



Service-Learning in Composition

Service-Learning provides

- credit toward your degree
- experience with a local organization (which could lead to an internship or job)
- the satisfaction of contributing to a worthy cause
- practical knowledge of the nonprofit sector

Use this interactive guide by clicking links that take you directly to the site's volunteer information webpage. Consider your goals for this project when choosing a site. When you have chosen, contact the organization according to its preferences (some prefer email, phone calls, online applications, etc.).

Explain that you want to work on a service-learning project that involves providing 30 hours of service throughout the semester. By the third week of the semester, someone at the site must sign the internship learning agreement to ensure your enrollment for academic credit.

Edition for academic year 2012-2013

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Thanks to those who have helped with past editions:

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“I really liked my volunteer experience! I worked as a receptionist and it gave me a sense of what it’s like to work at a non-profit. Also, I was able to see the people that benefit from these organizations.”

-Kelsey Zaller



“The soup kitchen made me realize that a college student’s daily problems do not compare to those of people who walk the streets without a warm place to rest.”

- Scott Nalick



CHILDHOOD EDUCATION/MENTORING

The America Reads Challenge @ Pitt

The mission of ARC is to help kindergarten to third grade students improve their reading ability so that they can read independently by the end of third grade. Work study students receive \$8.15 an hour. All tutors must commit to 10 hour/week throughout the whole semester. Visit the ARC website to learn more and fill out an application.

923 William Pitt Union
Phone: 412-648-7211
America Reads Challenge

Extra Mile Education Foundation

For over 20 years, this organization has supported the education of urban children in local parochial elementary schools. Through operational support and student scholarship support, EMEF enhances material taught in the classroom. Students can volunteer as student teachers or tutors. For more information visit the Extra Mile website.

111 Boulevard of the Allies
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
Phone: 412-456-3103
Extra Mile Education Foundation

Homeless Children's Education Fund

HCEF aims to ensure that children experiencing homelessness will have means to acquire an education. The wide variety of volunteer options include tutoring and administrative/office work. Please call to set up an appointment. All applicants are screened and require clearances to work with children in homeless shelters. The HCEF website has detailed volunteer descriptions and contact information.

2100 Smallman Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
Phone: 412-562-0154
Homeless Children's Education Fund

Jumpstart Pittsburgh at the University of Pittsburgh

Jumpstart Corps members work with young children to build skills crucial to school success. All Corps members receive training to help them implement the program, promote school success in the children they serve, and build family involvement. Service days, family events and volunteer activities direct resources back to the community and build local support for early education. More information and an online application are available on the website.

923 William Pitt Union
Phone: 412-648-5867
Jumpstart Pittsburgh

CASA of Allegheny County

Court Appointed Special Advocates of Allegheny County ensures that every child has a safe, supportive, and permanent home by providing volunteer advocacy for abused and neglected children within the child welfare system. Students typically assist with clerical duties (filing, mailing informational materials, etc.). Learn more on the CASA website.

564 Forbes Avenue
Suite 902
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Phone: 412-594-3606
CASA of Allegheny County

Shadyside Boys and Girls Club

The Boys and Girls Clubs work to provide every child with the essential tools needed for a successful and bright future. The agency focuses on boys and girls ages 6-18, primarily those who live in urban communities. Volunteers may help with tutoring children, computer training, sports education or mentoring. For a list of position descriptions, visit the website.

6 Brownell Place
Pittsburgh, PA 15232
Phone: 412-782-5710
Boys and Girls Club

CIVIL RIGHTS

African-American Chamber of Commerce of Western Pennsylvania

The AACCWP aims to promote access and business opportunities to African-American business owners and professionals throughout the region. This organization sponsors educational and mentoring programs for prospective business owners as well as promoting key linkages throughout the business community in the region. For more information visit the website.

425 Sixth Avenue
Suite 1330
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Phone: 412-392-0610
AACCWP

American Civil Liberties Union

Located right on campus, the Greater Pittsburgh chapter of the ACLU is always seeking volunteers for a variety of programs and events. The ACLU is the nation's foremost guardian of liberty, dedicated to protecting individual rights and personal freedoms. For volunteer positions and descriptions, visit the website.

313 Atwood Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15213
Phone: 412-681-7736
Greater Pittsburgh ACLU

Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Pittsburgh

The GLCC provides the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender individuals, their families and supporters in Western Pennsylvania with resources and opportunities to promote visibility, understanding, and equality within and outside of LGBT communities. Motivated and energetic volunteers can help through education, social support, networking, and advocacy. The GLCC website provides a list of volunteer positions and descriptions.

210 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Phone: 412-422-0114
Pittsburgh GLCC

Life's Work of Western PA

Life'sWork provides opportunity, employment and independence to more than 2,000 individuals each year. Those who benefit include individuals with disabilities, as well as people with other barriers to employment, including at-risk youth, single parents and people transitioning off public assistance. Visit the website to learn more about volunteer opportunities.

1323 Forbes Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Phone: 412-471-2600
For HR: ext. 246
Life's Work of Western PA

COMMUNITY CONCERNS

Breachmenders Ministries

This organization's mission involves providing affordable housing, youth activities, employment training, and community development in partnership with the people of West Oakland and the Hill District neighborhoods. Some current programs include: housing development, labor-free repair, and neighborhood advocacy. For a full list of programs and their descriptions please visit website.

200 Robinson Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15213
Phone: 412-621-2530
Breachmenders Ministries

Gateway to the Arts

This organization focuses on delivering quality artistic experiences by professional performing and visual artists to youth in schools, libraries, and community centers. By providing artists and educators with necessary skills, this organization helps students access the arts as a learning tool. For more information on programs and opportunities, visit website.

6101 Penn Avenue, #301
Pittsburgh, PA 15206
Phone: 412-362-6982
[Gateway to the Arts](#)

Pittsburgh Filmmakers

This nonprofit corporation is designed to encourage the creation of and understanding of media for noncommercial artistic and literary purposes. PFM believes in the power of art in inspiring communities. Exhibitions, demonstrations, and sales increase public awareness of the local visual arts community. For information about volunteer opportunities visit website.

477 Melwood Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15213
Phone: 412-681-5449
[Pittsburgh Filmmakers](#)

Pittsburgh Glass Center

This public-access school, gallery, and state-of-the-art glass studio is dedicated to teaching, creating, and promoting glass art. As one of the top glass art centers in the world, PGC provides exceptional resources to expand the skills of students and artists. For more information about volunteer opportunities, visit the website.

5472 Penn Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15206
Phone: 412-365-2145
[Pittsburgh Glass Center](#)

Thomas Merton Center

The mission of TMC aims to build consciousness of issues regarding war, poverty, race, oppression and justice. With more than 20 active groups raising awareness of these human rights issues, this organization is in constant need of volunteers. For a list of groups and primary contact information, visit the website.

5129 Penn Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15224
Phone: 412-301-3022
[Thomas Merton Center](#)

Oakland Planning & Development Corps

OPDC builds a better Oakland through job placement services, neighborhood preservation and investment programs, resident volunteer efforts, youth services, and community engagement. OPDC matches volunteers to tasks according to their interests. Their website has a full list of current and future programs.

235 Atwood Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15213
Phone: 412-621-7863
[OPDC](#)

East End Cooperative Ministry

EECM aims to help those in need in Pittsburgh's East End. By providing necessities like a hot meal, a support system for recovery after a hospital stay, or educational programs, EECM caters to a variety of needs. Likewise, volunteers can assist in a variety of service-areas: the soup kitchen, the emergency shelter, homework help, etc. For a list of opportunities and information about applying visit the EECM website.

250 N. Highland Ave
Pittsburgh, PA 15206
Phone: 412-361-5549
[EECM](#)

YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh

Each chapter of this national organization promotes growth in all aspects of its community members. Programs exist to serve all members of the population: education, assisted living, special needs, recreation, etc. Volunteer opportunities range from advocacy and fundraising to coaching children's sports teams. For a full list of positions visit the website.

420 Fort Duquesne Blvd
Suite 625
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
[YMCA](#)

August Wilson Center for African American Culture

The AWC is dedicated to preserving, presenting, celebrating, and shaping the art and culture of African-Americans, utilizing the rich history and legacy of African-Americans in Western Pennsylvania. Located in the Cultural District, this art institution offers a variety of volunteer opportunities. Visit the website for more information about these opportunities.

980 Liberty Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pa 15222
Phone: 412-338-8730
August Wilson Center

Thomas Merton Center

TMC works to build consciousness and to raise moral questions involved in the issues of war, poverty, racism, economic justice, etc. This coalition-building organization follows the principles of Thomas Merton—a 20th century Anglo-American Catholic writer and mystic—and other great architects of non-violent resistance in the pursuit of social justice and peace. For a list of programs, visit the TMC website.

5129 Penn Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15224
Phone: 412-301-3022
Thomas Merton Center

ENVIRONMENT/NATURE

Animal Rescue League of Western Pennsylvania

ARL offers General Volunteer Information sessions for interested volunteers about available opportunities. Positions include: dog coach, cat care, bunny/small animal handler, foster parent, and adoptions assistant. A full list of these positions can be found on the website. This page also provides the dates and times of upcoming information sessions. Those who wish to call can contact Monica Garcia, Volunteer Coordinator, at the number provided.

6620 Hamilton Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15206
Phone: 412-345-7300 x235
Animal Rescue

Animal Friends

This organization aims to promote the human and animal bond by reducing the number of unwanted pets and finding homes for those pets. An aggressive spay/neuter programs and strict no-kill policy make animal wellness a top priority. Volunteers are needed to work directly with the animals (dogs, cats, rabbits, etc.) and in administrative capacities (fundraising, event-planning, etc.). For a full list of opportunities visit the Animal Friends website.

562 Camp Horne Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15237
Phone: 412-847-7000
Animal Friends



“It was really cool to see a new community in Pittsburgh, help out the people there, and get Pitt’s name out there. I really liked working with the kids, hanging out with them and being a good role model.”

Alex Sawden

Friends of the Riverfront

FOR aims to increase engagement with rivers and riverfronts throughout the Pittsburgh region. Creating and developing riverfront trails allows residents to use these areas for recreation. Volunteers assist in community outreach and administrative duties or in a more hands-on way by cleaning up riverfront trails. Those interested can apply online under the trail care tab on the website.

33 Terminal Way, Suite 33B
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Phone: 412-448-0212
Friends of the Riverfront

Group Against Smog and Pollution

Since 1969, GASP has worked to improve air quality in the Pittsburgh region. Through education, litigation, and policy changes this nonprofit has made many changes for those living in Southwestern PA. Volunteers can assist in a variety of ways: event planning and fundraising, research, advocacy, etc. Visit the website for a full list.

5135 Penn Ave
Pittsburgh, PA 15224
Phone: 412-924-0604
GASP

Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy

This organization seeks to improve the quality of life for Pittsburgh residents by restoring the City's park system. Since 1998, the Parks Conservancy has raised over \$50 million toward improvements in the four regional parks—Frick, Highland, Riverview, and Schenley. Those interested can find more information on opportunities under the Get Involved tab on the website.

2000 Technology Drive, 300
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Phone: 412-682-7275
Pittsburgh Parks
Conservancy

Pittsburgh Botanic Garden

This is the region's first major public outdoor garden, with collections of plants, artistic garden displays, and educational programs. This nonprofit's mission involves inspiring growth according to sustainability practices, partnerships in nature, and personal wellness. Volunteers can give their time in the office, in planning for special events, or in garden maintenance. A full list of opportunities is available on the website.

850 Poplar Street
Pittsburgh, Pa 15220
Phone: 412-444-4464
Pittsburgh Botanic Garden

Venture Outdoors

This local organization works to encourage residents to participate in outdoor recreational activities. These activities aim to promote the Pittsburgh region's unique natural amenities, highlight the high quality of life here, foster a greater appreciation for the environment, inspire an active lifestyle, and create a shared sense of community.

33 Terminal Way,
Suite 537 East
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Venture Outdoors

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

American Cancer Society

ACS provides information on prevention, treatment, and current research. Through annual events like Relay for Life and regularly occurring programs like giving chemotherapy patients a car ride to and from treatment, over three million volunteers work to alleviate the effects of this disease. With such a large network, volunteers can give their time in or out of their local offices. The list of various opportunities is available on the ACS website.

320 Bilmar Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15205
Phone: 888-227-5445
American Cancer Society

American Red Cross

This organization's goal involves providing relief to victims of disaster. With chapters across the country, volunteers donate time and effort. Opportunities include giving comfort to victims or assisting first aid classes. Volunteers are in constant need, as the organization is driven by 95% volunteer effort. For a full list of local opportunities, visit ARC website.

225 Boulevard of the Allies
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
Phone: 412-263-3100
[American Red Cross](#)

Bethlehem Haven

This organization provides support to women in the Pittsburgh area through: transitional housing and permanent supportive housing; medical, dental, obstetrics, and mental health services; and employment services. Volunteer opportunities include: preparing/serving meals, coordinating recreational activities for shelter residents, assisting with general office work, and joining the Special Events Committee. For a full list with details visit the website.

Fifth Avenue Commons
905 Watson Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Phone: 412-391-1348
[Bethlehem Haven](#)

Blind & Vision Rehabilitation Services of Pittsburgh

BVRS aims to empower those with vision loss to become independent. Instructors teach clients how to use other senses to compensate vision impairment. Volunteers help clients directly, assist staff, and promote BVRS programs. During an interview, specific opportunities will be discussed. For more information visit the BVRS website.

1800 West Street
Homestead, PA 15120
Phone: 412-368-3300
[BVRS](#)

Central Blood Bank of Pittsburgh

CBB aims to engage the blood donor community, advance transfusion science, and benefit more patients through clinical expertise. By providing blood products and transfusion-related services to more than 40 local hospitals, CBB maintains its focus in Western Pennsylvania. Volunteer positions include Donor Appreciation Representative and Office Assistant. For a full list with descriptions and an application visit the website.

5 Parkway Center
875 Greentree Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15220
[Central Blood Bank](#)

Easter Seals Western Pennsylvania

This organization provides individualized care for adults and children with disabilities. Through therapy, education, and other necessary services, the Easter Seals supplies the means for clients to live independently. Volunteers give their time and energy in fundraisers and events as well as in school sites or adult day services sites. Visit the website for a full list of current volunteer opportunities.

2525 Railroad Street
Pittsburgh, PA
Phone: 412-281-7244
[Easter Seals](#)

Family House

Family House provides affordable housing to patients and families undergoing specialized hospital treatment. As a "home away from home," this site removes housing concerns during stressful times. Volunteers greet and accommodate guests and assist managers with day-to-day activities. Applicants must undergo criminal background checks and complete orientation before starting. These documents can be found on the website.

233 McKee Place
Pittsburgh, PA 15213
[Family House](#)

The Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank

This organization distributes food throughout 11+ counties in the area. Over 21 million pounds of food are donated yearly through food pantries, soup kitchens, Meals on Wheels, etc. Volunteers can give their time doing office work, fundraising, and assisting at local farms. For a full list of opportunities and application information visit the website.

1 Linden Street
Duquesne, PA 15110
Greater Pittsburgh
Community Food Bank

Hillman Cancer Center

Part of the network of UPMC Cancer Centers, this site offers treatment and services to cancer patients as well as to their family and friends. Volunteers can give their time in administrative roles, patient activities (Healing with the Arts), patient and family support, and laboratory research. Visit the website for more details and information about applying.

5115 Centre Ave
Ground Floor, Suite AG40.3
Pittsburgh, PA 15232
Hillman Cancer Center

Jubilee Soup Kitchen

The Jubilee Association provides a range of social services to address the needs of Pittsburgh's homeless, marginalized, and disadvantaged. More than a soup kitchen, this site also offers a medical clinic, family center, employment assistance services, and an after school program. Volunteers can help in the kitchen or in non-kitchen work. For a full list of opportunities visit Jubilee's website

2005 Wyandotte Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Phone: 412-261-5417
Jubilee Soup Kitchen

Magee Women's Hospital

Magee focuses on local women, regardless of availability to pay, and has evolved into a national center for clinical programs in women's health. Volunteers assist in any one of these categories: labor and delivery, education, admitting, breast care center, patient accounts, and the Children's Center of Pittsburgh. Free parking and meal tickets are given to volunteers on their days of service. For more information, call the number provided or visit the website.

300 Halket Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15213
Phone: 412-641-4185
Magee Women's Hospital

Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force

PATF works to support and empower those living with HIV/AIDS and prevent the spread of infection. Volunteers provide assistance in a variety of ways like working in the food pantry to staffing information tables to acting as a receptionist. Please note that all volunteers must complete an in-person interview and orientation.

5913 Penn Ave, 2nd Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15206
Phone: 412-345-7456 x585
PATF



“I am leaving this class with a feeling of accomplishment and gratitude....Volunteering can not only help you earn one credit and look awesome on your resume, but will make you feel like you do make a difference!”
Christina Levkus

Planned Parenthood of Western Pennsylvania

Through its belief in the individual's right to manage fertility, PPWP encourages reproductive self-determination among women of all ages, races, and ethnicities. Volunteers can assist patients in health centers, phone bank for advocacy campaigns, and help administrative staff with clerical duties. By completing the online form, applicants can indicate their preferred volunteer activity.

600 Forbes Ave
Pittsburgh, PA 15282
Radio Information Service

Radio Information Service

RIS uses the radio to dispense information to those with a disability that prevents them from reading independently. This organization broadcasts content from local and national newspapers, popular magazines, best-selling books, etc. All volunteers must fill-out the online application. A simple voice test determines whether or not a volunteer will become an on-air reader. Other volunteer positions involve promotions, clerical work, and service deliveries.

933 Liberty Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
Phone: 412-434-8974
Planned Parenthood

GLOBAL ADVOCACY

Global Links

This Pittsburgh-based medical relief and development organization is dedicated to promoting environmental stewardship and improving health in resource-poor communities, primarily in Latin America and the Caribbean. By sending surplus materials to these areas, Global Links converts environmental burden to a life-saving purpose. Volunteers must fill out an application on the website and indicate which opportunity interests them.

4809 Penn Avenue #2
Pittsburgh, PA 15224
Phone: 412-361-3424
Global Links

Ten Thousand Villages

This nonprofit works to ensure that artisans in developing countries earn a fair wage. By establishing a sustainable market for handmade products in North America, Ten Thousand Villages spreads awareness about these developing areas while creating a fair trade market for all involved, from buyers to vendors. Volunteers are needed from the warehouse to the sales floor. Visit the volunteer page on the website for a full list of local opportunities.

Ten Thousand Villages

CODEPINK

This women-initiated, grassroots organization for peace has become famous for protesting hearing rooms of Congress, national conventions of Republicans and Democrats, and political fundraisers, this group seeks social justice. The local action team in Pittsburgh is very active in rallying for peace. Contact Francine Porter using the information to the right for more information on getting involved.

Phone: 412-389-3216
CODEPINK