



The Western New York Service-Learning Coalition (WNYSLC), in partnership with The John R. Oishei Foundation, has provided funding for community projects that engage college students in service-learning opportunities. The funding provides seed money to new projects that are collaborative in nature and engage at least one WNYSLC higher education institutions and at least one community partner institution. Two calls for proposals have been held; the following is a list of funding projects.

Spring 2010

Community Partner

Janice Li
Grant Street Neighborhood Center
Janice.gsnc@gmail.com

Higher Education Partner

Brenda Battleson
UB Department of Library and Information Studies
blb@buffalo.edu
www.buffalo.edu

Lee Hopkins
UB Computer Science and
Engineering Undergraduate Student
Association

Project Name: Grant Street Neighborhood Center Library Project

Funded Amount: \$2,000

Project Summary: The objective of the library development project at the Grant Street Neighborhood Center (GSNC) is to encourage literacy within the neighborhood. University of Buffalo's Computer Science and Engineering Undergraduate Student Association will set up the software for the GSNC's new library management system. University of Buffalo's Library and Information Studies Department will help with changes to the library layout, weed and organize the collection, catalog the books, find future funding/grant sources, and begin programming in the spring of 2010.

Community Partner

Elea Mihou Fox
WNY Peace Center
elea@wnypeace.org

www.wnypeace.org

Higher Education Partner

Linda Kuechler, Sharon Benz
Daemen College
lkuechle@daemen.edu;
sbenz@daemen.edu
www.daemen.edu

Project Name: The Accounting Lab for Community Organizations

Funded Amount: \$1,300

Project Summary: This project is a collaboration between Daemen College Accounting/MIS Department and Daemen's Center for Sustainable Communities and Civic Engagement. As part of an accounting course, ten Daemen College students will work with community organizations and keep the accounting records for actual organizations and perform other tasks such as developing budgets and business plans.

Community Partner

Harvey Garrett
West Side Community Collaborative
hgarrett@adelphia.net

Higher Education Partner

Dr. Sarah Beth Hinderliter
Buffalo State College
hindersb@buffalostate.edu
www.buffalostate.edu

Asarese-Matters Community Center

Project Name: Provisional Services: Projects for Buffalo West Side

Funded Amount: \$800

Project Summary: Buffalo State College students will work with community organizations – the West Side Community Collaborative and the Asarese-Matters Community Center- to create projects that will impact residents of Buffalo's West Side. Students from Buffalo State College will create urban visioning projects/drawings that re-imagine and redesign areas of the city in bad repair. These drawings will be used by the West Side Community Collaborative in their efforts to seek financial support for urban redevelopment on the West Side. Students will also paint a mural for the Asarese-Matters Community Center. This mural will decorate a wall at this community center that supports at-risk youth on Buffalo's West Side. Students will work with the youth to identify what images they might like to see in the mural. These projects will be featured in an exhibition "Provisional Services: Projects for Buffalo's West Side" at the Burchfield Penney Art Center, April 9-June 13, 2010. Grant monies will pay for supplies for these art projects.

Fall 2009**Community Partner**

Karen Christie
Buffalo Urban League
kchristie@buffalourbanleague.org
www.buffalourbanleague.org

Higher Education Partner

Dorothy Johnston
Erie Community College – City
Johnston@ecc.edu
www.ecc.edu

Project Name: Buffalo Urban League Taste of Soul 2-27-2010

Funded Amount: \$1,930

Project Summary: The collaboration between ECC Culinary students and Buffalo Urban League will enable the Taste of Soul (6th year) to grow in size and increase the focus on teaching about healthy food choices and ways to make traditional recipes "healthy". Over 400 participants enjoyed samples of 54 chefs' entries at the Taste in 2009. The event has outgrown the donated space and facilities over the past five years and requires enhanced food service facilities and expertise. This collaboration will enable the Taste to grow and increase its educational value to families while providing "real life" experience for the culinary students.

Community Partner

First Hand Learning
Bill Rogers
inquiries@firsthandlearning.org
www.firsthandlearning.org

Higher Education Partner

Canisius College
Dr. Ann Wright
wrighta@canisius.edu
www.canisius.edu

Project Name: Community Science Mentor Service Learning

Funded Amount: \$2,000

Project Summary: First Hand Learning and Canisius College will collaborate to bring undergraduate students together with middle school youth at urban community centers and provide resources for involving the youth with science during out-of-school time. The proposed program is designed to serve as a bridge between urban middle school science students and Canisius College students. Mutual goals include providing an experience for everyone involved to see the value of community education; enhancing science literacy; and developing inquiry skills. The undergraduate students will learn about teaching in a "real life" context while providing the middle school students with peer mentors and role models.

Community Partner

Creating Assets, Savings and Hope (C.A.S.H.)

Diane Bessel

Diane.bessel@uwbec.org

www.uwbec.org

Higher Education Partner

Daemen College

Sharon Benz

sbenz@daemen.edu

www.daemen.edu

Project Name: The Income TAXi

Funded Amount: \$878

Project Summary: The Income TAXi project began in 2007 with discussions initiated by United Way staff on how to extend the free tax preparation of the IRS to more low and middle income tax payers and avoid predatory tax preparation companies. The discussions on how to extend the free tax preparation program led to a collaboration of eight community organizations helping to restore the former book mobile of the Buffalo and Erie County Library, retrofitting it with six tax preparation stations and one printing station. During the 2009 tax season, Daemen College accounting students in Service Learning through VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) and UB Accounting Society members went to 18 different locations and did 250 returns. Project goals for the TAXi this year are to improve accounting student and site supervisor training; to expand service from two sessions a week to three; to partner with high school finance academy students; and to improve the delivery of financial literacy information to tax payers. Specific objectives include an additional training session and orientation by TAXi staff for college students on tax credits, interviewing clients, and documentation. This year the project will develop procedures for providing written financial information for TAXi clients and develop a short DVD to supplement this information that can be viewed on a computer while clients wait for appointments.