

Service Learning E-News

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

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Service-Learning Coordinator

Brian Nudelman
Office: C220
Phone: 351-2534
bnudelman@parkland.edu

Volunteer Coordinator

Josh Clark
Office: C231
Phone: 353-3302
jclark@parkland.edu

Online Resources

[Parkland College Service Learning Website](#)

[CU Volunteer Database](#)

[Service Learning Clearinghouse](#)

MLK Day of Service

Parkland College will be hosting a Day of Service on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, January 16th, 2017, from 10:00am to Noon. Parkland will be, once again, partnering with the Wesley Food Pantry to hold a rice and bean repack. The repack will provide the Wesley Food Pantry's Parkland location with rice and beans for 3-6 months. The event will be held in the S-Building on campus. Parkland students, faculty, staff, and their families, along with members of the community, are welcome to attend the event. If you're interested in attending, please contact [Josh Clark](#). If you are unable to attend, but are still interested in helping out, the Service Learning Program will be accepting financial contributions to help purchase the rice and beans. If you would like to donate, please contact [Brian Nudelman](#).

Spring Volunteer Fair

Parkland's Spring Volunteer Fair will be held on Wednesday, February 1st, from 11:00-1:30pm in the U-Wing. The Volunteer Fair is a networking event that allows Parkland students, faculty, and staff to connect with local non-profits, volunteer opportunities, and other community resources. The Volunteer Fair is an especially valuable resource for classes that incorporate service learning; students can explore and connect with the 20 various community partners and opportunities that best suit them. Please contact [Josh Clark](#) if you have questions, want to learn which organizations are attending, or if you would like a certain non-profit to attend the event.

Upcoming Events

Homework Club 10th Year Anniversary: On Wednesday, March 8, 2017, we will celebrate the 10th Year Anniversary of the Parkland College – Garden Hills Elementary Homework Club! Please look for more information on this exciting day in the next *Service-Learning E-News*!

Community and Campus Day of Service: 5th annual U of I event that brings together hundreds of volunteers to repackage food for local food banks. Tentatively scheduled for April 8th, 2017 at Memorial Stadium. Contact [Josh Clark](#) for more information.

VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance): IRS program that prepares taxes for low income individuals and families. United Way and Salt & Light host local site. VITA is an excellent service learning opportunity for students interested in accounting. For more information or to get involved contact [Josh Clark](#).

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 [Josh Clark](#).

Get Involved in Service Learning

If you want to incorporate service learning into your class or want to know more about service learning and its benefits contact [Brian Nudelman](#).

Garden Hills Homework Club

The Garden Hills Homework Club is wrapping up another successful semester! On November 9th, 14 students from Garden Hills visited Parkland for the Homework Club's field trip. They were shown the Natural Science's Virtual Dissection Table and Augmented Reality Sandbox, as well as took part in a presentation with some of our Dental Hygiene students. This semester, we are proud of our 30 volunteer tutors from Parkland, who have collectively volunteered 230 hours working with 16 Garden Hills' students. The Garden Hills Homework Club also received a grant from the Junior League of Champaign-Urbana for \$290. This grant will be used to purchase new books and prizes, as well as fund end-of-the-semester and 10th Year Anniversary celebrations.

The Garden Hills Homework Club will resume during the spring semester, and we will need new tutors! The Homework Club is a one-on-one tutoring program that focuses on improving literacy and reading skills. It is held on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3-4pm at Garden Hills Elementary, and any Parkland students, faculty or staff can volunteer. Please contact [Brian Nudelman](#) or [Josh Clark](#) if you are interested in volunteering, or would like Brian and Josh to present to your class about the Homework Club.

Wesley Food Pantry at Parkland College

The Wesley Food Pantry continues to need volunteers to staff their food distributions. They hold the distributions in the S-Building every Wednesday from 11am-1pm, and the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month from 10am-12pm. If you are interested in signing up, please visit their [website](#).

The Wesley Food Pantry also has a variety of internships available for the spring semester. The available internships include accounting, social work, social media, as well as custom-made internships. Contact the Wesley Food Pantry, at info@wesleypantry.org or 217-344-1120, for more information.

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

Service-Learning Advisory Council Meetings

Please join the Service-Learning Advisory Council for our upcoming spring semester meetings. Learn about our plans for Service-Learning and volunteerism this year, and find ways to get your student organization, your class, or yourself involved in community service. Stay up to date on volunteer events and volunteer internships in our community.

Our spring meetings are scheduled for February 2 and April 6, from 3:00-4:00pm, in D-187.