

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

JANUARY 2020



Overview:

- Spring Break Service Immersion Trip
- NW Ohio Opportunities
- SE Michigan Opportunities
- Youngstown Opportunities

Welcome to our monthly update on community engagement opportunities for students, faculty, & staff at Mercy College of Ohio.

Have a service opportunity or a community partner you'd like us to share? Contact Annie Devine, Director of Campus Ministry & Service Learning at 419-251-1866 or annie.devine@mercycollege.edu

Spring Break Service Immersion Trip

Chicago, IL

This spring break, make it about service, social justice, and community. Join us for the **Spring Break Service Immersion Trip 2020!**

This year, we will be hosted by the [Brother David Darst Center](#) for Justice & Peace, Spirituality & Education in Chicago, IL. We will be learning about a variety of social justice issues and serving at organizations who are addressing homelessness, food insecurity, poverty, and immigration.

Who: Students from the Toledo campus and the Youngstown location.

When: Sat. March 7 - Wed. March 11

Where: Chicago, IL

Cost: \$150 (includes transportation, meals, and housing)

How to Apply: Email Annie at annie.devine@mercycollege.org to receive an application link. Applications are due Feb. 3, 2020.





COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

NORTHWEST OHIO



MERCY COLLEGE FOOD PANTRY

Date & Time: ongoing, various times

Location: Mercy College of Ohio: Toledo Campus, 5th floor of Madison

Info: Assist with organizing donations and updating the pantry inventory.

Contact: Annie Devine, 419-251-1866

annie.devine@mercycollege.edu



American Red Cross

AMERICAN RED CROSS

Service Opportunity: Various Roles

Date & Time: Various days/times

Location: Locations all over the US

Info: As a Red Cross Volunteer, you can help your community prepare for and respond to emergencies, deliver hope and comfort, meet new people – all while making a huge, positive impact on the lives of those who need it most. We have volunteer opportunities to match a wide range of interests and time commitment – Disaster Response, Preparedness Education, Service to the Armed Forces, Health and Safety Training, International Humanitarian Services, and Blood Services—as well as roles specific for nursing students! Find out more about volunteer opportunities at <https://www.redcross.org/volunteer/become-a-volunteer.html>

Contact: Rebecca Dungee

rebecca.dungee@redcross.org



LA POSADA FAMILY SHELTER

Service Opportunity: Enrichment Volunteer

Date & Time: Ongoing opportunity; once a week, Mon-Fri, 3-4pm

Location: La Posada Family Shelter
435 Eastern Ave. Toledo, OH 43609

Info: Volunteers read, play board games, and help with student homework. Volunteer commitment is one day a week for two months.

Contact: Byron Wynn, 419-276-8334 (text)

bwynn@toledodiocese.org

HELPING HANDS OF SAINT LOUIS

Service Opportunity: Multiple opportunities available with the Clothing Center, the Garden, Opportunity Kitchen, and the Pantry.

Date & Time: Various days/times

Location: Helping Hands of Saint Louis
443 6th St. Toledo, OH 43605

Info: Assist in the Clothing Closet, as an Opportunity Kitchen Assistant, or volunteer in the Pantry.

Contact: Byron Wynn, 419-276-8334 (text)

bwynn@toledodiocese.org

Need a Service Site for a Service Learning course?

Community Organization Guides are now available for Northwest Ohio and Southeast Michigan. Contact Annie Devine at 419-251-1866 or annie.devine@mercycollege.edu to get a guide. Guides for NE and SW Ohio coming soon!



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

NORTHWEST OHIO



MERCY HEALTH

FRANKLIN AVE MEDICAL CENTER

Service Opportunity: Volunteer with the Mercy Health Activity Academy; Starting Fresh Program; or the Food Pantry,

Date & Time: Activity Academy: Wednesdays, 4:30-5:45pm; Other programs happen weekly at various times throughout the weekday.

Location: Franklin Ave Medical Center, 2213 Franklin Ave. Toledo, OH 43620

Info: The Mercy Health Activity Academy and the Starting Fresh Program are community outreach programs aimed at educating youth of the inner city on nutrition, mindfulness, exercise, and other health-related topics. Volunteers are needed on a weekly basis to help with making snacks and assisting instructors with activities. Opportunities also exist to help with the Food Pantry during the week. These programs run year round.

Contact: Linda Bert, 419-251-8604

linda.bert@mercy.com



SouthernCare™

Hospice Services

SOUTHERNCARE HOSPICE

Service Opportunity: Patient Visitors

Date & Time: ongoing need; flexible times

Location: SouthernCare Office

6545 W Central Ave. Suite 103

Toledo, Ohio 43617

Info: Visiting patients in surrounding Toledo Area facilities and assisting with clerical duties.

Preferred Attire: Casual

Contact: Dani Beamer, 740-408-3953

danielle.beamer@southerncareinc.com

www.southerncarehospice.com



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Service Opportunity: Friday Night Lunch Packing; Saturday Mini-Mobiles

Date & Time: Lunch Packing: Fridays at 6pm; Mini-Mobiles: Saturdays 10:00am & 11:30am

Location: Trinity Episcopal Church, 316 Adams St. Toledo, OH

Info: Volunteers assist us with packing lunches for our Saturday mini-mobiles. We welcome groups and people of all ages and abilities to help with packing lunches. On Saturday mornings, we get to know our neighbors as we share the lunches we've packed with people throughout the downtown Toledo area. Individuals and groups accompany Food for Thought on our normal bus stop routes as we provide food, water or coffee — as well as conversation with the people we meet — sunshine or snowfall.

Contact: Caitlin, caitlin@feedtoledo.org

www.feedtoledo.org





COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

NORTHWEST OHIO



LA CONEXIÓN

Service Opportunity: Volunteer Tutor

Date & Time: Tuesdays & Thursday for Spring 2020
5:45pm-7:30pm

Location: Bowling Green, OH

Info: La Conexión is a nonprofit organization in Bowling Green that offers a variety of services for the Latinx families in the area. One of their programs, Nuestros Niños El Futuro, is in need of volunteer tutors in all subjects to help out students (grades K-10th) with homework and other academic needs. This Tutors can volunteer both Tuesdays and Thursdays or choose one day.

Contact: To get involved, email us at laconexionwc@gmail.com or call 419-308-2328.



Special Olympics



SPECIAL OLYMPICS OHIO

Service Event: Special Olympics Ohio's 2020 Winter Games

Date & Time: February 21-23, 2020

Various times over the three days

Location: BGSU, Bowling Green, OH

Info: Special Olympics Ohio's 2020 State Winter Games will take place February 21-23 at Bowling Green State University. The Winter Games will feature sports competition in Basketball, Cheer-leading, and Swimming as well as social and health opportunities. Roughly 1,500 athletes will compete over the games weekend.

They won't be able to host this weekend of fun and sport without help from volunteers. They're looking for people to help with competitions, ceremonies, socials, and more!

Visit www.soooh.org/2020-winter-games for more information

Contact: Questions? Contact Megan Modene at mmodene@sooh.org or (614) 239-7050

SUBSCRIBE

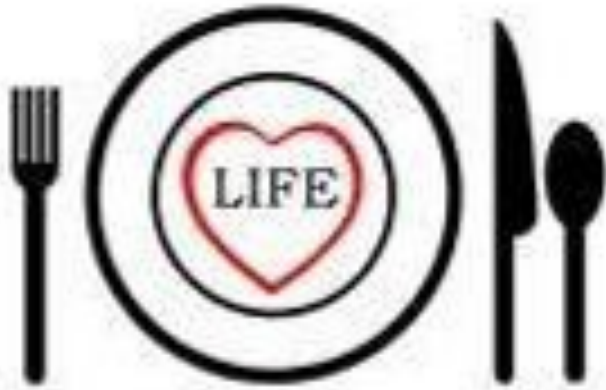
to the **Community Engagement Update**
and get new & upcoming volunteer
opportunities delivered straight
to your email inbox every month.

Sign up here: <https://bit.ly/2m0Mhh9>



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN



LIVING INDEPENDENCE FOR EVERYONE

Service Opportunity: Meals on Wheels Volunteer

Date & Time: varies

Location: Various locations across Monroe County

Info: LIFE is a nutritional program that helps individuals to remain independent. Lunches are served at the "friendship centers" all over Monroe. Home Delivery is also available for individuals starting at age 60 and their spouse. Our meals are served in the area by dedicated volunteers who give of their time and donate space so the meals can be prepared. We deliver to all persons in the Monroe County Area.

Contact: (734) 242-6800

<http://www.lifeindependence.org/>



FOCUS: HOPE

About: Focus:HOPE was founded as an organization dedicated to "finding intelligent and practical solutions to the problems of hunger, economic disparity, inadequate education and racial divisiveness." Since then they have become a nationally recognized civil and human rights organization providing assistance to Southeast Michiganders through their food program, career training programs and the HOPE Village Initiative.

Service Opportunities: We need volunteers to help with packing and delivering food to senior citizens, tutoring students, assisting in caregiving for children, assisting in the Community Arts program, becoming part of community development projects, and more.

Find out more info about our various volunteer opportunities here: www.focushope.edu/how-to-help/volunteer

Date & Time: Various dates & times;

Location: 1400 Oakman Boulevard
Detroit, MI 48238

Contact: volunteer@focushope.edu, 313-494-4270





COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

YOUNGSTOWN AREA



Second Harvest
Food Bank
of the Mahoning Valley

SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK

Service Opportunity: Sort & re-pack food

Date & Time: Mondays – Fridays, 9:00am-noon; and Tuesday afternoons, 2:00-4:00pm

Location: 2805 Salt Springs Road
Youngstown, Ohio 44509

Info: Volunteers are especially needed to sort and re-box food in the warehouse and occasionally work on special projects like Taste of the Valley and Harvest for Hunger. You'll have the satisfaction of knowing that your work is helping to feed people in our community—a child will go to bed with a belly full of food or a senior will be able to eat and purchase the medicine they need because of your efforts.

Volunteers must be able to lift 20 lb. boxes. This is an ongoing need, not a single event. More info can be found at: www.mahoningvalleysecondharvest.org

Contact: Christina Wagner, 330-792-5522 ext. 102, chwagner@shfbmv.org



OUR COMMUNITY KITCHEN

About: Our Community Kitchen is a nonprofit charitable organization that provides meals, community programs, and medical services to those in need. Our vision is to give those in need the respect and dignity they deserve while ensuring they receive a hot meal in a warm and welcoming environment.

www.facebook.com/ourcommunitykitchenohio

Date & Time:

Location: 551 Mahoning Avenue, Youngstown, OH

Contact Info: Assist with serving meals or run a donation drive for canned food, clothing, or personal care items. Experienced volunteers are also needed to assist with job training, health care services, and counseling.

Contact: Kelly, kcocca@ockohio.org, 330-770-2224

THE WAY STATION

Service Opportunity: Various Volunteer roles

Date & Time: Varies

Location: 769 Springfield Rd. Columbiana, OH 44408

Info: Volunteers are the lifeblood of our great organization. We are always looking for loving, compassionate individuals to help in various areas:

Clothing Desk Clerk, Childcare Provider, Office Help, Consignment Store Liaison, Display Designer, Cashier/ Receptionist, Retail/Stock Clerk, Household Merchandiser, Food Pantry Assistant. People interested in volunteering are asked to complete an application and return it to The Way Station.

Contact: Vicki Ritterspach, 330-482-5072, www.thewaystationinc.org





COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

DONATIONS NEEDED

Help in the fight against Food Insecurity

This past fall semester, we opened up a Food Pantry on the Toledo campus and have started organizing a more integrated effort to assist students at Toledo and Youngstown who are facing food insecurity. This is an increasing need on campuses across the country — as many as 1 in 3 students could use help with their meals. Our Mercy College mission and values call us to respond to this need and we seek to provide immediate assistance with compassion and respect for human dignity.

The Mercy College Food Pantry on the Toledo campus provides food and toiletry items for Mercy College students, faculty and staff who may be experiencing hunger or struggling to buy food for their household. At Youngstown, a shelf is stocked in the student lounge with snacks and shelf-stable meals for students who come to campus hungry.

We are supported by the Division of Student Affairs and Seagate Food Bank of Northwest Ohio but we also rely heavily on donations of food and toiletry items. Please see below for items that we are currently in need of.

TOLEDO

- Canned Chicken
- Canned Kidney Beans
- Granola Cereal
- Jelly
- Apple Sauce
- Canned Green Beans
- Canned Peas
- Canned Vegetable Soup (Vegan)
- Powdered Milk
- Shelf-stable Almond milk
- Toilet Paper
- Toothpaste
- Menstrual Pads (ultra thin, various sizes, smaller packages)
- Tampons (small boxes with various sizes)
- Laundry Detergent (small bottles)

YOUNGSTOWN

- Cup of Soup or Noodles
- Microwaveable Mac & Cheese Cups
- Oatmeal Cups
- Granola Bars
- Breakfast Bars
- Pop-Tarts
- Applesauce Cups
- Peanut Butter Crackers
- Cheese Crackers

***All Food items for both locations must be shelf-stable.**

**As many as 1 in 3 college students
could use help with their meals.**