

SERVICE COUNTS!

What is Service Learning?

Service Learning is an exciting educational opportunity that matches FVCC students with local community service projects. Students gain valuable hands-on experience that reinforces academic learning and improves leadership skills and creates a sense of community awareness and civic responsibility.

Service Learning Staff:

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Patty Kosednar
06-07 AmeriCorps Team Leader

Jeanne Herron
United Way 211 Program

Christina Kuehl
Cans for Habitat Coordinator

Celeste Pace
Lakeside Reading Buddies
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Bjorn Peterson
Whitefish After School Program

Billee Reis
Habitat for Humanity

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*Interactive Media for the
Web course, (front row, l-r)
Kristi Hagadone, Michele
Hagadone, and Luke Wisner
(back row, l-r) Dawn
Rauscher, Instructor;
Dayton Gomez and
Brendan Hardy.*

Students Create Interactive Promotional CD

During an Interactive Media for the Web course, Dayton Gomez, Kristi Hagadone, Michele Hagadone, Brendan Hardy, and Luke Wisner created an interactive promotional CD for FVCC using Macromedia Flash. The five dedicated students worked a total of 500 hours on the project.

The students each had a role in the team project. The team leader Luke demonstrated strong leadership throughout the project by setting realistic goals for each member while remaining enthusiastic. Dayton was driven by his love of computers and programming to create a template for the project using Flash, ActionScript, JavaScript, and HTML while working closely with the graphic designer, content manager and the video coordinator to create the final product. Michele worked with the student recruiter to gather all of the content and organize the information.

The phenomenal graphics used in the CD were all created by Kristi, the graphic designer. Kristi's passion for drawing was apparent throughout the project as she kept a sketchbook where she prepared her drawings and designs for Photoshop. The CD contains video testimonials from students, faculty, and staff at FVCC. Brendan, although he had no experience with a video camera or digital editing, scheduled interviews and spent many hours in the lab editing the interviews and creating Flash videos that capture the essence of the college for prospective students.



ID 51 Students Record "Tuesdays With Morrie"

Students from ID 51, College Reading Strategies, participated in a service learning project created by instructor Margaret Scott. This project was developed to mirror "Reading for the Blind," in which the students readings are recorded for others to enjoy.

In order to enhance reading skills, students read sections of the popular book "Tuesdays With Morrie" by Mitch Albom. This recorded book will be available on cassette and CD and distributed to local nursing homes.

Students who participated include: Natasha Alejande, Amber Benner, Drew Iverson, Terra Holzapfel, Crystal Huether, Aspen McCourt, and Mandy Morkrid.

Service Learning Statistics

During the Fall semester, 159 students participated in Service Learning, and during the Spring semester 132 students participated. These students provided more than 5,600 hours of community service in the Flathead Valley.

Overachiever Alert! 45+ hours –
Hugh Bickley-217, Jason Echelard-207, Keyvin Walter-150, Gatlin Hardy-134, Tyler Stanley-96, Dayton Gomez-93, Sandra Adkins-70, Laura Taber-58, Kevin Hooley-56, Jeff Katz-54, Michele Hagadone-50, Michael Rensmore-48, Lynn Mikkelson-48, Melissa Meznovich-45, Frances Bonnet-45

Thank you to the faculty members who participated in Service Learning:

Janice Alexander, John Babcock, Jean Barragan, Bob Beall, Brian Bechtold, Carole Bergin, Denise Cecil, Marita Combs, Carole Conklin, George Cowan, E. B. Eiselein, Christy Ghekiere, Rick Halverson, Anita Ho, Lowell Jaeger, Marlyn James, Joe Legate, Mike Legate, Fred Longhart, Karen Longhart, Ivan Lorentzen, Diane Lundgren, Jerry Lundgren, Jeanette Oliver, Dawn Rauscher, John Rawlings, David Scott, Margaret Scott and Karla West.

AmeriCorps Projects

This year FVCC has 6 AmeriCorps/Campus Compact members. Their projects meet the needs of a variety of people/organizations.

Jeanne Herron – United Way 211 Database – The Montana 211 Database program is a state wide effort to create and maintain a database of all service agencies in Montana. Jeanne helps with research and data entry.

Patty Kosednar – AmeriCorps Team Leader – This position coordinates the activities of the AmeriCorps members and assists with FVCC Service Learning activities/duties.

Christina Kuehl – Cans for Habitat – The objective of this project is to raise money for Habitat for Humanity through recycling efforts. Christina is currently working with local organizations to coordinate this activity.

Bjorn Peterson & Emilee Sanders – Whitefish After School Program – Bjorn and Emilee assist with developing and implementing the teen center and after school programs for Whitefish youth.

Celeste Pace – Lakeside Reading Buddies – This program works to improve the self-confidence and reading ability of Lakeside Elementary students utilizing local volunteers as tutors. Celeste works as coordinator for this project.

Billee Reis – Habitat for Humanity Campus Chapter – This position establishes and coordinates the activities of the FVCC Chapter of Habitat for Humanity.



AmeriCorps members (l-r); Patty, Emilee, Bjorn, Christina, Billee, Jeanne, & Celeste.

AmeriCorps Statistics Sept. 06- March 07

As of March 2007, the AmeriCorps team is responsible for:

- Recruiting 148 volunteers
- Those 148 volunteers have provided 707 hours of service
- 1173 people have benefited from our service efforts
- The AmeriCorps team itself has provided 3146 hours of service

Service Learning /AmeriCorps Activities:

Made a Difference Day – Oct 2006 - FVCC students joined forces with the Kalispell United Way and volunteered their time on number of projects, from yard work to painting the rec room at the Columbia Falls Senior Center. Make a Difference Day is a Nationally sponsored day of community service.

Seussville University – November 2006 – On Friday November 17th 235 local 3rd graders descended up FVCC for a day of fun focusing on literacy and helping others. The goal of the event was not only to encourage students to read, but to also encourage them to be aware of the needs of others. Each student was asked to bring a non-perishable food item, which was donated to the Flathead Food Bank. We collected enough food from this event to feed 25 families over the Thanksgiving weekend.

We were able to recruit 35 volunteers that devoted a total of 432 volunteer hours to this event.



Local third grade students participate in music session during Seussville University.

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) Giving Tree Program – December 2006

For the third year in a row, the Service Learning/AmeriCorps Team sponsored a Holiday Giving Tree to benefit the CASA program. Through the generosity of the FVCC students and staff, over 232 gifts were collected for this holiday season.

CASA is a non-profit organization dedicated to representing abused and neglected children in the courts in order to provide them with safe and nurturing homes.

Gifts donated for the CASA children.

Abbie Shelter Giving Tree Program – February 2007

The Abbie shelter was established to give battered women in our community the opportunity to live in a safe, warm environment. The Abbie Shelter is part of the Violence Free Clinic. The AmeriCorps team sponsored a giving tree and collected over 400 items the shelter needed.

Senior Institute FVCC – March 2007

The AmeriCorps team assisted the Service Learning Office in support of the Senior Institute program. Our team was responsible for setting up, serving and cleaning up lunch for 145 seniors each Friday for the 6 weeks of Senior Institute.

Christmas in April – April 2007

Service Learning/AmeriCorps teamed up with the United Way to help provide services to people in need throughout the valley.



AmeriCorps members assist staff and residents of Lighthouse Christian Home.

Living Legacy Foundation April-May 2007

FVCC received a \$300 grant to help increase awareness of the need for organ and tissue donors. The AmeriCorps team worked both on and off campus to help raise awareness and increase the number of donors throughout the Flathead Valley.

