



Humanitarian Hospitality Starts Now!

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HRIM 180

The semester included:

- 1) Community service volunteer hours.
- 2) Reading assignments and videotapes about hunger and poverty, a trip to the Food Bank of Delaware and presentation, examples of hospitality industry responses to hunger and poverty across the nation, and writing reflections on hunger.
- 3) A celebratory reception at the end of the semester to which participating community site personnel were invited.

Student Reflection

- Each student wrote either a poem, letter, or rap about the community service activities in which they participated.
- These pieces were then performed or read at the celebratory reception.
- Some of the students' works are presented below.

The Emmaus House Rap By: Will McColley

I started my volunteer hours at the Emmaus house,
Walked in and waited for the kids on the couch.
All the cooking and cleaning was already done,
So I hung out with the kids and had some fun.
The first kid I met was a boy named Ted.
He looked a little skinny, perhaps underfed,
But he was still cheerful, wearing a smile
And asked me to play basketball for a while.
I play often and was quick to say, "Yes",
Cause I'd love to put this little man to the test.
Had to take it easy, because he was only seven,
So I let him win the game eight to eleven.
After he won, he was so happy and full of cheer.
Then I said, "Let's go in, it's getting dark out here."
I played cards with him for the rest of the time,
Taught him a few games, and headed out around nine.
It was a great experience, when at first I thought to be bad,
But for a few hours, **he was the younger bro' I never had.**



Students participate in Relay for Life.

Helping out at the ELC By Curtis Suave

The Early Learning Center is where I like to volunteer
But you have to wake up early, if you want to work here
All the kids like to stare, and give you a good look
So you tell them you are here to give a hand to the cook
She has to prepare breakfast, lunch, and snack
Deliver the food, and bring the dishes back
Mainly, I helped with the making of lunch
I made some chicken, fruit salad, and punch
If there is no volunteer, the chef must work all alone
And she hates to cook dinner, when she leaves to go home
It was great to help out at the ELC
I never knew how much fun volunteer work could be

Assessment

- There have been two pre-tests (fall and spring semesters) N=137 and one post-test (fall semester) N = 85
- Findings:
 - Only 11% of the entire group had not participated in community service before coming to the University of Delaware.
 - When asked about what benefits came to them from having been involved in community service the following were checked off by the given percentages of students:

	<u>Pre-test</u>	<u>Post-test</u>
Personal Satisfaction	87%	94%
Personal Growth	82	92
Had Fun	81	92
Leadership Skills	80	77
Civic Pride	62	65
Hospitality Skills	47	59
Team Building	77	59
Management Skills	42	38

- When data were analyzed using independent T-tests, the *only* differences that were significant between males and females in the pretest were those regarding:
 - 1)the appropriateness of community service for college students as a way to give back; and
 - 2)that community service is an important way to interact with the community.
- Female students were significantly more positive in their responses to these two questions than were male students.
- It is interesting to note that in the post-test, there were no longer any significant differences between males and females for these two survey items. We can predict that the experience of the course influenced their perceptions or beliefs about community service.

Student Letter to the Food Bank of Delaware

Sunday, May 01, 2005

Re: Volunteer Work

Dana Johnston
Food Bank of Delaware

Dear Ms. Johnston,

I am writing to you to thank you for the wonderful work you and the rest of the people involved with the Food Bank of Delaware do on a daily basis. I am a member of the HRIM180 class at the University of Delaware, and I have spent some time volunteering at the Food Bank already this semester, and I will be there more within the coming weeks.

It was a great opportunity to be able to come and work at the Food Bank, and I would like to thank you for the experience. I had never really been involved with any charity work before, and you and your volunteers made my first few experiences great ones. Everyone there was very kind and supportive, and I was so pleased to see how many people you had there volunteering each day. Not only that, but the amount of food that we sorted and boxed in those few days put me in awe of the amount of work that is needed to keep that place moving. So much food was coming in and going out each day, I really didn't expect the quantities to be that large. It must be difficult at times to keep the volunteer room full, but as far as I can see you've done a wonderful job.

I was required to complete these volunteer hours for my class, and had it not been for that, I honestly never would have known where the Food Bank even was. But after being involved, even for only a few short days, the feeling of accomplishment and satisfaction I got out of doing just a small good deed, I know I will be back in the future.

The Food Bank does so much to help those in need, and I can't thank you enough for the services you provide to the community. I recently met a few families in this area that take advantage of the Summer Food Service Program, as well as other services you provide. They could not say enough about how much they appreciate all you do for them, and everyone else in their communities.

I am proud to say that I have, and will continue to volunteer at the Food Bank of Delaware.

Regards,
Charlie Baynes