

Service-Learning at Parkland College

Reinvigorating the Mission of the Community College



“The Mission of Parkland College is to Engage the Community in Learning”

- “A climate throughout the college that values and promotes integrity, inquiry, diversity, inclusion, active citizenship, global awareness and academic freedom”
- “Serve the larger community by providing services and resources that promote the intellectual, cultural and economic development of Illinois Community College District 505”



Presentation Goals

- Defining Service-Learning
- Service-Learning at Parkland
- Benefits to Students, Faculty, Community, and the College
- Service-Learning and Volunteerism Resources at Parkland
- Your Questions

Service-Learning is...

“The process of integrating thoughtfully organized service experiences with guided reflection to enhance student learning of course materials.”



Key Characteristics of Service-Learning

- Students are involved in course-relevant service which benefits the community.
- Offers a continuum of possibilities -- from single day service events to several hours a week for an entire semester.
- Structured opportunities are provided for students to reflect critically on their experiences through a mix of writing, reading, speaking, listening, and group discussions.



Service-Learning at Parkland

- ❖ Intro to Child and Social Psychology
- ❖ English 102 and Professional Writing
- ❖ Occupational Therapy Assistant Program
- ❖ Education 101
- ❖ Applied Media Promotions (AMP)
- ❖ Homework Club
- ❖ Dental Hygiene Program
- ❖ Graphic Design Program
- ❖ And many others!



Benefits to our Students

- Enhances and increases engagement and learning
- Promotes critical thinking
- Provides experiences
- Explore majors and careers
- Fosters a sense of civic responsibility



Benefits to Faculty & Staff

- Enhanced student learning = more engaged students
- Reinvigorated teaching
- Strengthened relationships with students
- Opportunities for professional development
- Research / publishing opportunities
- A sense of making a difference

Benefits to Parkland College

- Fulfillment of mission
- Strong community partnerships
- Increased retention/completion
- Benefit all stakeholders



Benefits to the Community

- Infusion of people power to help
- Client/agency needs met
- More informed / involved citizenry
- New ideas and energy



Service-Learning & Volunteerism at Parkland

- Volunteer and Service-Learning Coordinators (Gabi Fisher and myself) – we're here to help make this all happen!
- New Center for Community Engagement – C-134!
- Homework Club
- Service-Learning Advisory Council (SLAC)
- Service-Learning Websites
- Martin Luther King Jr. Days of Service
- Service-Learning E-Newsletters
- Volunteer Fairs
- Our Goal: To increase the level of volunteerism across the campus, along with the number of courses incorporating service-learning

Brian Nudelman

Service-Learning Coordinator

E-mail: bnudelman@parkland.edu

Office: C220

Phone: 351-2534