2014 by Len laquinta, this annual Gateway Foundation scholarship is awarded to a student or students dedicated to service or club participation. This year’s recipient is Armandina Jacinto (Early Childhood Education). Congratulations, Armandina!



Food for Thought 2.0 Gateway to Leadership Project



This year, a second Gateway to Leadership team (Lidia Hernandez-Guizar and Stephanie Cascio) revised the Food for Thought project to reflect what we’ve learned in the program’s first four years. With COVID-19, the program shifted to offering digital gift cards rather than physical food. Taking this into consideration, the proposed changes included: continuing offering immediate digital gift cards through an online form; offering pop-up pantries where students can shop for food items during on-campus/in-person events; partnering with mobile food pantry programs to making Gateway a pick-up location; and working towards having on-campus food pantry services on each main campus.

We look forward to seeing how implementation of these expansions can address the food insecurity needs of our students. Thank you Lidia and Stephanie for all your hard work on this project!

Thank you for staying engaged this year.

We want to highlight those faculty and community partners that communicated their projects with us this year.

Faculty List

Richard Barribeau, Communications • Jill Buchmann, Accounting • Jomarie Coloriano, Multicultural Support Staff • Shari Due, Information Technology • Heidi Gottfried, Dental Assistant • Traci Gotz, Physical Therapist Assistant • Shrona Green, Nursing • Courtney Greve, Horticulture • Peggy Isaacson, Nursing • Morgan Kaiser, Nursing • Robert Kaebisch, Construction Sciences -Architecture/ Structural • Wendy Klemp, Information Technology • Aaron Schauer, Urban Forestry • Renee Seymour, Nursing • Ali Schultz, Horticulture • Debra Solomon, ELL/ABE • Julie Teeter, Nursing • Cherie Tenfel, Nursing • Susan Willing, Nursing • Elizabeth Wolf, Nursing • Megan Zingleman, Physical Therapist Assistant

Community Partner List

7-Cup Crisis Line • Aurora Medical Center • Be My Eyes • Boland Hall – State VA • Boys and Girls Club of Kenosha • Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin • Cops ‘N Kids • Crisis Text Line • Dementia Friendly Initiative of Walworth County • ELCA Outreach Center • Elkhorn Area School District • Every Child’s Place • Faith, Hope, and Love • Froedtert and the Medical College of Wisconsin • Habitat for Humanity of Kenosha • Hawthorn Hollow • Homeless Assistance Leadership Organization (HALO) • Hope Council on Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse • Hunger Task Force • Jane Cremer Foundation • Kenosha Area Family and Aging Services • Kenosha Community Health Center • Kenosha Human Development Services • Kenosha Literacy Council • Kenosha/Racine Poet Laureate Program • Kenosha Yacht Club • LGBT Center of Southeast Wisconsin • Love Inc. • Mapping Prejudice Project • Moose Lodge • NAMI Racine County • Prevent Blindness Wisconsin • Professional Services Group and Community Impact Programs • Racine County Food Bank • Racine Literacy Council • Racine Zoo • Shalom Center • Sharing Center • Smithsonian Museum • Special Olympics • United Way of Kenosha County • United Way of Racine County • United Way of Walworth County • Veterans Outreach of Wisconsin • VIP Services, Inc. • Walkin’ in My Shoes • Walworth County Food Pantry and Diaper Bank • Women’s and Children’s Horizons

Moving Forward

Each year, the Impact Program expands the types of opportunities offered to students, professional development opportunities for faculty and staff and ways in which our community can come onto campus to collaborate. Moving forward this work will continue.

- Review and revise our Civic Action Plan to ensure it continues creating sustainable change and intentional partnerships that are mutually beneficial.
- Expand opportunities for students to engage in unpaid internships, Federal Work-Study internship programs and volunteering.
- Connect students to an online database to collect all hours of engagement - from clinicals to volunteering and everything in-between.
- Promote virtual and in-person community-engaged learning opportunities throughout our district and globally.
- Foster diversity, equity, and inclusion in the opportunities, professional development, and orientation services offered to all stakeholder groups.

