

# Service-Learning E-News

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

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## In This Issue

- Welcome Lauren Ritter, Parkland's New AmeriCorps \*VISTA!
- Lumpkin Family Foundation Awards Grant to Parkland Service-Learning!
- Mark Your Calendars for the Fall Volunteer Fair!
- Service-Learning Program Update
- Join the Garden Hills Homework Club!

**"Volunteerism is an act of heroism on a great scale... It does more than help people beat the odds; it changes the odds."**

--Former President Bill Clinton

## Online Resources

[S-L Clearinghouse](#)

[CU Volunteer Database](#)

[Parkland College Service-Learning Website](#)

## Welcome Lauren Ritter, Parkland's New AmeriCorps \*VISTA!

Please join us in welcoming Parkland College's new AmeriCorps \*VISTA, Lauren Ritter. Lauren will be taking over Marsha Reardon's position as the College's Volunteer Coordinator as Marsha is completing her second and final year with AmeriCorps. Marsha will continue working part time at Parkland until late September, assisting in Lauren's transition. Lauren, originally from Saint Louis, Missouri, graduated from Missouri State University. This will be her second year of service with AmeriCorps, as she spent last year serving in Baton Rouge, Louisiana with City Year. Lauren has a degree in Art Education, and applied her teaching skills to work with at-risk youth in urban Louisiana schools. She is very excited to be living in a new city and working with a new community. You can contact Lauren via email, ([LRitter@parkland.edu](mailto:LRitter@parkland.edu)), or by phone, (217) 353-3302.

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## Lumpkin Family Foundation Awards Grant to Parkland Service-Learning!

Parkland College was recently awarded a \$5,000 grant from the Lumpkin Family Foundation, located in Charleston, Illinois. The Lumpkin Family Foundation is a private foundation that provides grants to nonprofit organizations that are dedicated to supporting education, preserving and protecting the environment and fostering opportunities for leadership, with special consideration to Central Illinois heritage. Many thanks to the Lumpkin Family Foundation for their generous award that will help us promote and support service-learning programs like the Garden Hills Homework Club here at Parkland College.

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## Mark Your Calendars for the Fall Volunteer Fair!

This fall's Volunteer Fair will be held Monday, September 13 from 10:30AM-1 PM in the College Center. The Volunteer Fairs are a great way to network, get some information on local nonprofit organizations, and to sign up for available volunteer opportunities. We invite you to stop by the Fair, tell a friend about it, or bring your class by to browse. For more general information or for a list of participating organizations, please contact Lauren

Ritter at 353-3302.

## 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 Lauren Ritter

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# Service-Learning Program Update

We would like to take a moment here to spotlight the service-learning programs and classes at Parkland that are doing such great work in the community. If your course or club is not listed, please contact us so that we can add you to our list.

EDU 101-Education  
CIT 230-Construction Field Experience  
CSC 159-MS Network Management  
ENG 102-Composition  
NUR 257-Nursing  
SPE 180-Speech  
SOC 107-Sociology  
ECO 102-Microeconomics  
PSY 209-Human Growth and Development  
CHE 100-Introduction to Chemistry  
ART 228-Advanced Digital Photography  
OTA 113-Health and Occupations I  
PSY 101-Introduction to Psychology  
SPA 104-Spanish

Computer Science and Informational Technology Department  
Dental Hygiene Program  
Occupational Therapy Program  
Phi Theta Kappa  
Alpha Phi Omega

Thank you to all of the classes, clubs, and programs who are continuing to achieve academic excellence through important work in the community. Here is a look at what some of these volunteer and service-learning programs were able to achieve in the past year. In the past academic year:

**417:** The number of Parkland students performing service-learning work through their courses.

**2500:** The amount of hours that the students contributed.

**45:** The number of local agencies that these students worked with.

Further, these numbers do not include the individual hours that Parkland students, faculty, and staff have spent volunteering on and off campus. Here are a few of the notable programs and events that Parkland people have volunteered for in the past academic year:

Alternative Spring Break  
Latino Family Day  
Earth Week at Parkland College  
Step Out for Diabetes  
CU Pumpkin Chuckin'  
Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service at Salt & Light Ministries  
Big Brothers/Big Sisters Bowl for Kids' Sake  
Habitat for Humanity Women's Build  
Boneyard Creek Community Day

Lastly, another success that Parkland achieved in the past academic year was a spot on the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. Parkland College was 1 of 29 schools from Illinois to achieve this honor. This was due large in part from such programs as the Dental Hygiene trip to Tennessee, the Garden Hills Homework Club, and Parkland's Latino Family Day. Thank you to all who had a hand in any of the above mentioned events or programs, and for making 2009-2010 a truly excellent year in service.

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## Join the Garden Hills Homework Club!

For the past three years, students and faculty of Parkland College have been working with 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders at an afterschool program at Garden Hills Elementary, the Homework Club. The Club, a partnership between Parkland College and Champaign School District 4, meets two days a week (Mondays and Wednesdays), from 3:00-4:00 PM. We are currently recruiting Parkland students to volunteer one day a week throughout the fall semester, providing not only academic support to the Garden Hills kids, but also serving as important role-models to at-risk youth. Due to past successful semesters with the Club, our primary goal is to expand, with more Parkland students and faculty, working with more Garden Hills students. For information about potentially connecting your class or club with the Garden Hills/Parkland College Homework Club this semester, please contact Brian Nudelman @ 351-2534.