

Service Learning E-News

Parkland College's Bimonthly E-Newsletter on All Things Service-Learning and Volunteerism

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In This Issue

- Welcome Parkland's new AmeriCorps VISTA
- Parkland's Volunteer Fair Sept. 23
- Check out the Service Learning Website!
- Join Garden Hills Homework Club
- Wesley Food Pantry @ Parkland College
- Service-Learning Report at Parkland

"We are prone to judge success by the index of our salaries or the size of our automobiles, rather than by the quality of our service and relationship to humanity."

–Martin Luther King Jr.

Online Resources

[S-L Clearinghouse](#)
[CU Volunteer Database](#)
[Parkland College Service Learning Website](#)

Share Your S-L Stories

If you are involved in service-learning with Parkland students, please share your stories with the Parkland community by contacting [Jordan Hall](#)

Welcome Jordan Hall, Parkland's New AmeriCorps VISTA

Please join us in welcoming Parkland's New Volunteer Coordinator, Jordan Hall. Jordan, an AmeriCorps VISTA, will be taking over for Mike Moran, who has taken a promotion to work with Illinois Campus Compact VISTAs statewide. Jordan is a second-year VISTA coming from Portland State University. At PSU, Jordan worked in the Student Community Engagement Center, where he coordinated a mentor program. While at Hanover College, Jordan collaborated with other students in creating Community Stewardship Initiative, a student organization which increased service initiatives in the community. Jordan looks forward to continuing his work in creating service collaborations between colleges and communities. You can contact Jordan via email at jdhall@parkland.edu or by telephone at (217) 353-3033.

Upcoming Volunteer Fair

Mark your calendars for Fall Term's Volunteer Fair, set for Wednesday, September 23 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the new Student Union. The Volunteer Fair is a great way to network, meet local nonprofit organizations, and become involved in local volunteer opportunities. We had a great turnout last year, so we're excited to invite you to stop by the Fair, tell your friends about it, or maybe bring your class by to visit with community organizations such as the Girl Scouts, Big Brothers Big Sister, and CU@Home. For more information, or for a list of participating organizations, please contact Jordan Hall at jdhall@parkland.edu or (217) 353-3303.

Check out our Service-Learning Website

Once again, we encourage you to take a look at the my.Parkland Service-Learning Website. In addition, this semester, we've also added more information to our www.parkland.edu website, specifically, we list and link to all of our volunteering partner organizations. You can view the [my.parkland Service Learning Website here!](#) You can view the www.parkland.edu Service-Learning Page [here!](#)

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Join Garden Hills Homework Club

For the past eight years, students and faculty of Parkland College have been working with 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders at an afterschool program called the Homework Club at Garden Hills Elementary. The Club, a partnership between Parkland College and Champaign Unit 4 Schools, meets two days a week (Mondays and Wednesdays), from 3:00-4:00pm. We are currently recruiting members of the Parkland community to volunteer one or two days a week throughout the Fall semester. Volunteers provide not only academic support to the Garden Hills kids, but also serve as important role models to at-risk youth. Due to the success of previous semesters, our primary goal this term is to increase the number of Parkland College students working with Garden Hills students. For more information about potentially connecting your class or club with the Garden Hills Homework Club this semester, please contact Brian Nudelman at 351-2534 or Jordan Hall at jdhall@parkland.edu

Wesley Food Pantry at Parkland College

The Wesley Food Pantry at Parkland opened December 2013 in the S building across Perimeter Road on the south side of the main building. The pantry is open on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month from 11am-1pm and 4-6pm and the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month from 10:00-noon. Besides offering an incredible service for our students, the pantry provides an excellent opportunity for service-learning on the Parkland campus. Check out [their website](#) for more information about Wesley Food Pantry and volunteer opportunities with them.

Please contact [Brian Nudelman](#) or [Jordan Hall](#) for information on starting a service-learning component with the pantry.

Service-Learning Report at Parkland

Institutional Accountability and Research at Parkland College completed a 4-year report on service-learning at Parkland. The report provides strong evidence of the positive effect that service-learning has on our students' opportunity for academic success. As the report states:

- "[...] service learning students have odds that are more than *four times* as high of persisting from one semester to another than non-service learning students."
- "[...] service learning students had almost *two and half times* the odds of completing a degree or certificate than did the non-service learning students."

You can read the complete report online on the [my.parkland Service-Learning site](#), or by clicking [here](#).