

# Center for Service-Learning and Volunteerism

Annual Report 2018-2019

## Overview

**Mission:** The Center for Service-Learning and Volunteerism (CSLV) prepares students to be engaged, aware, and responsible citizens. Co-curricular and course-based opportunities for service and reflection allow students to connect with peers, faculty, and the community as active learners. Students learn in a holistic environment that prepares them for leadership in a diverse society.

There were exciting changes in the 2018-2019 school year.

- The CSLV launched an interactive portal to connect students with local needs and track their service hours.
- Sarah Marbes was hired to coordinate the center.
- The CSLV relaunched Saluki Service Days including the first ever Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service.

The CSLV continued its work running the Women's Civic Institute, building relationships with nonprofits, and training faculty on the value and best practices of service-learning.

### Across campus:

**1,931**

students reported

**25,704**

volunteer hours at

**60+**

nonprofit organizations

## Student Volunteerism

The CSLV promotes, facilitates, tracks, and evaluates co-curricular volunteerism. Students volunteer independently, with student organizations, and as part of Saluki Service Days. This office strives to instill in students a strong sense of self-efficacy, an appreciation for diversity, and enthusiasm for taking action to uplift their community. Volunteers were surveyed at the end of the spring semester.

- 94% of respondents said they can make a positive difference in someone's life while 73% feel responsible for helping others.
- 80% of respondent met and worked with people whose backgrounds were different from theirs while volunteering.
- 71% of respondents solved problems while volunteering.



*Students help run an educational event hosted by the Wellness Center.*

## Saluki Service Days

This spring, the CSLV relaunched Saluki Service Days (formerly run by the Office of Sustainability). The events are open to all students.

- January 21/Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - 52 students volunteered 141 hours for Boys & Girls Club, NAACP, and Special Olympics
- February 23 - 65 students volunteered 161 hours for Special Olympics
- March 23 - 18 students volunteered 71 hours for Southern Illinois Wellness
- April 27 - 22 students volunteered 176 hours for WSIU Public



*A student pulls litter from Lake Kinkaid.*

## Women's Civic Institute

The Women's Civic Institute (WCI) is a series of trainings, panels, and discussions to help participants develop skills for public service. Students interact with leaders whose knowledge and experience inspire them to become community leaders. Eleven students completed the program.

- Before the program, less than 33% of participants had a clear understanding of what it meant to be a community leader. After the program 100% did.
- Before the program only half of the students had identified which community issues mattered most to them. After the program: 100%
- 100% found the WCI worthwhile.

I have identified which community issues matter most to me.



I know what skills and qualities make someone a good community leader.



## Making Connections



*Prospective students share why they volunteer. At this event, answers included "I like to work with animals" and "to help people in need."*

The CSLV continued to build relationships with students, prospective students, faculty, staff, and community members.

- The CSLV presented about volunteerism to classes and Greek groups.
- The CSLV presented about service-learning to academic departments.
- Community partners tabled at volunteer fairs each semester.
- At new student orientations incoming students wrote thank you cards for veterans or notes of best wishes for children to get on the first day of school.
- At open houses prospective students shared why they volunteer (photo left).
- The center hosted seven nonprofit professional development trainings for community partners.
- The CSLV honored the LDP student organization with the Delyte Morris Service Award for their ongoing high-impact volunteer work.