COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Our partnership/program coordinator reaches out to make connections with various organizations that want to work with Sacramento State. We also initiate partnership agreements (up to five years) that provide liability protection for student volunteers who work at off-campus sites.

HISTORY OF THE CEC

• Since 1996, approximately 50,000 students have worked with the CEC to contribute more than 1,000,000 hours of volunteer work at more than 300 community partner sites.
• In a typical year, more than 100 CSUS classes incorporate a Service Learning component.
• More than 2500 students participate in Service Learning and contribute approximately 54,000 hours of service each year.
• The economic impact of this labor is valued at close to $20,000,000. Yet, the impact of this work on the students who engaged in it, and whose agency or organization benefited from it, is priceless.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT:
• Finding a community partner
• Connecting with a Sac State Faculty member or
• Learning about student volunteer opportunities

Please contact us at
The Community Engagement Center:
CEC@csus.edu or (916) 278-4610

Follow us on:
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/cecenter
Twitter: https://www.twitter.com/realsacec

SACRAMENTO STATE

csus.edu/cec
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CENTER
Our students, through Service Learning, Sac State Volunteers and Alternative Break, are making a difference and impacting the Sacramento Region. Whether it’s:
• Harvesting fruit to donate to local food banks;
• Painting houses in underserved communities;
• Staffing a Quad Rugby tournament;
• Planting a garden in a neighborhood that lacks access to fresh food; or
• Assessing the role of parental involvement in a Title I School
Our students are connected, engaged, committed!

WHAT DOES THE CEC DO?
The CEC supports faculty and students to engage in meaningful work with hundreds of community, non-profit, government and for-profit entities.

CEC offers faculty individual trainings and workshops that focus on:
• Incorporating Service Learning into classes;
• Doing research on Service Learning; and
• Highlighting the teaching, research and service aspects of Service Learning for Retention, Tenure and Promotion files.

CEC provides Sac State students with opportunities to work in the Sacramento region through:
SERVICE LEARNING – Takes place through college courses–learning while doing service in the community. The service must be reciprocal:
• Students are working (without pay) and connecting what they’re learning in the field with the classroom; and
• The Community Partner is co-teaching while benefiting by the work of the students.
• Writing Partners is a Service Learning program where Sac State students participate in a letter exchange with 5th graders at local elementary schools. Writing Partners helps Sac State students be better writers and it helps 5th graders aspire to become college students.

COMMUNITY SERVICE – One-day or week-long opportunities to volunteer in the Sacramento area through the following programs:
• Sac State Volunteers – Students, faculty, staff and alumni participate in one-day volunteer events with various community partners.
• Sac State Alternative Break – Students participate in week-long volunteer opportunities as part of their Winter and/or Spring Breaks.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT – We encourage students, faculty, and community members to be actively involved in making the community in which we live a better place to be.
• Picking up trash on the street, writing letters to the editor of a paper, and/or participating in community conversations are examples of civic engagement.
• CEC organizes Constitution and Civic Engagement Week (formerly Constitution Week) to celebrate Constitution Day (September 17th) and to provide civic engagement opportunities in the community.

“Service learning students are vital to the success of the Reading Partners program. Without the many hours they tutor with us, we wouldn’t have been able to serve more than 470 [elementary school] students this year. They not only help us enroll more students than ever before but are amazing mentors and serve as role models for what our students can become.”
– Rachael Valler, Reading Partners Volunteer Coordinator

“Service Learning encourages students and faculty to learn about social problems while engaged in activities that might help to ameliorate them”
– (Dolgan & Baker, 2011, p. 14)