



Engaging students

Changing lives

ANNUAL REPORT 2013-2014

From the desk of the director:



Another academic year has passed (too quickly!), and another year of inspiring work by our students has been completed that has greatly benefited our surrounding communities. The program continues to grow and evolve. Experiential learning is now integral to the services of this office.

Requests from instructors to present this more holistic view of engaging the community adds 299 students served that were linked to job shadowing assignments from the disciplines of Business, Academic Development, First Year Experience, Nursing and Physical Education.

Additionally, there were upticks in requests from students who wanted to link service learning to personal and occupational goals they had. Clubs and organizations had service learning goals and conversations have begun to track service hours that group members complete. Broadly it can be stated that future annual reports will continue the tradition of statistically quantifying these emerging trends.

Perhaps most exciting is my partnership with the Career Resources office, and the wonderful work of our Career Resources director, Karen Philbin. My office is now posting, tracking, and providing quality

internships to the students of NHCC. The Career Resources Network software our offices utilize has already had 29 service learning partnerships respond in the short weeks the program has been up and running.

As one of my community partners so succinctly said: "Sounds like a smart move-combining service learning and internships. After all, students often segue from one into the other with the same organization" Julie Huck, volunteer coordinator for Project for Pride and Living.

I am amazed and humbled by the hard work, time, dedication, and good works of our students. They are making a difference every day in the lives of countless others, and I am incredibly proud of them.

Check out the service learning program at: <http://www.nhcc.edu/academic-programs/supplemental-programs/service-learning>

To new heights in 14-15!

Mission: To connect students, faculty and the community in learning activities that blend classroom instruction with civic responsibility.

Vision: To foster collaboration among students, faculty and the community that enhances the educational process, addresses community needs and builds student life skills.

Troy Nellis
Director of Service Learning

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NUMBERS! THE YEAR IN REVIEW:

According to the Corporation for National and Community Service, about 64.5 million Americans, or 26.5 percent of the adult population, gave 7.9 billion hours of volunteer service worth \$175 billion in 2012.

By state, Minnesota volunteers add \$24.31 per hour to the bottom line of state non-profits and community organizations. NHCC students this year contributed \$575,446.14 back to the community.

For the **Fall 2013-Spring 2014** academic year, the service learning program at North Hennepin Community College placed **865 students** with **321 community partners**, a collaboration that spanned **26 courses**, and **41 faculty**, totaling **23,671.17 hours** and contributed **\$575,446.14** value back to the community. Since the program's inception in 2006 students have contributed nearly **\$1.5 million back** to community.



321 Community Partners



41 Faculty



26 Courses



1 Dept. Nursing

\$ 575,446 Community Value Fiscal 2013-2014

**865
Students
Participated**

**23,672
Curricular
hours completed**

EVENTS!

Central to the work of the service learning department is strong event planning, campus engagement, a commitment to academic and student affairs, and building strong collaborative community partnerships, some highlights of those efforts:

Service Learning Fairs:

Each fiscal year the office of service learning hosts a minimum of **two service learning fairs**. This year the fairs were held 9/18/13 and 3/26/14.

38 organizations connected with potentially, **11,200 students** as they navigated the hallways to their next class, or commitment.

Thank you to the following organizations for their time, dedication, and assistance to our students!

Fair Partners- Alexandra House, Northeast Youth and Family Services, Community Emergency Assistance Program, Health East Care Systems, St Therese's, Lifeworks, Minnesota Circles of Support and Accountability, Minnesota Department of Revenue, Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity, One2One, National Marrow Donor Program, Project for Pride and Living, Volunteers in Partnership: Robbinsdale School district, Elim Health Care, Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Greater Twin Cities, ACES, People Serving People, Springbrook Nature Center, CLUES, Gentle Touch Health, Minnesota Children's Museum, District 279 Osseo School District, Hennepin County - Juvenile Probation Mentors For Success; Neighborhood Involvement Program, Loaves and Fishes, Bolder Options, Hennepin County Library, Sojourner Project, Girl Scouts of River Valley, Three Rivers Park District, ICA Food Shelf, Vision Loss Resources, Twin Cities in Motion, Tree Trust

National Day of Service September 11, 2013

National Day of Service is the President's national call to service initiative. It calls for Americans from all walks of life to work together to provide solutions to our most pressing national problems. For several years North Hennepin Community College has embraced this important event by partnering with Three Rivers Park District to do trail and river environmental clean-up dating to 2006 and the origins of the service learning department.

This year in an inspired pairing with the Diversity and Equity office the college welcomed Erik's Ranch, an organization dedicated to autism awareness to host a day-long event at the campus.

Erik's Minnesota Adventures is one of several programs offered by Erik's Ranch & Retreats, a non-profit whose mission is to improve the lives of young adults with autism. In a nutshell, Erik's Minnesota Adventures is a tour guide program designed to give adults with autism meaningful options, which was the theme for this year's National Day of Service event. Why? Because many adults with autism are isolated—they have no job, few friends and no meaningful role in society. Because they struggle to initiate and maintain social relationships, they struggle to get and keep jobs. They may lack appropriate verbal communication skills, or may possess splinter skills, which means they are experts in a particular area, but may have difficulty managing day-to-day activities on their own.

The event's goals were to generate awareness and interest but also accomplished empowerment as the guides have a vast array of knowledge to share from the arts and history to sports and the environment. By listening and learning, volunteer guests help build tour guides' self-esteem, self-worth and sense of accomplishment. These tours may sound simplistic, but they're building stability for the tour guides: providing jobs, offering much-needed social stimulation, allowing them continued learning and growth as they build confidence, and more important, helping them be productive, purposeful members of society.

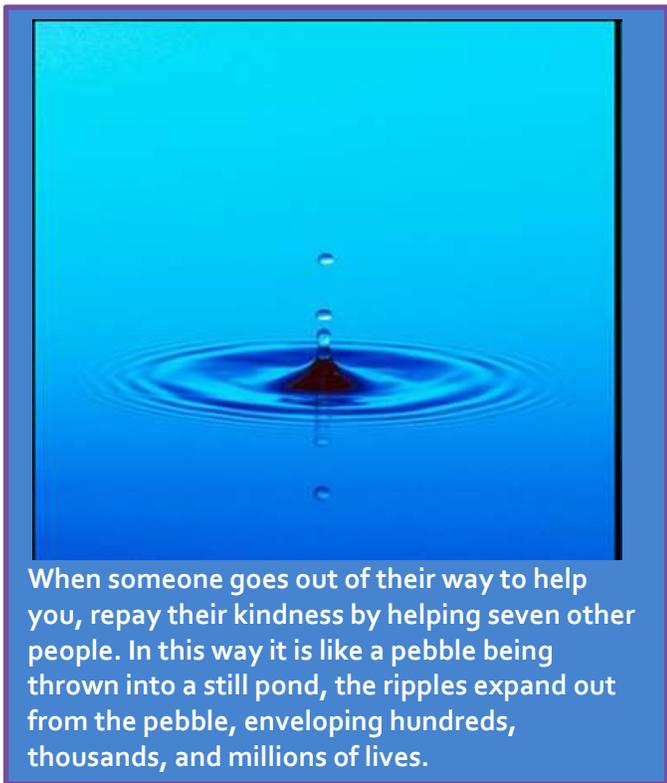
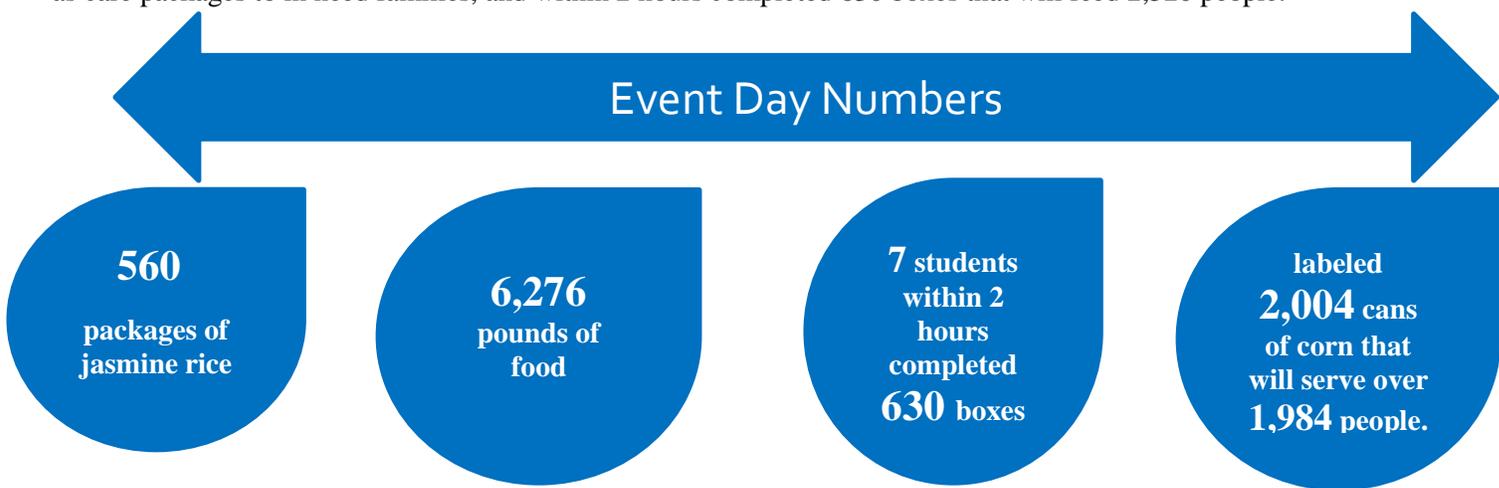
Go to www.EriksRanch.org and click "Take a Tour" for a complete schedule of tours, an overview of each one and to register today. You'll be happy you did!

EVENTS!

Earth Week April 21-26, 2014

Pele Rich of the Biology department, **Troy Nellis** of the Business department and the **Student Volunteer Club** @ NHCC did food sorting, packing, and bagging rice in support of the Emergency Food Shelf Network on 4/14/14 for this Pre-Earth Day event. EFN is a full service food bank, providing quality, nutritious food and support services to over **200 hunger relief partners**, including food shelves, on-site meal programs, and Fare For All sites, throughout the state.

Students packed over 6,276 pounds of food, bagged 560 packages of jasmine rice, and labeled 2,004 cans of corn that will serve over 1,984 people. Troy's Marketing class returned 5/12/14 and he and 7 of his students boxed various types of meats as care packages to in need families, and within 2 hours completed 630 boxes that will feed 2,520 people.



DEPARTMENT SERVICES!



NHCC Food Cupboard

Conceptualized by 2 Business students in 2011, the NHCC Food Cupboard came to life through the efforts of the Student Life and Service Learning departments, as well as the Food Cupboard Advisory Committee, and a commitment from the college to support and advocate for students in need. The Food Cupboard is run by volunteers, staffed by volunteers, and supported by a number of community organizations.

Any NHCC student with a valid student ID and a need can utilize the Food Cupboard. Academic success is tied to not being in crisis and knowing how to make ends meet while one pursues their goals.

You can make monetary donations to the NHCC Foundation, our college's non-profit organization, to assist in food purchasing efforts. To make a financial contribution to the Food Cupboard please send a check to:

North Hennepin Community College

Foundation Office

7411 85th Ave N

Brooklyn Park, MN 55445

Please put "Food Cupboard" in the memo line

Additionally food donations are welcomed, and can be dropped off at the Food Cupboard (CC225) or in CBT 137. Highly requested items include canned meats, dry cereal, canned fruit, box dinners, juice, dry noodles, spaghetti sauce, pancake mix, syrup, bar soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, and shampoo.

Numbers Fiscal 2013-2014

243
individuals
served

906
students visits
to the Food
Cupboard

1,756.75
pounds of food
distributed

\$2,120
Individual
monetary
donations

SERVICE LEARNING & NURSING DEPARTMENT!



**Faculty 15
full time**

**Curricular
volunteer
hours
9,614.57**

**235
Students**

**1067.25 hearing
& vision
screening hours**

**35 hearing
and vision
screenings**

Courses 4

**146
Community
Partners**

In 2007, the **Nursing department** embarked on a bold new experiment. Hearing and vision screenings at area middle schools in the district represented a chance to give Nursing students some real- life, applicable skills. That fall, 72 Nursing students covered 6 area screenings in the Robbinsdale school district.

From those humble beginnings the Nursing department has now embedded service learning as a graduation requirement for all of its students, requiring 8 hours of clinical experience in vision and hearing screenings in addition to 10 collective hours of service learning; comprised of 5 hours dedicated to a nutrition course experience and 5 hours (in the first semester of enrollment!) of a health related service learning experience that embraces commitments to hospitals, nursing homes, and area food shelves to name just a few.

This is the department's commitment to an exciting new initiative. MANE is the Minnesota Alliance for Nursing Education and is a collaboration between the community college and university nursing programs to provide increased student access to a baccalaureate program and attainment of a Bachelor of Science in nursing (BSN) degree. The intent of the shift in curriculum is to embrace more experiential, clinical type experiences that focus on health promotion, data collection, and teaching skills.

Linda Carlyon, nursing coordinator who oversees department efforts in conjunction with the service learning department states "Our students learn the most from service learning when they reflect on the bigger issues and apply their interventions to the individual."

Community partners are enthusiastic:

The North Hennepin nursing students' participation allows the District to provide unparalleled health service to our students. We are incredibly grateful for their time and effort in helping to make the screening events a huge success!" -Amber Spaniol, Health Director for Robbinsdale Area Schools

"Our valuable partnership with North Hennepin's nursing program helps VIP continue to provide a high caliber of dedicated volunteers to all of the elementary schools in our district. Ten percent of the youngsters who are screened are referred for professional care resulting in improved academic performance." - Jill Kaufman, VIP Coordinator

COMMUNITY PARTNERS SPOTLIGHT!



Volunteers in Partnership: Robbinsdale Area Schools (RAS)

The growth and development of Volunteers In Partnership (VIP) may be attributed in large part to the expansion of our community partnerships. Nowhere is this more evident than with our most long-standing partner, North Hennepin Community College. Starting in 2007, NHCC students have been a vital part of two initiatives: Robbinsdale Area Schools' (RAS) vision and hearing screenings in the elementary schools and The Indian Education tutoring program which focuses on improving the academic achievement of Native American students in our district's at our four secondary schools.

Each year, I look forward to working with NHCC and RAS staff to explore mutually beneficial opportunities that enhance our organizations and the work we do. As told by: -- Jill Kaufman, VIP Coordinator.

One2One

In January of 2012, One2One and North Hennepin began a new collaboration connecting NHCC volunteer mentors with 28 students participating in alternative learning classes at North View Junior High in Brooklyn Park. The shared goal: to engage college students in the local community by providing a meaningful service opportunity in order to support junior high students at-risk of failing in school.

The partnership began with recruitment presentations in Sociology, Law Enforcement and Education classes. NHCC students were offered the opportunity to be matched with a junior high student to spend time with weekly at North View from October through May. At the end of the year, youth participating in One2One saw an 8 percent increase in school attendance on mentoring days. NHCC mentors had become a motivating factor for students get to class; an important step towards success in school.

As a result of the program's success, the number of NHCC mentors nearly tripled to provide 85 mentor/student matches during the 2013/14 school year.

Perhaps the greatest achievement of the NHCC/One2One partnership is the mutual learning it has produced. In September, mentor recruitment will begin for the third year. One2One and NHCC will once again partner to recruit and train 90 NHCC students – to build a relationship with one student and make a lasting impact. As told by Meg Murphy- Program Director.

SERVICE LEARNING COLLABORATES!

Student Life! Student Volunteer Club

Student Volunteer Club was formed in 2006 as a club exclusively devoted to volunteering. It was the dream of former NHCC student Nate Nino “to bring students of every background together in fellowship with opportunities to serve their community, make new friends, meet people of different backgrounds, make an impact on the lives of others, and positively represent North Hennepin Community College in the community.”

2013-2014 Leadership: **Bryan Doan**, Vice President, Fall 2013 /President Spring 2014 , **Beverly Rodriquez**, President Fall 2013, **Ben Doan**, Treasurer, **Shoua Vang**, Secretary.



Active Members
30

Registered Members
171

Events
13

Non curricular volunteer hours
548

Community Partners
10

Judicial Affairs & Conflict Resolution

In the summer of 2013, Service Learning began a new partnership with the Code of Conduct Office at NHCC. As part of the sanctions that were issued to students for disciplinary issues on campus, students were given the opportunity to give back to the community in an effort to learn from their mistakes and to help restore any loss to the community caused by previous actions. Twelve off-campus partners served as the pilot, with Judicial Affairs officer, Chad Henderson deeming the collaboration a success. "With such a positive year we will be using this more in the future as sanctions for conduct violations".

SERVICE LEARNING INSTRUCTORS 13-14!



Robert Hansen, Sociology

Jesse Cashman, Sociology

Pele Rich, Biology

**Mary Ewert Knodell, Physical
Education**

Stephen Smarjesse, Education

Mike Ricci, Theater

**Thomas Staael, First Year
Experience, Academic
Development**

**Margaret Campbell-Charlebois,
Business**

Troy Nellis, Business

Linda Carlyon, Nursing

Debbie St Anthony, Nursing

Mary Wells, Nursing

Mary Sladek, Nursing

Carol Killian, Nursing

Renee Colsch, Nursing

Dana Botz, Nursing

Michelle Koopman, Nursing

Kathryn Smith, Nursing



EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING!



A new conversation . . . as told by The Director Troy Nellis

Students demanded it, faculty made inquiries, and I knew the call needed answering!

Departments expressed that having students observe careers before they pursue studying careers was meaningful as it builds skill sets in mentoring, networking, and experiencing first - hand the careers they aspire to achieve. Departments that have embraced job shadowing as an effective vehicle to learning include: Business, Nursing, First Year Experience, Academic Development, and English for Speakers of Other Languages, Physical Education/Health, Paralegal and Graphic Design. Students engage the 500+ organizations that are in NHCC's family of experiential learning community partners to find out what it takes to achieve success in their career of choice.

As the director of service learning I saw the value of embracing all experiential opportunities (job shadowing, externships, internships, informational interviews, career networks) leading to favorable educational, personal, or occupational outcomes for all NHCC students. These outcomes can then be measured in ways that speak to better retention rates, reduced attrition, student success, and student matriculation from our institution to further higher education. These initiatives in turn promote cooperative relationships with all stakeholders of the college. This fulfills mission, purpose, and strategic goals of the college making us a vital, contributing member of the community, state, and integral contributor to the economic engine of the state, national, and global economy.

NHCC's move toward experiential learning follows compelling research of all 95 higher education venues in Minnesota including MNSCU, private, public, secular, for profit colleges that demonstrate a transition toward experiential learning centers as a way of better serving student population and need. This is a national trend, with the Top 25 schools, as determined by US World News and Report, developing civic engagement centers, experiential learning centers, or a combination of service and experience.

My sincere hope is the program will continue to grow and evolve as a way of helping all NHCC students achieve not only academic, and career related success, but also deep personal satisfaction as they move toward achieving their individual dreams.

If you think the college should pursue further initiatives to create an experiential learning center, let your voice be heard! E-mail servicelearning@nhcc.edu **with your vote!**

Yes! NHCC Experiential Center

IN THE WORDS OF OUR PARTNERS!

Each year, I look forward to working with NHCC and RAS staff to explore mutually beneficial opportunities that enhance our organizations and the work we do.

-- Jill Kaufman, VIP Coordinator

*North Hennepin students have been a wonderful addition to the volunteer crew for our two largest special events: the Autumn Woods Classic running event at Elm Creek Park Reserve and the Trail Mix ultra-marathon and relay at Lake Rebecca Park Reserve.....***Deb Vosler, Volunteer Coordinator Three Rivers Park**

"I appreciate the dedication, support and enthusiasm that comes from the Service Learning Staff and students at North Hennepin Community College. What a great partnership!"-**Rebecca Bedner, CVA-Director of Volunteer Services**

"Our organization has been partnering with North Hennepin Community College for the past eight years. We have built a great relationship with the service learning program, which has provided support for the work we do in the community while connecting students and faculty to local hunger issues."- **Emily Eddy White | Director of Development & Marketing**

North Hennepin students made a huge difference this semester. Not only were the students genuinely interested in helping others, they also provided service in a consistently positive and dignified manner to our clients." **Wendy Erickson, Volunteer and Program Supervisor at Bridging**

"The most profound impact I have seen with volunteers is the relationship that develops between the tutor and student. Once trust is established, there is an amazing connection. The results are astounding! Students have displayed significant growth in their self-esteem, attitude, academic confidence, attendance, grades, and test scores culminating in a sense of hope for the future. The collaboration of the college volunteers and the Indian Education Tutor Program is truly a success story."- **Brenda Jo Peterson, Equity Specialist**

A SAMPLING OF OUR 394 PARTNERS!



Together, we prepare people for work.



Creciendo una comunidad mas fuerte,
loj hlobib tugmuaj zogzej zog
kordhaya bulshada xoog
Grandir une forte Communauté
Создадим Сильное Общество

**YOUR Logo Here
Next Year!
Become A
Partner...!
JOIN US!**