

Promoting Service-Learning and Community Involvement to Students

As a faculty member, you have an opportunity to influence the educational plans and out-of-classroom lives of the students you interact with at the college. With this in mind, we have developed this section to give you some information to use when encouraging participation in service-learning and community involvement.

Talk about benefits students have experienced:

- Provides valuable experience in an academic or future career field
- Leads to internships, part-time jobs and full-time jobs
- Increases understanding of the topics covered in the classroom
- Fulfill requirements to transfer into some university academic programs
- Provides for exploration of values, attitudes, and beliefs about the world
- Allows student to utilize their untapped or under-utilized skills
- Enhances leadership skill development
- Allows for integration of personal and professional goals
- Demonstrates to potential employers and academic institutions a diversity of interests
- Provides students with a better understanding of current community issues
- Diminishes feelings of isolation due to connections made with the broader community
- Increases self-confidence and improves self-concept
- Demonstrates an ability to handle ambiguity and the flexibility to take on new roles
- Sharpens creative problem-solving abilities and collaboration skills
- Provides an opportunity to develop a network of contacts and support people across diverse communities
- Gives students an outlet to act on their beliefs about social change/social justice
- Provides students with a greater understanding of economic, political, and cultural structures in society and how these structure effect and impact individual lives, families, and communities

Some content courtesy of the [Career and Community Learning Center, University of Minnesota](#).