

OF SERVICE

Summer 2009

The Center for Service Learning

V. 6 NO. 10

Have some free time over summer and want to help in Kansas City, Omaha, or St. Louis communities? Looking for something to do with a group of friends? Need to meet a service-hours requirement and want to get a head start?

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, read on. Don't forget to complete and submit your service transcript forms after completing projects. Thanks!

[Service Transcript Forms are available online by clicking here.](#) (.pdf)

KANSAS CITY

For all Kansas City projects, contact Davis Parker, the Center for Service Learning's AmeriCorps VISTA, at davis.parker@rockhurst.edu or 816-501-4642.

One-Time Summer Opportunities:

Cycling for Change Kansas City has a main goal of reducing poverty in America one mile at a time – 4,957 miles to be exact! The ride occurs May 23, 2009. C4C KC is looking for volunteers to help in 7 different areas: sign crew, rest stop crew, start and finish crew, first and last rider, break-away crew, SAG team, and medical support. To get involved either as a participant or a volunteer, please call 816.756.1858, ext. 564, or email [Cycling for Change](#).

Ronald McDonald House is looking for volunteers to help at two events or for you to attend the fundraiser as a guest, either way you will be making a difference.

The Red Shoe Shindig will be held on May 29, 2009 from 7:00-11:00 p.m. and is the perfect opportunity to spend an evening of fun with friends while making an impact on the lives of others.

A **Golf Tournament** will take place on June 1, 2009 at Leawood South Country Club and two different tournament times. The *Scramble Shotgun* will start at 8:00 a.m. with a breakfast and lunch provide and registration starting at 6:30 a.m. The *2-Best Net Shotgun* will start at 1:30 p.m. with lunch and evening hors d'oeuvres provided and registration starting at 12:00 p.m.

Big Brother Big Sisters is hosting its 25th Annual *Summer Bowl for Kids' Sake Kick Off Party* Enjoy food, beverages, and live music to start several weeks of bowling fundraisers. Put together a team and have a Kansas City mid-summer reunion while benefitting a valuable cause. Not only will you be giving back, but you will have a chance to win some great prizes, from gift cards to Royals tickets, for you and your team. The Kick-Off party is Thursday, May 21st from 4:30 – 8:00 p.m. at Beaumont's Back Yard in Midtown.

On-Going Summer Opportunities:

Glory House Services/First Haitian Baptist Church is a community of Haitian immigrants 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 engages individuals and groups to help sort and process donated food items. 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. This is a great project for small or large groups.

Aim4Peace Neighborhood Action Teams implement 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.

Operation Breakthrough seeks volunteers that range in age from 8 to 80 and help with everything from rocking babies to tutoring parents for the GED exam. Whether you can come in once a day, once a week, or only every once in a while, you are welcome and appreciated.

Kansas City Urban Youth Center provides positive summer programming for Kansas City youth. Volunteers are needed to serve as program mentors, drivers, bible quiz coaches, basketball coaches, and more, all on a weekly basis.

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 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 appreciated. In addition, Community LINC is always in need of people to answer their phones during the day.

Community Recycling 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 & Hillcrest and Metro North Shopping Center, and Deramus & Choutaeu. Volunteers save the equivalent of 7,000 trees per month!

Mattie Rhodes Center's Summer Art Camp calls on volunteers to work with elementary-aged school students in creative arts, math, reading and communications skills. The program runs Tuesday through Friday.

One-To-One Challenge asks volunteers to commit 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.

Be 1 Campaign provides supportive relationships for students in the Kansas City, Missouri, public schools and seeks motivated students to mentor and tutor youth 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.

OMAHA

Catholic Charities welcomes individuals and groups who would like to volunteer in a variety of programs: The Shelter, St. Martin de Porres, Juan Diego Center, the Omaha Campus for Hope and more. Please call Catholic Charities' Volunteer Coordinator at (402) 829-9296 if you are interested in these or other opportunities. You can also visit their website by [clicking here](#).

Make-a-Wish Foundation of Nebraska is looking for creative, dedicated, and resourceful volunteers. Volunteers serve on the Board of Directors, are speakers, grant wishes, organize fund raisers, promote the organization, and plan events and celebrations for the wish families. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer for the Make-A-Wish Foundation, please call 402-333-8999 or 800-760-9474 or visit their website by [clicking here](#).

Mosaic Community Development is a faith-based non-profit in downtown Omaha (13th St), which exists to address poverty through services driven by personal relationships, working to "transform communities through community." The program works to connect with the impoverished and marginalized in Omaha in order to see lives transformed and changed. It also has a meal program, a mentoring program, a program with Burundian Refugees, and works with the Park Avenue neighborhood at a local art gallery and Bible study. For more information please contact Jodi Cooper at (402) 933-6672 or visit <http://mosaiccd.org/>.

Nebraska AIDS Project is looking for program volunteers to work closely with staff on direct-services, special projects, clerical support and data entry, development, training, focus groups, planning and internships. Program volunteers may accept individual assignments or work as part of a team, and usually commit to a long-term period of service. Please contact Rick McConnell at rickm@nap.org for more information or visit the website by [clicking here](#).

Nebraska Game and Parks Commission is looking for volunteers to help in the following areas: in parks, campground hosts, youth fishing program, Nebraska fishing host, and Take Pride in America. To learn more about the above programs, please visit the Nebraska Game and Parks website by [clicking here](#).

Omaha Children's Museum is looking for fun, enthusiastic, and creative individuals to work with children, parents, staff, and other volunteers. Volunteers are able to take on a variety of roles: administrative volunteer, discovery guide, guest services volunteer, short-term projects, and various special events. Contact Jan McKenzie at jmckenzie@omc.org or (402) 342-6164 ext. 418 to pre-register for volunteer orientation class.

Omaha Food Bank is looking for volunteers to help in the sorting room, at food drives, and other various events. If you are interested or have any questions please e-mail Cindy Brodhagen at volunteer@omahafoodbank.org.

Omaha Public Library has open volunteer positions in the following areas: homework tutor, library staff assistance, Spanish-speaking volunteer, computer instructors, library docent, library indexers, and technical services volunteer. Applications are available online by [clicking here](#). Please contact either Deirdre Routt at (402) 444-4997 or drout@omahapubliclibrary.org or Cheri Willey at (402) 444-4850 or cwilley@omahapubliclibrary.org with any questions.

The Nebraska Medical Center has opportunities available day and evening, seven days a week. Volunteers are asked to commit a minimum of 2-4 hours each week. A six-month or 60 hour commitment is requested of all volunteers. For more information on their national and local award winning programs, contact The Nebraska Medical Center Volunteer Services at (402) 559-4197 or visit the website by [clicking here](#).

The YMCA of Greater Omaha is looking for volunteers to help in the following areas: computer room supervisors, aquatics assistants, mentors, child care assistants, gym supervisors, fundraisers, data entry, fitness instructors, weight room attendants, coaches, officials, senior activities, and much more! Please contact a [YMCA branch close to you](#) for more information.

Turning Point is a 23-acre campus located in the center of north Omaha who meets the needs of youth from infancy through 19. Volunteer opportunities range from painting and grounds keeping to tutoring and life skills training. Interested parties can contact Miriam Blair at (402) 457-6025.

ST. LOUIS

St. Louis County Library welcomes volunteers. To volunteer at the St. Louis County library, you will need to complete a [Volunteer Application](#). All volunteers working around children will need to pass a criminal background check. For information on current openings, please contact Carrie Robb, Adult Program Coordinator at (314) 994-3300 ext. 474 or volunteer@slcl.org.

Ronald McDonald House provides housing and community for families with children with severe illnesses. Volunteers are needed to staff the house, oversee family rooms in local hospitals, run special fundraising events, serve meals, and collect tab tops. Call (314) 531-6601, ext. 1250 to sign up for an information session on any of these opportunities, or contact Alison Kaspar at akaspar@rmhcstl.com.

Salvation Army often refers to its volunteers as "the army behind the Army." You can help too! Please call Volunteer Coordinator Sheila Davis at (314) 646-3166 or e-mail

[Sheila R Davis@usc.salvationarmy.org](mailto:Sheila_R_Davis@usc.salvationarmy.org). For more details on St. Louis area projects, visit their website by [clicking here](#).

Humane Society of Missouri every year helps over 90,000 animals. The many dedicated staff members cannot do it alone! Become a Humane Society of Missouri Volunteer and help give animals a second chance! Visit the website to learn more by [clicking here](#).

The Belle Center, over the past 25 years, has been a lifeline for thousands of girls and boys with special needs. Belle is looking for suggestions on how to improve our Web site's design and content. Specifically, they would like tips to make the site more user-friendly, and appeal to families, fellow community organizations, donors, volunteers, etc. For more information, please e-mail [Angie Wuelling](#) or call her at (314) 821-5230.

Guardian Angel Settlement Association (GASA) has served families and children living in poverty in St. Louis for 150 years. They provide developmental childcare, after school, tutoring, and social services to more than 10,000 individuals annually. GASA could use public relations assistance in promoting its 150th Anniversary year in 2009. Please e-mail GASA Development Director [Kristen Williamson](#), or call her at (314) 231-3188 x16 for more information.

Operation Homefront is always seeking volunteers to help build community awareness. Assistance is needed in the areas of public relations, event planning and fundraising. Operation Homefront offers support to military members and their families during the phases of activation, tour of duty and post-deactivation. To learn more, contact [Jon Jerome](#) at (314) 799-1475.

St. Louis Arc is a non profit United Way agency that provides support for more than 3,000 adults and children with developmental disabilities and their families throughout the St. Louis metropolitan area. It is an affiliated chapter of [The Arc of the United States](#). There are many great ways to get involved! Visit their website for more information:
<http://www.slarc.org/employment/opportunities.asp>

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

Julia Vargas, director
Davis Parker, VISTA member
Beth Craig, student assistant
Jessica Lloyd, student assistant

<http://www.rockhurst.edu/services/service>

Location: 208-210 Van Ackeren Hall
Telephone: 816.501.4545 or 816.501.4642
E-mail: Julia.Vargas@rockhurst.edu
Davis.Parker@rockhurst.edu
CraigE@hawks.rockhurst.edu
Lloydj@hawks.rockhurst.edu