The mission of the Center for Civic Engagement (CCE) is to increase and enhance opportunities for students to be agents of positive social change both on and off-campus. The Center provides opportunities for academic activities within a living-learning community where students work with community partners to develop and direct projects that address locally-identified needs.

Spotlight on Church and Community Program

After a brief hiatus, the CCE has renewed a partnership with the Church and Community Program, which is located less than a mile from the St. Lawrence University campus. The program is dedicated to serving the needs of the local Canton residents by providing a food pantry and thrift store funded by churches in the area. Food pantries like the Church and Community Program are essential organizations in order to increase the well-being of the Canton community, especially now as the demand for assistance is continuing to rise. St. Lawrence students can assist with the increasing demand of the Church and Community Program by sorting donations & pricing items, stocking & organizing the food pantries, decorating the storefront, offering computer lessons and researching ideas for cooking classes. The organization has done an amazing job helping out the community as it has provided 5,000 meals to 340 people in just one month. The CCE team is extremely excited to have the Church and Community Program involved in the Community-Based Learning (CBL) program at St. Lawrence University.

~Article by Taylor Goldsborough ’17

The CCE raised over $9,000 for the local community between August - December 2013.

To learn more, check out page 4

FALL 2013 MEMORABLE EVENTS
7/2-8/1/13 HEOP Summer CBL
9/21/13 Shawna’s Walk for Wishes
10/4-10/5/13 PA Campus Compact Conference
11/9/13 #4Co Leadership Conference
12/10-12/12/13 Festival of CBL

SPRING 2014 UPCOMING EVENTS
2/25/2014 Community Mentor and Civic Engagement Housing Meet and Greet/Info Session
4/5/2014 Kick It For Zachary
4/28/2014 Festival of CBL
TBD CBL Roundtable

SPRING CBL COURSE OFFERINGS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE</th>
<th>INSTRUCTOR</th>
<th>DAYS/TIMES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CBL 101A: Leadership Development Skills</td>
<td>Robert Cowser</td>
<td>T; 2:20-3:50pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FYS: Global Perspectives on Contemporary Moral Problems</td>
<td>Jennifer Hansen</td>
<td>T/Th, 12:00-2:10pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FYS: Feast or Famine</td>
<td>Sandhya Ganapathy</td>
<td>T/Th, 10:10am-12:20pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 348A*: Multicultural Education</td>
<td>Cristina Cammarano</td>
<td>T/Th, 12:40-2:10pm*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 248A: Public History</td>
<td>Judith DeGroat</td>
<td>T/Th, 10:10-11:40am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST/PHIL 248C: Issues in American Democracy</td>
<td>Elizabeth Regosin, Jennifer Hansen</td>
<td>M, 12:30-3:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST/SOC 246A: What’s So Bad About Aging</td>
<td>Leah Rohlfisen McManus</td>
<td>T/Th, 2:20-3:50pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* EDUC 348A requires 10 trips to the Akwesasne Mohawk Reservation on Thursday’s from 2:10-6pm
As I reflect on the fall semester at the Center for Civic Engagement, I couldn’t be happier to share the many accomplishments of our incredibly busy semester. It began this summer when the Higher Education Opportunity Program decided to once again include a Community Based Learning (CBL) component to their summer program and introduced 12 new Laurentians to the Canton Community. For their CBL component, the students participated in the NYSARC Fitness program here on campus.

The fall semester quickly turned very busy for the Community Mentor (CM) Program. For the first time ever, the CM program served as a CBL placement site for four First Year students from Reiff College: “The Creative Experience of Leadership: What Makes a Leader.” During this time, the “CBL Mentees” were able to experience the day-to-day life of a Community Mentor while also engaging in Center-related programming and other professional and leadership development opportunities. Alie Sarhanis, in her role as Community Coordinator at the CCE, greatly enhanced the number of aforementioned opportunities. All CMs engaged in an intensive three hour workshop with Kristin Skarie, Teamworks Founder and President; planned for and participated in Shawna’s Walk for Wishes where the CCE was able to raise $6,300 for the Make-A Wish foundation making the money raised to date over $38,000; four CMs presented posters on the CCE and the CM program at the Best in Class Student Conference hosted by Pennsylvania Campus Compact, two CMs facilitated a roundtable discussion on service at the #4Co Student Leadership Conference held at SUNY Canton, and three CM’s attended a Sustainability Education Roundtable at Cornell University. In an effort to raise awareness about the Community Mentor Program and their passion for civic engagement, the CMs hosted a Meet and Greet session for faculty and staff to conclude their semester.

To capitalize on the notion of reflection, the CCE sponsors a Festival of CBL each semester to afford students with an opportunity to share their experience of “learning and serving” in and around the Canton community. In addition, a similar event happens in the form of Poster Presentations up at Akwesasne, the St. Regis Mohawk Reservation, for students who take their class up at Akwesasne and engage in afterschool programming. These platforms often serve as the culminating event of the students’ CBL experience. At this time, I would like to recognize, Tiara Davis, Class of 2014, for captivating the audience with her outstanding presentation detailing her experience of facilitating a “Fatherhood Program” at Riverview Correctional Facility.

As a result of a spring 2013 Innovation Grant, the CCE hosted its first of three CBL Roundtables. Approximately 55 individuals were in attendance ranging from faculty, students, and community partners. Five community partners from various agencies served as panelists and shared their motivations for continuing to host students. Each panelist boasted about students’ engagement while on site and how students continue to leave a lasting positive impact on the people they work with. So, students, even if you feel that you are not making an immediate difference during your CBL experience; I encourage you to think about the long term effect your engagement with the Canton and surrounding communities can have.

Brenda Papineau
Director, Community Partnerships
SLU Students Present at Campus Compact Conference

This fall, four Community Mentors (Molly Plunkett, Renee Lavigne, Alie Mihuta and Lizzie Bastien) accompanied by Brenda Papineau, attended the Campus Compact Conference in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. The conference was held at Millersville University and included guest speakers, panel discussions and poster presentations. The mission of Campus Compact is to “enhance the capacity of campuses and communities to educate students for civic engagement to advance a healthy, just and democratic society.” The conference provided a forum for students passionate about civic engagement and professionals in the field to discuss the techniques, challenges and successes that they have faced. Alie Mihuta and Lizzie Bastien presented a poster on the Center for Civic Engagement at SLU, focusing on the role of CBL and the Community Mentor position. Molly Plunkett and Renee Lavigne gave a presentation about the Branching Out With Books program, a reading program on the Akwesasne Mohawk Reservation that encourages pre-teen students to find enjoyment in reading and learning. The sentiment from the SLU presenters was incredibly positive. “It was great to get to share what we have learned as Community Mentors with others who are also passionate about civic engagement,” said Bastien, “we were proud to represent St. Lawrence.”

Article by Molly Plunkett ‘14

SLU Students Present at #4Co Associated Colleges Student Leadership Conference

On November 9, Community Mentors Lizzie Bastien and Alie Mihuta had the opportunity to lead a roundtable discussion on service at the #4Co Associated Colleges Student Leadership Conference held at SUNY Canton. This year’s conference theme was “communication”. Presentations and workshops were specifically designed to help students communicate more effectively as a student leader, practice networking, and learn skills that will be useful both during college and beyond. Over eighty students from four colleges (SUNY Canton, SUNY Potsdam, St. Lawrence University and Clarkson University), participated at the event. After an enthusiastic start to the day by Keynote Speaker, Arel Moodie, those in attendance broke into roundtable discussion groups based upon the type of campus organization they represented. At the service roundtable, we discussed what service meant to each of us and why we are a part of service organizations. Answers included, “to make a difference” and “to be a positive agent of social change”. Building off of those answers, we collaborated with one another on how we could come together and serve the North Country community as a combined effort. The enthusiasm and energy from all of the participants inspired the thought to create a combined college service group, #4Co Service Family, and participate in a monthly service event as a whole. It is our hope that by creating this group we can become more involved with one another’s campus organizations and work together to better serve the North Country.

Article by Lizzie Bastien ‘15
Saturday, September 21 marked the 4th Annual Walk for Wishes. The now 10 year old, Shawna Cummings of Potsdam, first collaborated with the CCE in 2010 to create the walkathon after having her wish granted to meet the princesses at Disney World by the sisters of Chi Omega. Shawna was diagnosed with a rare metabolic disorder at two weeks old, yet she is one of the strongest, most selfless young girls around. She says, “I like knowing that I’m doing a good thing for other kids with disorders sort of like mine.” To date, Shawna’s Walk for Wishes has raised over $38,000 for Make-a-Wish to grant wishes for kids in the St. Lawrence County who are living with life-threatening disorders.

This year, we added even more activities to help raise awareness and funds for Make a Wish. Such activities included; a silent auction and raffles with items donated by the local community and activities for children like pie toss and face painting sponsored by SLU student organizations and greek life. Entertainment was provided by the Singing Sinners of SLU, and an emcee, Ray, from 95.3 “The Wolf”, a local radio station in Ogdensburg, NY.

Another highlight was the attendance of other wish kids such as Oliver White, from Parishville, NY, who was granted a wish with the funds raised in previous years, as well as Tony Guimond, from Ogdensburg, NY who will have his wish to meet Katy Perry granted with our proceeds of this year’s event of over $6,300! It is amazing to see the remarkable impact that the collaboration between the local community and our campus can have when we work together!

Thanks so much to all of those that were in attendance and helped contribute to another successful year! Special thanks to St. Lawrence University, our community members, silent auction and raffle donors, students, volunteers, student organizations, and our Gold and Blue Star sponsors: White’s General Store, Stewart’s Shops Foundation, SeaComm and S&L Electric. Your efforts play a pivotal role in our continued success for Make-a-Wish, as well as the impact on local children whose wishes are granted.

For more information or to donate, go to shawnaswishes.com and stay tuned for the 5th Annual Shawna’s Walk for Wishes in Fall of 2014! We cannot wait to continue to make wishes come true!

_Article by Madison Wilcox ‘14_

The beneficiary of the 3rd Annual “Kick It for a Cause” event has been selected. This year’s cause will benefit Zach Hamilton, 13, of Canton. Zach is a seventh-grade student at Canton Central School. Zach was diagnosed with neuroblastoma, a tumor that grew from his adrenal glands on his left kidney. Originally diagnosed in 2009 while he was in second grade, Zach’s cancer was treated with chemotherapy radiation surgery and a stem cell transplant. Since then, he has been traveling to New York City every two months for “ammune 3f8 antibody” treatment and every three months for scans. During his December 2013 scan it showed his cancer had returned in the same spot on his kidney. Zach will be traveling to Syracuse to have chemotherapy in December 2013 and January 2014 and will then travel to New York City for another surgery to remove whatever is left after chemo. This amount of travel has put an enormous financial and emotional strain on his family. The CCE has started a “Miles for Zachary” online donation page to assist with the travel expenses between now and the Kick It event. To donate, please visit www.youcaring.com/other/miles-for-zachary/115190

This year’s event will be held on Saturday, April 5, in the Newell Field House from 12noon – 4:00pm. The mission of “Kick It For a Cause” is to promote collaboration between St. Lawrence University and the local community and through this partnership raise awareness and money for a local child and family in need. By embracing the power of the North Country community and local college students; this event pools resources together to offer activities for people of all ages from fitness (Zumba), to silent auction, and fun kid’s activities. Money raised directly benefits the family, rather than an organization, to assist with the financial and emotional strain an illness can have on a family.

The annual Kick It for a Cause event would not be possible without campus and the local community support. For more information on getting involved with this event or donating to the cause, please contact the CCE at cce@stlawu.edu or visit our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/stlawucece
RECOGNITION

Tiara Davis ‘14

CBL student Tiara Davis, was placed at Riverview Correctional Facility, and implemented a “fatherhood program”. Tiara discussed proper parenting techniques and good ways for men to keep in touch with their children while they serve time. The correctional facilities are one of the more challenging placements, however, Tiara always approached her placement with a smile and a positive attitude. Her upbeat personality helped to encourage inmates in her class and kept them engaged with the course material. Tiara was professional during class but also relaxed and comfortable in conversations with inmates, which allowed for a productive dialogue. It takes a special personality to effectively and appropriately engage inmates in course work and Tiara is definitely a great fit! So far the class has been a success! As her Community Mentor, I could count on Tiara to complete assignments on time and to take initiative on projects. Thank you, Tiara, for being an awesome CBL student!

Article by Alie Mihuta ‘14

Elizabeth Bastien ‘15

For her willingness to continuously go above and beyond the requirements of her position as a Community Mentor (CM), the CCE has chosen to recognize Lizzie Bastien ‘15. Lizzie has served as a CM since her sophomore year overseeing programming with our NYSARC partnership, specifically, NYSARC Fitness. Lizzie has cultivated and continues to maintain strong relationships with both the Community Partner supervisors and NYSARC participants. Lizzie is a great team player and also demonstrates a strong ability to work independently with little direction. She is professional, enthusiastic (always wearing a big smile) and is often quick to share ideas that will benefit the program and community as a whole. From the onset of meeting Lizzie, it is clear that service work is important to her. She demonstrates this on a daily basis by being an engaged citizen both on and off campus. Lizzie is becoming more confident in her abilities as a student leader and is doing so by pushing the boundaries of her own comfort zone. Lizzie is starting to see for herself, what we’ve seen since the beginning—a true leader.

Article by Erika Gobielle ‘14

Circle K

Circle K promotes both community and campus involvement by leading activities for student participation that simultaneously benefits the community. Circle K supports local charity and outreach organizations like NYSARC and UNICEF. We seek to be leaders by supporting other SLU clubs and helping with their events by hosting, fundraising, donating, spreading information and attending.

Circle K has contributed to the CCE events since Fall 2011. Since then, Circle K has provided help each year with Shawna’s walk. Circle K members provided their help on the day of the Walk by volunteering to set up, host children’s activities, and attend the event.

In April of 2012, Circle K got involved in the First Annual Kick It For a Cause event. For both Kick it for Krissy and Kick it for Claire, Circle K has donated large items for the Silent Auction, provided volunteers to tie dye shirts with children at the event, and encouraged many of its numerous members to attend.

The Center for Civic Engagement is important to Circle K because we both encourage students to go out into the community and get involved. We both want to see young people stepping up to not only provide service, but to also realize that even the smallest positive action in the community can have a big impact. Circle K and the CCE also both recognize the importance of learning from the surrounding community and helping students understand how to use that experience and knowledge to enhance their college experience. The Center for Civic Engagement is like our big sister, it provides us with more opportunities to go out into the community, learn, and give back.

Article by Erika Gobielle ‘14
As expected, when I came to St. Lawrence I had no idea what a “CBL” placement was. That was quickly rectified within the first day of what would eventually become one of the most engaging experiences in my life; Campus Kitchens. As a First Year student, I was assigned a First Year Program (FYP) course that helped to expedite the transition from high school to college. Within these FYP classes, certain groups engage in Community Based Learning. My CBL participation in Campus Kitchens was necessary in hopes of allowing myself, and fellow classmates, a reality-tempered perspective on leadership as well as service learning opportunities while helping to meet nutritional and social needs of adults, seniors, children and families in the community. The Campus Kitchens initiative has allowed me to become part of an initiative in which the common goal is to provide food for those in need. My job within Campus Kitchens was to contribute to the cultivation of unique and innovative ideas. These ideas are possible meals that will go towards providing a means to curbing the hunger of those less fortunate who otherwise wouldn’t have a meal. While giving back to the community has always been a priority of mine, it’s not that aspect that makes me thrilled to continually participate in CKP; it’s the fact that we commence every project not knowing what will be cooked. We utilize the ingredients we’re dealt, however lackluster they might be, and create something extravagantly delicious that will keep people coming back for more. As tentative as I might have been in the beginning to participate in Campus Kitchens, that quickly dissipated and Campus Kitchens has become an immutable part of my identity here at St. Lawrence.

Reflection by Robins Chery ’17

FYP: Making a Difference

For the past ten years, I have had the opportunity to incorporate Community Based Learning into my class “Making a Difference” in the First Year Program (which I teach with Jenny Hansen). Our class asks students what it means to be an active citizen. What better way to address that question than to engage in the community around SLU? Our students prepare and serve meals for their neighbors, care for the children of the community, spend time with the elderly, play sports and do art projects with adults with developmental and physical disabilities, work on local farms, and participate in a nonviolent communication workshop at the county jail. In every way, our students have stepped beyond the narrow world of the campus to become active citizens of the North Country. Their learning experiences in the community are invaluable. They see up close issues raised in the classroom such as hunger, educational disparity, the creation of different classes of individuals in a community, and problems associated with incarceration. Most importantly, our students have practical experience with some of the many challenges of living in the North Country (or in the world for that matter) in the 21st century. Too, our students have the opportunity to meet some members of the wonderful community in which we all live.

Reflection by Elizabeth Regosin, Professor, History Department
The CCE offers students the opportunity to continue their work outside of the classroom through Civic Engagement Housing that is combined with reflection opportunities. This opportunity allows students to integrate civic responsibility into their residential life. The goal of the program is for students to work in teams with community partners to maintain existing campus community programs that will enhance the citizenship of students and meet specific needs in the community. Students choose a theme and volunteer as a group, allowing them to develop a long lasting bond with roommates and the community.

Online Civic Engagement Housing Applications are due, along with ALL supporting documents, by Monday, March 3rd. For more information, please visit www.stlawu.edu/center-civic-engagement/civic-engagement-housing

The CCE hosts two major fundraisers each year, Shawna’s Walk for Wishes and Kick It For a Cause. These fundraisers are planned and implemented by the Community Mentor staff along with collaboration with student organizations such as Chi Omega, Circle K and KDS just to name a few.

Students, faculty, staff and community members are welcome to volunteer their time to assist with planning and helping out on the day of the event.

For more information on events please visit the CCE website at www.stlawu.edu/center-civic-engagement or follow us on Facebook www.facebook.com/stlawucce or on Twitter www.twitter.com/stlawrenceCCE

You can also contact Julie Johnson at jjohnson@stlawu.edu or cce@stlawu.edu anytime.
Branching Out With Books: Environmental Exploration Through Literacy

Goals:
~ Instill confidence and sharpen literacy skills
~ Emphasize the importance of reading for academics and fun
~ Encourage inter-grade mentoring
~ Provide a happy and helping environment following Skén:nen Ratíhá:wí

From One Classroom to Another
“Knowledge is power, only if it is shared” – James W. Ransom

What We Did:
~ Reading
~ Writing
~ Drawing
~ Group Discussions

Topics:
~ Favorite Animals
~ Pets
~ Dinosaurs
~ Different habitats
~ Animals in their own environment

* Students read books about everything from rainbow fish to helpful crickets, colored a variety of pictures, and wrote creative pieces such as the letters to insects as seen below.

A special thanks to program organizers Brenda Papineau and Molly Plunkett, as well as Professor Celia Nyamweru, Mrs. Bailey and Annie Cook.

Resources:
~ Brenda Papineau
~ Faith Bish
~ Indian Time: “SLU Students Help Implement Branching Out With Books”
~ November 27th, 2013

Anna Rabideau
St. Lawrence University
December 2013

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT
- 4th SHAWNA’S WALK FOR WISHES @SLU - Local community and students are involved
- One student grants a wish to a child in St Lawrence County
- 4th Circuit Leadership Conference (SLU) - Aims to improve Communication, Participation in the community, and the connection between 4 universities
- SUSTAINABILITY ROUND TABLE @Cornell - Topic: Campus life sustainability education, exchange of ideas, information, and best practices

LEADERSHIP TRAITS
- As Community Mentors in Training, we had the opportunity to observe the CM’s leadership traits such as:
  ~ Ability to work as a team
  ~ Effective communication
  ~ Confidence
  ~ Listening skills
  ~ Servant leadership – the desire to help others in need

THE ROLE OF CM’s
- Work with local agencies and organizations
- Supervise CBL placements
- Organize charity events such as Shawna’s Walk for Wishes and Kick It for A Cause
- Communicate with CBL students and support them in completing their volunteer hours

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT
- 4th SHAWNA’S WALK FOR WISHES @SLU - Local community and students are involved
- One student grants a wish to a child in St Lawrence County
- 4th Circuit Leadership Conference (SLU) - Aims to improve Communication, Participation in the community, and the connection between 4 universities
- SUSTAINABILITY ROUND TABLE @Cornell - Topic: Campus life sustainability education, exchange of ideas, information, and best practices

LEADERSHIP TRAITS
- As Community Mentors in Training, we had the opportunity to observe the CM’s leadership traits such as:
  ~ Ability to work as a team
  ~ Effective communication
  ~ Confidence
  ~ Listening skills
  ~ Servant leadership – the desire to help others in need

THE ROLE OF CM’s
- Work with local agencies and organizations
- Supervise CBL placements
- Organize charity events such as Shawna’s Walk for Wishes and Kick It for A Cause
- Communicate with CBL students and support them in completing their volunteer hours

Vanessa Chilunda ’17, Alex Dahl ’17, Vivian Xi ’17, Taylor Goldsborough ’17