

ANNUAL REPORT 2011-2012

"A Place for the Community to Engage" ~Jacinta McKoy, Center Visionary

"Community Based Learning enables students to apply their knowledge in concrete situations, to solve problems in partnership with the community...and gives faculty and staff the opportunity to build long-term community relationships which continually inform and strengthen the curriculum...and places the college as a progressive force deeply involved in community work."

~ Evergreen DTF report (1997-1999)

Message from Michael Zimmerman Academic Provost, The Evergreen State College

One of the hallmarks of a well-educated liberal arts graduate is the ability to work with others to make communities richer and better places for all to live. The students, faculty and staff members who comprise the Center for Community-Based Learning and Action (CCBLA) demonstrate this trait incredibly well. Together they take Evergreen's commitment to integrate theory with practice and turn it into a very tangible reality, helping organizations thrive and providing needed services to their constituents. During this past year, my first at Evergreen, I have been incredibly impressed by the dedication and success of all associated with CCBLA. CCBLA works as well as it does because of the ways in which our community partners welcome our students into their midst. It's been an absolute pleasure to meet those who are doing this important work and making such an important difference in our community. Read through this annual report and I'm certain you'll be as impressed and as moved as I am.

CCBLA and Gateways Staff 2011-12

Director: Ellen Shortt Sanchez

VISTA Community Partnership Catalyst: Laurel Smith

CYS AmeriCorps Tutor Coordinator: Ian Campbell

Retention Project Gateways AMP Program:

Alvina Wong and Naomi Tajchman-Kaplan

Retention Project Gateways Culture Programs:

Oscar Overlund Petros

Gateways MPA Capstone: Emily Sladek

SIS Coordinators: Adriana Hernandez and Yoshi Nagata

CCBLA MPA Intern: Dianna Peck

SOS Faculty: Stephanie Kozick and Zoltan Grossman

Director's Report

Ellen Shortt Sanchez

As a Public Service Center at The Evergreen State College, CCBLA uses the Annual Report as a chance to tell our story in numbers. So much great community work is hard to quantify and challenging to describe, but we take on the challenge because we believe wholeheartedly in the power of story. This report accompanies narrative quarterly newsletters that highlight student experiences and non-profit efforts. The voices of campus-community collaboration should be evident in this report as we celebrate each of the programs initiated by our center and Evergreen's campus-wide commitment to community engagement.

Another way we tell our story is through our Annual Student Recognition Event held each May which includes student testimonies about their growth and transformation through hands-on learning in the community. The event highlights how students learn about real, pressing community needs, and find roles in local organizations that are addressing those needs. We also hear from community partners who serve as mentors, coaches, guides, field supervisors and teachers for Evergreen students. Faculty give insights into involving students in deep inquiry and reflection about their learning with community. Our CCBLA AmeriCorps and Student staff guide the event with grace and enthusiasm.



CCBLA Student Recognition Event May, 2012

Student Jordan Emerson, a volunteer with Gateways, and AmeriCorps VISTA Laurel Smith **Photo: Shauna Bittle, Evergreen**



92 PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS!

Community Partners 11-12

AVID Olympia High School
 Books to Prisoners
 Be the One Mentor Coalition
 Bread and Roses
 Bridges Not Walls
 Camp Quixote/PANZA Board
 Capitol Clubhouse
 Central for Natural Lands Management
 CHOICE High School
 C.I.E.L.O. Project
 Circle Hawk Farm
 Clark College in Vancouver Washington
 Coffee Strong
 Community to Community Development
 Community Youth Services
 Crisis Clinic
 Emergency Food Network of Pierce County
 Evergreen Elementary
 Evergreen Villages
 Evergreen Vista
 Family Support Center
 Fertile Ground Community Center & Commons
 First People's Advising
 Garfield Elementary School
 Gear Up
 GI Voice Coffee Strong
 Green Hill School
 GRuB (Garden Raised Bounty)
 Habitat for Humanity Mason County
 Hands on Children Museum
 Hansen Elementary School
 Harmony Hill Retreat Center
 JRA Mentoring
 Kiwanis Food Bank Garden
 Kokua—LEAD
 K Records
 Left Foot Organics
 Lincoln School Garden
 Madison Elementary School
 Madison Welcome Room
 Marshall Middle (MAP)
 Nisqually Land Trust
 North Thurston High School
 Northwest Eco-Building Guild
 Northwest Indian Applied Research Institute
 Oakland Bay Jr High School
 Olympia City Council
 Olympia Downtown Business Association
 Olympia Film Society

Partners continued on page 3....

"Leandra has done simply an amazing job here in our math department volunteering 10 hours a week working with our most at risk students. She has not only been a great tutor, but she has proved herself to be a influential teacher and mentor that is deserving of recognition. She was instrumental in taking a group of 10 at risk students in math that were testing at about the 5th grade level prior to beginning the program and bringing them to the level of being able to sit for and pass the 9th grade Algebra End of Course Assessment"

-Tony Pittelkau, Teacher, North Thurston High School ,recognizing Evergreen Tutor

Action Days

Action Days connect students to community to learn about current problems and help meet the needs of our partners.

CCBLA brought 39 students to 4 community organizations.

Community to Community (C2C) new Student Orientation was our biggest Action Day organized with United Way and the Volunteer Center on Day of Caring. Students got to know local organizations and each other at this event.

89 students served at 14 organization sites for C2C Day of Caring 2011.



*Evergreen Student Action Day with GRuB Youth at CIELO Project spring 2012
Photo: Stefanie Gottschalk Huerta*

Students in Service

Evergreen Students in Service (SIS) a part time AmeriCorps Program is funded through Washington Campus Compact (WACC).

Of the 48 Active members in 2011-12, 31 were newly enrolled members serving at a total of 59 community partner sites.

Students earned tuition awards by serving in human services, environment, education, public safety, and community development. Students use education awards to pay school related expenses.

Each volunteer hour is valued at \$21.36. Our 2011-12 new members have donated 9,449.75 hours to community partners- the monetary value of \$201,846.66 this grant year alone.

Unfortunately this program closed February 2012 at a federal level. Program numbers above do not reflect a full program year. The community has greatly benefited from this program and its absence will be felt.

Evergreen/Olympia Tutoring Collaboration

Provides tutoring to students in local public schools and after-school programs in low-income communities in Olympia with a focus on students at high risk of academic failure. Coordinated by CCBLA Youth in Service AmeriCorps member.

31 Evergreen Tutors were placed in area schools serving 210 volunteer hours.

"I have learned that this is all about meeting your goals. I also experienced more support than I thought I would get while being here. I'm working hard toward my graduation and my GED."

- Richie Torres, Participant, Gateways for Incarcerated Youth



Student Speaker **Rebecca Cesspooch** shares about her work with Gateways Culture Groups at CCBLA Student Recognition Event 2012
Photo: Shauna Bittle, Evergreen

Gateways for Incarcerated Youth

Retention AmeriCorps report 56 Evergreen students served a total of 843 hours as academic mentors to 65 incarcerated youth at Maple Lane and Green Hill schools. 68.88% of mentees are more interested in going to/staying in college AND 70.45% increased their overall positive outlook about their future education. (45 Youth surveyed). An additional 44 volunteers served 352 hours in Gateways' special events and projects.

Gateways collaborated with 3 community organizations, sustaining partnerships with the Chehalis school district and JRA while creating a new partnership with Kagaka Lua Entertainment. Since 1996, Gateways has served to educate, empower and support young people with innovative cultural, diversity and learning programs that help build self-esteem, confidence and the ability to pursue dreams.

College Access Challenge Grant/MLK Day of Service

MLK Campus visit included 66 middle and high school youth from Wa He Lut Indian School.

College access mentoring by **21** Evergreen students included workshops about the spirit of Martin Luther King Jr. and campus tours.

In collaboration with Youth in Service AmeriCorps team members.

23 Gateways Academic Mentors served 30 youth with college transition support at Green Hill School

Community Connections: Peer Mentors in College Transition

"Evergreen sets very high self-reliance standards for new and transitioning students. They set out to tackle both academic and social stability through peer mentorship." -Lisa Kiger, Peer Mentor

New students received college transition support through an academic program offered fall quarter. Faculty coordinator Elizabeth Williamson relayed that "students consistently note the peer mentor relationship as the most rewarding and successful part of the course, and ask that there be more time spent getting to know fellow students in mentor groups, as well as more time spent off campus doing service work".

2011 Fall: 55 students enrolled with 8 Peer Mentors

Community Partners continued ...



Olympia Free Clinic
Olympia Free Herbal Clinic
Olympia Seed Exchange
Olympic Middle School
Out of the Woods Shelter
People for Puget Sound
Planned Parenthood
POWER (Parents Organizing for Welfare and Economic Rights)
Puget Sound Restoration Fund
Rachel Corrie Foundation
River Ridge High School
ROOF
SafePlace
SeaTrust Institute
South Sound Beach Naturalist
Sound Experience
Sound Learning
South of the Sound Community Farm Land Trust
South Sound High School
South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement
South Sound Seniors
Stonewall Youth
Sunbreak Farm
Squaxin Island Canoe Journey
Thurston County Bookends
Thurston County TV (TCTV)
Thurston County Volunteer Legal Services
Thurston Conservation District
Thurston Co. Food Bank-Gleaners
Thurston County Syringe Exchange
United Communities AIDS Network
United Way of Thurston County
USDA
Wa He Lut Indian School
Washington Middle School
Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence Crossing Borders Program
WashPIRG
Works In Progress
Yes! Community Technology Center
YouthBuild
Yoyo Recordings
YWCA Women's Resource Center



New Student Orientation Service Day 2011
First Peoples' Scholars go to Sunbreak Farm
Photo: Andrea Robbins

2011-12 Total Budget \$116,923 (% 32 of budget are funds for students)

2011-12 CCBLA Budget

Evergreen Institutional Funds		Grants to the CCBLA		Grants to Students	
Salaries	\$44,246.00	College Access Challenge (CACG)	\$5,000	Students In Service	\$37,334
Benefits	\$16,743	Students in Service Reflection grant	\$3,000	 	
Goods and Services, Travel	\$8,800	Community Connections AmeriCorps	\$1,500		

CCBLA SUPPORTED
OVER 12,540.20
HOURS OF
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

What's Next for CCBLA?

The unfortunate closure of the Students in Service AmeriCorps program left students with one less option for defraying the increased costs of attending Evergreen. As an alternative (though not a replacement) we have developed a very small pilot program called Evergreen Community Service Work Study that will place five CCBLA work study students at grass root non-profit organizations to learn about the field and about relevant social issues.

We are experiencing a transition as a result of the defunding of the Community Connections program, which supported our service learning day during Orientation Week and provided peer mentoring for new students throughout fall quarter. As a way of staying connected to the curriculum and to the mentoring of incoming students, our Youth in Service AmeriCorps position will support the Mentor Council in implementing the Academic Statement initiative in 2012-13.

Other Program Updates: Gateways received WA Mentors grant through JRA to continue the Academic Mentor Program. CCBLA Advisory discussions will work with Sustainability and Justice planning to deepen our campus wide commitment to Public Service.

Campus Wide, Evergreen registered 940 Internships. 448 were Independent Internships with 550 organizations. 52% of internships were part of Academic Programs Curricular Service Learning Requirements: An increase from 35% consistently reported in faculty End of Program Review for the past 5 years.

Gateways for Incarcerated Youth Programs 2011-2012 \$13,278

Funds		Fundraising	
Green Hill Contract	\$4,000	Publications	\$3,030.38
		Donations	\$6,248
		Total	\$9,278.38

Center for Community Based Learning and Action
Advisory Committee 2011-12

Community Partners: Monica Peabody (POWER), Stefanie Gottschalk Huerta (CIELO), Jenny Blumenstein (Sound Learning), Cindy Meyer (Family Support Center), Randi Miller (Kokua), Miriam Lorch (Camp Quixote Panza), Chris Van Daalen (Eco-Builders Guild), Rebecca Pilcher (Rachel Corrie Foundation), Peter Epperson (TCTV), Jill Esbeck (Left Foot Organics), Emily Pieper (Stonewall Youth), Kerensa Mabwa (GRuB)

Evergreen Faculty: Alice Nelson, Doreen Swetkis, Zoltan Grossman, Doug Schuler, Mukti Khanna, Toska Olson, Lori Blewett, Anthony Zaragoza, Sunshine Campbell, Anne Fischel, Trevor Griffey, Lin Nelson, Suzanne Simons, Tyrus Smith, Therese Saliba, Peter Bohmer, Sandy Yannone

Students: Mimi Alcantar, Sally Toussint, Nate Kinne, Jennifer Hooper, Adriana Herrera

Staff: Emily Sladek and CCBLA Staff

Evergreen, CCBLA and Student Engagement:

- * OVER 1024 EVERGREEN STUDENTS RECEIVED CCBLA SUPPORT IN 24 ACADEMIC PROGRAMS
- * CCBLA BENEFITED OVER 151 YOUTH
- * OVER 146 EVERGREEN STUDENTS CONTACTED CCBLA FOR COMMUNITY BASED LEARNING.