

OF SERVICE

Apr. 13, 2009

The Center for Service Learning

V. 6 NO. 9

Have some free time and want to help the Kansas City community? Looking for something to do with a group of friends? Need to find a project for class or to meet a service-hours requirement?

The Center for Service Learning is a clearinghouse for volunteer opportunities. Whether you are excited to get involved with a specific organizations or event listed or want to find an opportunity that fits your interests, just contact Davis Parker (816-501-4642 – davis.parker@rockhurst.edu – Van Ackeren #210).

ON-CAMPUS, ON-GOING PROJECTS

Leftovers with Love—Ever wonder what the cafeteria does with all those leftovers? Well, some of it goes to feed individuals at local soup kitchens. Volunteers are needed to help re-prepare Sodexo leftovers and deliver them to Holy Family House and St. James Place. Sign up at Campus Ministry to help ensure that otherwise wasted food gets to people who appreciate and need it. Shifts are available from 4-6pm on Mondays and Thursdays.

OFF CAMPUS, ONE-TIME PROJECTS

The **National Multiple Sclerosis Society** is having their annual **Walk MS** event on Saturday, April 18. Volunteers are needed for a variety of roles from cycling the route to participant registration on the day of, as well as setup and clean-up/data-entry before and after the walk. Donate your time to preventing a debilitating disease.

A **Community Block Party & Health Fair** will be held on the campus of Research Medical Center at 2316 E. Meyer Boulevard in Kansas City, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 18. Approximately 1,000 people attend this event promoting better health in the urban core of Kansas City. Help in set up, food & beverages, 1-mile fun walk, registration, prizes, volunteer check-in, and clean up. Serve in two-hour blocks beginning at 8:00 a.m. through 4:00 p.m.

The **Mattie Rhodes Center** is holding their **Dia de la Familia** on Sunday, April 19th from noon-6:00 p.m. Volunteers are needed to help setup, run arts & crafts activities and children's games, serve refreshments, and clean up afterwards. The event is at the Center's Northeast satellite office, at 148 N. Topping.

The **Mid-America Chapter of the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America (CCFA)** will host its 2nd Annual Take Steps Walk for Crohn's & Colitis in Kansas City at Liberty Memorial on April 25th from 5-8 pm. Volunteers are needed to help set up, at water stations, in the "Kids Korral", and to clean up. Set up begins at 12 pm.

Harvesters is holding their annual **Forks & Corks Fundraising Dinner** on Thursday, April 23rd from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Volunteers are needed to help run a silent auction and a raffle, greet

guests, setup, and cleanup. All volunteers must be 21 or older and can also purchase a reduced price ticket to the dinner itself if interested.

Celebrate the Cinco de Mayo Fiesta with Guadalupe Centers, May 1 -3. Volunteers are needed to help set-up, clean-up, staff booths, serve food and drink, and generally have a good time! This is also a great opportunity to practice speaking Spanish, as the event will be bilingual.

Catholic Charities of Kansas City-St. Joseph will host Cycling for Change—Reducing Poverty One Mile at a Time on Saturday, May 23, 2009. The ride begins and ends at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church. Volunteer for the day (or just part of the day) and help at registration, on the route, at a rest stop, etc.

Big Brothers Big Sisters hosts a fundraiser, *Summer Bowl for Kid's Sake*. Over 3,000 people raise money for the organization's biggest donor event by coming out to a huge party where they can enjoy free bowling, pizza, soda and prizes. BBBS is looking for individuals who would like to put together a team and be a part of the *Summer Bowl for Kid's Sake*. This is a great project for a CLC, dorm hall, greek organization, or other student group!

OFF CAMPUS, ON-GOING PROJECTS

Glory House Services/First Haitian Baptist Church—This community of Haitian immigrants is seeking a few students who enjoy teaching English, Spanish, or computer skills to adults in their community education programs. They are also looking for anyone who enjoys music to come teach youth how to play musical instruments. Glory House welcomes volunteers into its community and shares its members' love of cooking, dancing, music, and more. The community education program runs on Saturdays from 10am-noon.

Harvesters Volunteer Outreach Center—Individuals and groups are needed to help sort and process donated food items at the Harvesters Volunteer Outreach Center. Shifts run Monday through Saturday 8:30 a.m. to noon and 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Evening shifts from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. are also available on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Additionally, on Wednesday mornings and Thursday afternoons volunteers prepare "BackSnacks" (backpacks filled with nutritional snacks) for school children. This is a great project for small or large groups.

Aim4Peace Neighborhood Action Teams—Come join a Public Health Strategy designed to reduce violence by supporting people active in their neighborhoods and by connecting residents to basic services. They are looking for volunteers to participate in rallies and responses, call neighbors to invite them to various events, attend community meetings, distribute literature, and with the Neighborhood Action Team.

YMCA of Greater Kansas City is looking for volunteers to help make a difference in the community. Jobs range from Water Fitness Instructor, to running the front desk and giving tours. Volunteers are also needed to coach a youth sport, work in the Child Watch area, be a buddy for an athlete with special needs in the Challenger Program, help with special holiday, family events, fundraisers, or help in a tutoring program: S.T.A.R.S. (Strive to Achieve Real Success).

Community LINC's infant and toddler programs are in need of dedicated volunteers on Tuesday and especially Thursday nights from 5:30 pm to 8 pm. The volunteers will be caring for infants babies or providing activities and supervision for the toddler program. Specialty volunteers that could provide activities for the toddlers such as puppets, music, dancing, etc would also be beneficial. In addition, Community LINC is always in need of people to answer their phones during the day, at any hour.

Community Recycling Centers—The centers are almost completely staffed by volunteers, and need help sorting and moving recycling. They operate every week and scheduling is very flexible. Without volunteers Kansas City's major recycling centers wouldn't be able to function, so come lend a hand. Kansas City locations include: 91st and Hillcrest, Metro North Shopping Center, and midtown KC. Overland Park locations include: 119th and Hardy.

Mattie Rhodes Center's After School Creative Arts Program—Volunteers are needed to work with elementary school students in creative arts, math, reading and communications skills. The program runs Tuesday through Friday afternoons at Mattie Rhodes' North East Center.

One-To-One Challenge—Volunteers are needed one hour, one day a week, to work one-on-one with 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade students on an Accelerated Reading curriculum. The program is run by the Upper Room and Swope Corridor Renaissance at eleven Kansas City locations.

Associated Youth Services—Hip and Fit Program. Volunteers needed to assist in this nutrition and wellness program. Classes held on Tuesdays, February 10 – May 5, 2:30 – 5:30 pm and Wednesdays, February 11 – May 6, from 12:30 – 3:30 pm.

Be 1 Campaign—A new drive to provide supportive relationships for students in the Kansas City, Missouri, public schools seeks motivated students to mentor and tutor students through a number of partner organizations. Volunteer commitments vary from a few hours a month to several days per week and work with students in elementary, middle, or high schools. Visit www.be1kc.org for more information.

[Center for Service Learning—Your resource for community service](#)

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