

mark your CALENDARS

Upcoming events:

HHAW Events: Nov 18-23

- A Place at the Table...18
- Weigh the Waste...18
- Poverty Simulation...19
- Green Bag Lunch...20
- Hunger Banquet...20
- Challah for Hunger...21
- SNAP Challenge Debrief...22
- Sweetgrass Garden...23
- Habitat ReStore...23

In this issue...

Hunger & Homelessness
MLK Service Weekend
Dash for Trash
Alternative Fall Break
Volunteer Corps
Bonner Congress
Contact us!

visit us!

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COLLEGE of CHARLESTON

CENTER FOR CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Monthly Newsletter

November 2013

Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week (HHAW)

Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week (HHAW) 2013 was a success! The Center for Civic Engagement sponsored a number of activities to educate and involve the student body on these prevalent issues. Opportunities included a poverty simulation, documentary viewing, hunger banquet, the SNAP Challenge, and direct service activities. Over the course of the week, students raised over \$300.00 to benefit the East Cooper Community Outreach food pantry. Read about some of the experiences of students and staff who participated in the SNAP Challenge by visiting cofcsnapchallenge.weebly.com.

Volunteer Corps

This holiday season, the Volunteer Corps has adopted a 3rd grade classroom. Members are donating gifts to take to the students on December 13th.

They are hosting a gift wrapping event December 2nd at the CofC Practice Gym.



Thanks, Dashers!

140 students participated in the 11th annual Dash for Trash, in conjunction with Keep Charleston Beautiful, removing **2,497 lbs. of litter**, 40% of which was recycled, from neighborhoods on the east side of the peninsula. Thank you to those who participated!

Martin Luther King, Jr. Service Weekend

...Share the Dream

This January, the Center for Civic Engagement will lead a group of **18** students to Atlanta, Georgia, to continue Dr. King's legacy of standing up for social justice through direct community service.

The group will spend the weekend volunteering and learning about Dr. King's impact on his hometown community.



November 2013

Alternative Fall Break 2013

Asheville, Charleston, and DC



This October, a diverse group of students who share a passion for service came together to be part of the Alternative Fall Break experience.

The trip to Asheville, NC was led by Rachel Taylor and Katie Erwin. The group worked with the Veterans Restoration Quarters, the Steadfast House, and the Manna Food Bank, all organizations that focus on serving

individuals experiencing hunger and homelessness. "Some of the things I believed caused homelessness were addiction, abuse, economic instability, etc. but I realized that these are tragedies that we could all experience, depending on whether or not we have a firm support system to help us through" says Taylor.

The Charleston group was led by Alarie Latham. The group volunteered with organizations including Lowcountry Orphan Relief, the Kosher Food Pantry, and South Santee Senior and Community Center. Participants also spent the trip living on a SNAP budget! The trip brought to light a new side of poverty for the participants. It not only forced them to see Charleston as more than just a picturesque city, it also strongly encouraged them to think about how society negatively affects those less fortunate.

Bonner Leader Program first-years and Sophomores served in Washington, DC. The group of seventeen worked with Mary's Center, a nonprofit that provides affordable healthcare to uninsured community members, and Thrive DC, a soup kitchen that also provides showers, laundry and mail services for people who are food insecure and homeless. Bonners interacted with the clients, which was an impactful experience for all. Others did administrative work and were shown the inner workings of Thrive DC.



Bonner Congress

This year, the Bonner Leader Program sent three students to the annual Bonner Congress, a conference at which representatives from Bonner programs across the country convene to share and improve major on-campus goals, become educated and inspired through specific issue-based workshops, and build

networks of college students that share a dedication to service in their community. Katie Kearns (junior), Jillian Loftis (freshman), and Patrice Witherspoon (junior) attended the congress, which took place at Rhodes College in Memphis, TN. These representatives returned to Charleston with new skills to apply to their service and refined goals of sharing Bonner with the community.



Get involved!

Contact us...

There are several ways to get involved with service in the community through the Center for Civic Engagement:

[Check out our website](#)

volunteer.cofc.edu

[Like" us on Facebook](#)

[CofC CenterForCivicEngagement](#)

and "Follow" us on Twitter:

[VolunteerCofC](#)

[Join our listserv](#)

Receive emails with the latest volunteer information by emailing:

volunteer@cofc.edu

[Visit our office](#)

Schedule an appointment to learn about more opportunities in Charleston

Stay tuned for our Winter Break Volunteer Opportunities Newsletter!

