



Supporting Actions for Engagement (SAFE) Project

The **Community College National Center for Community Engagement** with the support of the **Corporation for National and Community Service** will implement initiatives to implement projects on Homeland Security and Domestic Preparedness, Service-Learning and Civic Engagement.

The grant will support:

- Sub-grants to 10 community colleges across the country and territories
- A second National Summit on Homeland Security and Domestic Preparedness in collaboration with the League for Innovation in the Community College
- Convene community college presidents and service practitioners to provide guidance to CCNCCE on future service-learning and civic engagement strategies
- Training and technical assistance conducted by experts in the field on service-learning and civic engagement throughout the US and territories
- Conduct overall program evaluation
- On-line workshops
- Development and dissemination of publications

2003-2004 Sub-grantees

Kenai Peninsula College, in Soldotna, AK, is implementing a service-learning project on two of its three campuses which focuses on addressing social, environmental, economic and wellness challenges facing the people of the Kenai Peninsula—while increasing community collaboration and appreciation of the rich cultural heritage of the region. Among their planned activities are 1) helping the community in preparing for the 2006 Arctic Winter Games, a circumpolar region-focused sports and cultural sharing event; 2) partnering with a Native faith-based organization, Alaska Christian College, to create programs which help Native students transition to higher education; and 3) partnering with local after-school, tribal Headstart and parenting education programs to address needs of “children at-risk” and their families. KPC is seeking service learning opportunities that will help create a sustainable program that benefits both the college and the community. **Contact:** Krista Timlin, **Phone:** 907-262-0337, **Email:** inklt@uaa.alaska.edu

The University of Puerto Rico at Cayey (UPR-Cayey) will be providing administrative and computer and technology support to non-profit and faith-based organizations that provide a variety of services to low-income communities and the homeless through an internship course in which students will work 3 hours a day, 5 days a week, providing services to the community which are linked to UPR-Cayey's Program of Technology and Office Administration curriculum. Additionally, UPR-Cayey is partnering with Alianza Universitaria para el Desarrollo de las Comunidades (University Alliance for Community Development) to provide training to the students and faculty working with community projects. **Contact:** Maria Miranda Rios, **Phone:** 878-735-0881, **Email:** cristi5@prtc.net

Riverside Community College, in Riverside, CA, is developing a project which focuses on better preparing their community for meeting the diverse educational needs of various populations, and providing training to students, parents, agencies, and community-based organizations as it relates to critical disaster preparedness and public safety needs. Their project includes identifying short-term actions to reduce the scope of an emergency, and managing necessary resources in the event of a disaster. SAFE Project students in the Teacher Preparation program will receive training on disaster preparedness and will be involved in providing presentations to 5th graders on improving individual family disaster preparedness plans. Recipients will be asked to return their completed plans with a sign-off form completed by their parent or guardian so that students may measure the outcomes of their presentations. Economics students developed a board game on disaster/emergency preparedness. Students in Statistics classes are gathering data on the project and doing analysis on the numbers of prepared households in the Riverside area. **Contact:** Ola Jackson, **Phone:** 909-222-8858, **Email:** ola.jackson@rcc.edu

Hillsborough Community College, in Tampa, FL, is addressing social problems that arise in individuals who have experienced disasters of one kind or another. Students in courses in Human Services, Sociology, History, Education, and Health Sciences will study social problems which occur in the Tampa Bay area, namely domestic violence, readjustment to society of war veterans, living with cancer and other life-threatening illnesses, 'bullying' in public schools, and violent crimes. Students researched the services that are currently available to help individuals deal with the stresses created by these events and determine the scope of available resources by interviewing staff in the agencies that provide services to those affected. Students presented their findings at a campus/community forum with over 150 people in attendance. The analysis and interpretation of the questionnaire data will be used to develop recommendations for developing new programs or augmenting existing services to those who have experienced traumatic life events. Year 2 has concentrated on veteran's services, healthcare needs for chronic illnesses during natural disasters, and bullying/terrorism in the schools. **Contact:** Sharon Miller, **Phone:** 813-253-7982, **Email:** smiller@hccfl.edu

Raritan Valley Community College, in Somerville, NJ, is developing a Service Learning Homeland Security program that acts as an organizing center, bringing together students, faculty, and community members to study the immediate impacts and problems associated with September 11th. Students will be involved in service learning projects that address community needs for homeland security. Collaboration with the Somerset Police Academy will involve police recruits in service learning homeland security

research projects for various community organizations. Senior citizens also will be involved by taking part in volunteer activities with numerous community organizations to specifically address the issues of public health and safety. Core project activities include the following academic disciplines: 1) Nursing 2) Paralegal Studies 3) Social Work 4) Early childhood Education 5) and Children's Literature. Nursing students have developed strategies for a start-up neighborhood homeland security project. Social Work students are collaborating with the American Red Cross. Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing students created brochures that provide information and resources about children and post-traumatic stress disorder, resulting from the effects of 9/11. Children's literature students have written age appropriate books on childhood fears surrounding 9/11 and terrorism. **Contact:** Lori Moog, **Phone:** 908-526-1200 x:8284, **Email:** lmoog@raritanval.edu

Northampton Community College, in Bethlehem, PA.

Faculty from the Veterinary Technician program have developed a service learning project on disaster preparedness for pets and pet evacuation in collaboration with Lehigh County Humane Society. Students built a Pet Evacuation Information Kiosk to be used at local fairs and community events. Introduction to Biology students created a "Safety Bingo" game and worked with elderly residents in a nursing home to enhance their knowledge and raise their level of understanding for the various safety signs posted in the nursing home. **Contact:** Debra Bohr, **Phone:** 610-252-8754, **Email:** dbohr@northampton.edu

San Antonio College, in San Antonio, TX, has involved students and faculty from the following academic disciplines: 1) economics 2) mortuary science 3) history and 4) Spanish. History students visit with and assist American soldiers and their dependents in seeking USO services and the student started a "Letters from Home" project for soldiers serving overseas. Mortuary science has incorporated a leadership component for students surrounding the college's emergency preparedness procedures. Students are developing a video to be used for training students, faculty, and staff. Students taking Conversational Spanish are collaborating with ESL students at the Benitia Family Center to train them how to utilize the emergency services in San Antonio. Students are also developing English/Spanish brochures. Economics students will be working with the San Antonio Food Bank and the Salvation Army where they will be trained in disaster relief and will assist with food and clothing drives for families affected by fires, floods, tornados, or other natural disasters. They have developed brochures on Disaster Relief for the San Antonio Food Bank. **Contact:** Audrey Grams, **Phone:** 210-785-6044, **Email:** agrams@acccd.edu

Tohono O'odham Community College (TOCC) will be operationalizing and formalizing service learning curriculum throughout all academic programs offered. During the grant, 30 students and 5 faculty who are participating in the occupational apprenticeship programs will be assisting citizens of the Tohono O'odham Nation with new construction, home repairs, and other renovation needs. This need is very great, as there are currently 400 homes without proper infrastructure throughout the Tohono O'odham Nation. TOCC's SAFE project will include 1) professional development training for faculty members; 2) syllabi analysis as it relates to service learning; and 3) service learning inclusion, with the goal that each course taught at TOCC will involve an

element of service learning. **Contact:** Jesus de la Garza, **Phone:** 520-383-8401 x:12, **Email:** jdelagarza@tocc.cc.az.us

Turtle Mountain Community College (TMCC) has chosen the problem of diabetes as a community issue to use for its SAFE service learning project. Type 2 diabetes is a widespread problem that directly or indirectly affects everyone on the reservation. TMCC will be partnering with the Anishinaube Wellness Center, the Honoring Our Health Diabetes Project, the Woodlands Wisdom Nutrition Project, the USDA Special Emphasis Extension Talking Circle Project, and the Genetic Research program to address this problem. They will also be adding the 5+5 Coalition (which consists of the County Public Health, Presentation Medical Facility, Rolette County WIC, and Rolette County Extension Program) to their list of partners. The TMCC SAFE project will be utilizing the National Center for Service Learning and Leadership to train their faculty in implementing service learning into their courses. During the grant, at least 6 faculty and 175 students will have been actively involved in service learning projects relating to diabetes. **Contact:** Peggy Johnson, **Phone:** 701-477-7817, **Email:** pjohnson@tm.edu

Mesa Community College in Mesa, Arizona, **Gulf Coast Community College** in Panama City, Florida and **Monroe Community College** in Rochester, New York will serve as the lead colleges regarding training on Homeland Security and Domestic Preparedness, Service-Learning and Civic Engagement. The SAFE Training team will conduct five regional 1-day workshops which will highlight their individual programs: The Connector Program, Brighton Watch, and The National Issues Forums. In addition, in collaboration with **The Council on Public Policy Education**, five 2-day trainings regarding the facilitation of Issue Forums will be conducted on a regional basis.