GiveGab is Here to Stay

HandsOn Battle Creek adopted GiveGab as their new volunteer tracking system in June. GiveGab has modernized the way community engagement is completed through its innovative social networking platform.

Over the summer KCC collaborated with HandsOn to provide training seminars for community partners. On Wednesday, August 26th from 9:00am -10am KCC staff, faculty and community members will have the opportunity to participate in a training.

The Service-Learning Office has hosted several “GiveGab Training Sessions” open to the community where local organizations were trained on how to use the new system. The events had good turnouts and were very successful. The goal of these training sessions was to get more local organizations on GiveGab, as this will create more opportunities for volunteers and build a stronger GiveGab community.

Students are using the new system in several classes at KCC. Students are logging hours, posting pictures and videos, and sharing reflections with their class on an interactive online format. Reflection is a key component of the service-learning experience, so for students to be able to share their experiences in a way that is familiar to them is really exciting. This kind of connection really emphasizes learning and personal development in students.

The Service-Learning Office is aiming to eventually have all students completing a service-learning experience and those doing group/class volunteer work to use GiveGab throughout their journey at KCC and beyond. GiveGab makes the service-learning process more streamlined, understandable, and user friendly. It will also help students make lasting connections and use their service information to help them land their next job.

All students, staff, faculty, and community partners are encouraged to set-up a GiveGab account and enjoy the new system! Make sure to follow and join Kellogg Community College.

Contact Kate DeGraaf at 269-965-3931 ext. 2211 to attend the August 26th training.
The Service-Learning Office is excited to announce the addition of a 14x24 greenhouse in the garden. This has been a cross-discipline effort between chemistry, RMTC, and the Service-Learning Office. KCC will have a sustainable resource with limitless opportunities right in our backyard. The garden has grown immensely from its humble beginnings.

A significant amount of students are unable to complete service off-campus due to time constraints and limited travel; the community garden is an excellent resource for students with these circumstances. The garden is just a short walk away to serve a half-an-hour or so in between classes, making a service-learning endorsement much more attainable.

Growth in the community garden is thriving and will continue throughout the year thanks to the greenhouse. Several students have taken advantage of the garden over the summer by completing service-learning projects that helped to manage and sustain the garden. Bruins Give Back participants have gotten involved as well as KCC staff members. Two trees have been donated as well as many flowers.

The community garden’s produce is donated to the Haven of Rest Ministries, benefiting people with low access to healthy food. Hundreds of pounds of food have already been donated. The garden’s success depends on the continued collaboration between students, instructors, and the community.

The Service-Learning Office welcomes any ideas, projects or collaborations. If you would like to get involved or donate time, tools, or advice please contact Kate DeGraaf at ext. 2211 or at degraafk@kellogg.edu.

How to get involved

Community Garden Days will be posted on our facebook page. Contact the Service-Learning office to set-up individual or group volunteer garden days 269-965-3931 ext. 2211 servicelearning@kellogg.edu

Above: Bruins Give Back in the garden

Right: Garden and greenhouse behind the LRC

Above: Jennifer Smith’s kids helping in the garden
Sustainable Partnerships

Over the past two years the Service-Learning Office has focused on creating more sustainable partnerships with greater impact. These partnerships have added to ones that were already created. In collaboration with instructors and community organizations five great relationships have been formed, which has manifested in Bruins Give Back events and service-learning opportunities. This continual progress is key to a successful student, college, and community.

**Dudley STEM:** Working closely with the principle and K-5th grade teachers we have held Bruins Give Back events for the past two years at Dudley. These events are open for KCC students, employees, and alumni to serve three hours on three Fridays during each fall and spring semesters. Last year the KCC Police Academy cadets also served in classrooms to create a positive police presence in students’ lives that fostered trust and respect. In spring 2016 the Academy will embed service-learning into one of their courses and all the cadets will have the opportunity to serve at Dudley.

**Fremont:** This past year Brad Poer has embedded service-learning into his Children’s Theatre course. His students completed service-learning at Fremont Elementary located within walking distance from KCC. His class has given a couple hundred K-5th graders access to creative expression. This fall TSRE students will have the opportunity to be reading buddies at Fremont!

**Calhoun Community High School:** The partnership between KCC and CCHS started last fall with a SERV 299 class. This year several KCC students have completed service-learning projects at CCHS including senior portrait shoots, event planning, classroom help, and grant writing. The SERV 299 students won a grant from Michigan Campus Compact and the money will be used to establish an art leadership retreat and develop college and career readiness this year.

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SHARE Center: Last year Glenda Morling and one of her former students established the Monday Breakfast program. The students got involved with the Center, saw community needs, and connected with Glenda who envisioned a potential partnership. The two wrote a grant to start serving 40 breakfasts a week. Since then, a graphic design student, English students, and Nursing and Dental Hygiene students have completed service-learning at the Center. Faculty and staff have also volunteered.

Marian E. Burch Adult Day Care: For the past five years students in dental hygiene, nursing, SERV, and psychology classes have completed service-learning at Marian Burch. The last two years the Dental Hygiene Department has embedded service-learning in their courses, making service at Marian Burch an integral part of the course curriculum. One dental hygiene student exemplifies the service-learning partnership through her service where she implemented a survey that Voces, Battle Creek’s local Hispanic Center, will be able to use to identify dental needs and barriers in the community.

Michigan Campus Compact’s Commitment to Service Award, which recognizes two students per MiCC member campus for either the breadth or the depth of his/her community involvement or service experience(s) and the demonstration of meaningful reflection. Award winners include: Courtney Johnson and Troy Kaiser. They were among just 31 students statewide to receive the award.

Heart and Soul Award winners
MiCC Heart and Soul Award, which recognizes undergraduate and graduate students for their time, effort, and personal commitment to their community through service. KCC Heart and Soul Award winners include: Shannon Albright, Hannah Anderson, Kimberly Montney, Kimberly Derrick, Hannah Frentz, Mayra Hurtado, Joseph Marah, Palin Spradlin, Christopher Stoneburner, and Donna Street.

Student Award Recipients

GET INVOLVED!

Twice a year KCC hosts the Volunteer and Civic Engagement Fair. The Fair is a great opportunity for students, faculty, and staff alike to connect with local nonprofits. Perfect for resumes, career building, and a great chance to find service-learning opportunities.

The two dates will be held in fall and spring:
September 10th from 11:30-2:00 in the Student Center
February 2nd from 11:30-2:30 in the Student Center