

OF SERVICE

Special Edition

The Center for Service Learning

V. 6 NO.1

The Center for Service Learning is your resource for connecting with community service opportunities. Every other week we compile and distribute *Of Service* for the Rockhurst community to discover opportunities for service. When calling to inquire about projects off campus, be sure to mention that you're from Rockhurst University. Also, don't forget to complete and submit your service transcript forms after completing projects. Thanks!

COMMUNITY SERVICE, ON-GOING OPPORTUNITIES:

- **Cristo Rey Kansas City High School** is a private Catholic, college prep high school that provides an education to culturally diverse students with economic need. Most students help to pay for their education by participating in the corporate work-study program. Cristo Rey is a service-learning partner site for service-learning courses at Rockhurst. Volunteers are needed to tutor students and to help with various administrative tasks. For more information, contact **Diane Charity** at (816) 457-6044 or via email at dcharity@crestoreykc.org and visit their website at <http://www.crestoreykc.org/>.
- **Operation Breakthrough** strives to help children who are living in poverty develop to their fullest potential by providing them a safe, loving and educational environment. They provide before and after school programs for school age children, and childcare and preschool programs for younger children. In addition, they provide many onsite social services and emergency aid to families. Volunteers are needed to read to preschoolers, tutor school-age children, mentor children who would benefit from spending time with a caring adult and share hobbies, such as cake decorating or stamp collecting, with small groups of children. Operation Breakthrough is a service-learning partner site for service-learning courses at Rockhurst. To find out how you can help contact **Debbie Skaggs** (Debbie@operationbreakthrough.org) or **David Jaeger** (David@operationbreakthrough.org) at (816)329-5233.
- **Mattie Rhodes** bridges cultures and communities through arts, mental health and social services. We empower individuals and families through culturally competent, bilingual services in a respectful and compassionate environment. In the past, volunteers from Rockhurst have helped with after school programs, worked in the art gallery and helped at events (such as the Day of the Dead celebration and the Plaza Art Fair). This year the Plaza Art Fair is on **Friday, September 19, Saturday, September 20 and Sunday, September 21**. Mattie Rhodes is a service-learning partner site for service-learning courses at Rockhurst. To find out more information, contact **Maria Belsito** at (816) 471-2536 or via email at mbelsito@mattierhodes.org.
- **El Centro** aims to create and sustain educational, social and economic opportunities for families. In the past, volunteers from Rockhurst have helped with tutoring school age children and GED students, helping with Citizenship Preparation Classes and after school programs. El Centro is a service-learning partner site for service-learning courses at Rockhurst. For more information on how you can help contact **Della Muzquiz** (dmuzquiz@elcentroinc.com) or **Maria Reyes** (mreyes@elcentroinc.com) at (913)281-1186.

- **The Boys and Girls Club (Thornberry Unit)** provides a fun and safe environment for youth, ages 5-18, to learn, play, meet new people and grow. In the past students have helped with after school programs and tutored high school students. For more information, call **(816) 361-3600** or volunteer@helpckkids.org . To start the volunteer process you may also stop by the BGC at 6301 Rockhill Road, Ste 303 Kansas City, MO 64131.
- **The Ronald McDonald House Charities** provides a home away from home for families of seriously ill children receiving treatment at nearby hospitals. RMHC needs volunteers to adopt a shift in one of our two houses, 2 times a month or once a week throughout the year. In addition, volunteers need to help managing our front desk, checking in families, simple chores, light laundry, in 4-hour shifts. If you would like more information about these opportunities please contact **Kerry Stein at (816)842-8321, ext. 101** or via email at kstein@rmhckc.org .
- **The Kansas City Urban Youth Center** empowers youth with resources to develop faith, character, knowledge, and skills. The Center could use volunteers/mentors to help with the following activities daily programming, basketball coaching, IT, health programming, and grading. For more information, contact **Jared Willemin at (816)221-1002** or via email at jared@kcurbanyouthcenter.org.
- **Spofford Place** provides hope and healing to abused and neglected children as well as preventative, community-based services that build family strength and foster child success at home, school and in the community. In the past, volunteers have helped with the following events: reading individually to kids, and mentoring children. Additionally, student groups have helped with fundraisers and other activities. If you would like more information, please contact **Paige Wickwire at (816)508-3408** or via email at paige.wickwire@ihop.org .
- **St. James Place** is a food pantry and soup kitchen that services the community around Rockhurst University. St. James can always use volunteers to help clean, cook and serve dinner. For more information, please contact **Mike Mathews at (816)561-8515** or via email at mmathews@bishopsullivan.org .
- **Kansas City Free Health Clinic** promotes health and wellness by providing quality services, at no charge, to people without access to basic care. In the past, students have help the clinic by filing, helping with administrative tasks, helping with special projects and reading to children in the waiting room. For more information, call **(816)777-2761**.
- **KC Wildlands/Bridging the Gap** promotes conservation, protections and restoration of the natural communities of the Kansas City region. Currently, Bridging the Gap is looking for people to help plant tree across the metro. For more information, contact Angela Schreffler at **(816)561-1061, ext. 110** or via email at angela.schreffler@bridgingthegap.org.
- **Associated Youth Services (AYS)** mission is to advance the social, educational, health and overall success of youth and their families. **AYS** is hosting two food booths at the **Aug 23-24 KC Aviation Expo and Airshow**. Volunteers are required to attend the Airshow all day on Aug 23 and/or 24. Volunteers will work in shifts at the food booths preparing hot dogs and other fast food. Volunteers can view the Airshow and eat food for free! 10% of the proceeds from the booths will benefit AYS programs. For more information on this event or other volunteer opportunities, contact **Katie Svoboda** (ksvoboda@aysusa.org).

- **Children’s Museum of Kansas City and Wonderscope Children’s Museum** have merged and are moving all of their materials from their Indian Springs location to their Shawnee location and need your help. On **Saturday, August 23, 2008**, they need multiple crews to help with loading and unloading moving vans from their Indian Hills location to their Shawnee location. If you would like to help please contact **Lisa Fickenscher** at **(913)287-8888** or at **lficr@kidmuzm.org**.
- **Tulips on Troost** is a community organization dedicated to renewing a sense of hope and renewed interest to Kansas City’s Historic Troost Avenue one tulip at a time. The organization holds weekend planting sessions in the fall and spring. If you would like more information on how you can help contact **Durwin Rice** at **(816)812-8530**.
- **Blue Hills Family Life Center** is dedicated to supporting and responding to the needs of its community by helping to meet the physical, mental and spiritual needs of people in need regardless of race, creed or culture. To help meet these needs the center provides the following services: a food and clothing pantry, social services, referrals, a family thrift store and more. The Center is a partner to Rockhurst for both community service projects and the Rockhurst run after-school program RU College Bound. The Center is located a short walk from campus at 5447 Troost. For more information on how you can help contact **Glenda Jones** at **(816)523-2833**.

CENTER FOR SERVICE LEARNING – YOUR RESOURCE FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE

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