



SERVICE TRIPS

Janiaya Banks '19, Matt Berman '18, Jessica Hampton '17, and Olivia Lyman '19



This past year was a great year for Dickinson Service Trips. Our service trip program coordinators did a great job working with our team of 14 service trip leaders to organize eight service trips. Over 100 students participate from a variety of majors, class years, and organizations across campus.

Support for Dickinson Service Trips derives largely from the fundraising efforts of our trip coordinators, leaders, and participants. The 4th annual Color Rush 5K was a huge success, with nearly 100 people registering to run or walk the 5K course. We also sell coffee, tea and chocolate through Equal Exchange. We continued our partnership with Studio East Hair Salon, organizing our biannual Snips for Service events, in which the professionals from Studio East generously donate their time to provide haircuts to members of the Dickinson community at a reduced price, offering 100% of the proceeds to Service Trips.

Over winter break, 15 Dickinsonians traveled to San Juan Comalapa, Guatemala to work with the organization Long Way Home, a non-profit that seeks to serve the community by employing community members to construct self-sufficient schools that promote education, employment, and environmental stewardship using sustainable design and materials. The students had a meaningful and immersive experience helping Long Way Home make significant progress on various construction tasks. Participant Laura Celedón '19 expressed that the trip *"helped me rethink about the ways in which I view the world, other situations, and, most importantly, those around me and how their cultures may differ from those with which I am very familiar."*

During Spring Break, 48 students and 8 administrators collaborated with various domestic organizations to learn and engage in service with communities in Detroit, Michigan; Rainelle, West Virginia; DeFuniak Springs, Florida; and Americus, Georgia. In Detroit, students worked with the faith-based service organization Repair the World,

partnering with several social justice, advocacy, and educational initiatives for workshops and volunteer projects throughout Detroit, as well as in Flint, Michigan. In West Virginia, students worked with Appalachia Service Project on reconstruction efforts in response to the major flooding that occurred in the region this past summer. Our team in Florida worked with Community Collaborations International on creating an oyster reef and other ecosystem restoration efforts on the gulf coast. For the fourth year, we partnered with the Fuller Center for Housing in Americus, Georgia, renovating a home as part of the Fuller Center's goal of revitalizing communities in the area. Our weekend trips to Pittsburgh and Washington D.C. saw students volunteer at a variety of places such as a food bank, urban farm, and with an organization that provides services and support to homeless and at risk individuals. This May, our Navajo Nation trip team worked with Rez Refuge, volunteering at the local school and Dine College. This effort is greatly enhanced by our collaboration with student Ravon Yazzie '17, who is from the Navajo Nation. We hope to be able to continue our partnership with Rez Refuge for many years.

By participating in these trips, students are able to come together and immerse themselves in a different culture, while addressing various social justice issues in an enlightening way. Our goal is to foster experiences that allow our participants to bring what they have learned back to campus and the community.

I decided to apply to a service trip because I was searching for a way to be more involved on campus and a service trip seemed like a good place for me to start branching out. [The student leaders of] service trips advocate for individuals to step out of their comfort zones.

—Sandra Vidal '20,
Guatemala

WHAT A YEAR COMMSERV HAS HAD! 2016-2017 has been a year of growth and development for our CommServ Programs and we are excited to have provided the Dickinson community with new and exciting avenues for service this year. Program highlights include the addition of three new CommServ programs—bringing the total program number to 15—the re-introduction and unparalleled success of the ESL program, the welcoming of dozens of new volunteers from the class of 2020, and, finally, new and exciting programming that led to a series of wonderful events across campus throughout the year!

The success that CommServ had this year was made possible by our wonderful leaders that went above and beyond the call of duty as program coordinators to facilitate meaningful and impactful service; committed Dickinsonians who devoted their time to serve our programs weekly; and the amazing partners within our community that collaborate with us to provide opportunities for engagement. We used CommServ as a platform for engagement by ensuring that every aspect of a student's involvement was worthwhile. From meetings that focused on leadership and skill-building to movie-screenings and pizza parties, CommServ strived to make the 2016-2017 programming accessible, enjoyable, and valuable to all volunteers and leaders! We ended the year by collaborating with Alpha Phi Omega to recognize many of our programs and volunteers in a formal awards ceremony—just a little way to show appreciation for their amazing efforts!



I am grateful for the friends we have made this year through working with international fellows and their families from the Army War College. I was thrilled to see students going above and beyond, acting as language and cultural ambassadors, but also being open to engaging in meaningful cultural exchanges in very personal ways.

— Meg Booth '19, ESL
CommServ Coordinator

AMERICA READS continued to be a success amongst the CommServ programs in 2016-2017! The committed efforts of volunteers and coordinators alike resulted in huge strides within the classroom and within the lives of local children who were able to improve their literacy skills. Providing new books and consistent opportunity, CommServ volunteers engaged in life changing service this semester.

ARTWORKS celebrated another wonderful year of creativity and fun. Volunteers worked one-on-one with children, both new and returning, to create beautiful art and amazing memories. With many hours dedicated to creating their masterpieces, Artworks sold and showcased their works on Britton Plaza at the end of the year. The ArtWorks Fair raised \$280 and donated the money to the Cumberland Valley Animal Shelter.

BIG LITTLE met the local demand for Dickinson 'big' this year with ease! We are thankful to our committed volunteers and coordinators who were able to recruit wonderful mentors from our Dickinson community to volunteer their time with 'littles' throughout the week. With an awesome end to the year, many of the bigs shared their plans to stay in touch with littles over the summer break and plan for the 2017-2018 year!

CARES made the most of this year by hosting pizza parties, field trips, and outdoor fun! 2016-2017 meant nothing but laughs and friendships for program volunteers and students, many of who recognize their trip to SkyZone as a highlight of the program this year!

CARLISLE TUTORING engaged the local YMCA and Wilson Middle School communities to provide academic tutoring and mentorship to local students. The committed efforts of our volunteers kept the program alive, and their dedication to the program directly translated into the success of the students that participated in the program. We are so thankful for our volunteers that made this program possible!

COMPOSED is a new program that we were happy to integrate into our CommServ community! Originally started as a student initiative under the Idea Fund, Composed is a program for music lovers who want to share their passion for music and service by engaging local elementary school students in workshops that teach basic instrument and composition skills. This program was an exciting addition and one that brings great diversity to our programming!

DICKINSON FRIENDS had another wonderful year of events and memories! Program coordinators were able to facilitate new events and activities for the buddies and their families that brought fun and excitement to the program this year. The program was even able to

collaborate with Dickinson Athletics by having a presence at the Autism Awareness Lacrosse game this year.

DREAM CATCHERS continued to balance their mission of fun and intellectual growth this year by staying committed to facilitating a program for kids in need of homework help as well as a little fun! Dream Catchers introduced new learning activities and opportunities for their kids that allowed them to develop the program and its students greatly.

ESL opened new doors for Dickinson students this year by collaborating with the Army War College. A complete re-vamp of the program resulted in huge success for ESL that collaborated with spouses of those attending the War College to tutor them in English as well as to welcome them into the Carlisle community! This was no easy feat for coordinators and volunteers who had to redefine the program, but their efforts have made our community proud!

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY continued their efforts to develop the local community and expand partnerships with other Habitat branches. Volunteers were able to plan for next year and collaborate on projects both on and off campus. With a little bit of hard work, our volunteers were able to work on some major building projects for the Cumberland Valley area!

KEEP HOPE is another new addition to CommServ that opened up new opportunities to Dickinson students. Working with Hope Station, this program provides 6th-12th grade students with food justice and nutrition education through cooking. This program was founded by the late Legacy Watkins '18 and we are grateful for the new opportunity that she provided for students to engage with the Carlisle community.

PRISON INMATE TUTORING took off running this year with great success! Major highlights included the early start to volunteering as well as volunteer initiative, which allowed the program to provide new educational resources for inmates committed to their GED preparation.

SENIOR COMPANIONS had a late start this year because of clearances, but remained committed to the program and their companions! Dickinson volunteers became regular visitors of the Claremont Nursing home and were able to engage in meaningful events and activities with their local companions.

Religious Life

Morgan Bates '19, Sara Cochran '19, Yael Farber '17,
Mychal Herber '19, Adam Huang '19, Derick Huang '18

Explore Religions

This year, the Explore Religions@ Dickinson series took groups of students to learn about Hindu, Muslim, Jewish, and Eastern Orthodox faith. We took 19 students to visit Vraj Hindu Temple in Schuylkill Haven, PA, which is the largest Hindu temple in North America.

Students visited for Holi, the Festival of Lights, and during the service colored the Hindu god, Ganesh. At the Carlisle Peace Center, students enjoyed a dinner, presentation about Islam, and prayer. The students were warmly welcomed at Beth El Temple, a conservative Jewish synagogue in Harrisburg, where they joined for a Shabbat service. Professor Ted Pulicni, also an Eastern Orthodox priest, guided us through an incredible experience at his church, demonstrating the many faceted meaning of different icons and objects in the sanctuary.

Holocaust Museum Trip

In the spring semester, we took a group of about 30 students to visit the Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington D.C. After a powerful visit, the students gathered for reflection on what they saw, heard, and felt in the museum and how the contents of the exhibitions apply to our daily lives and actions.

INTERFAITH SERVICE TRIP

The Interfaith Service Trip to Philadelphia over fall pause allowed students to explore community service through the perspective of interfaith cooperation. Temple Beth El in Harrisburg, where we celebrated Friday night Shabbat services, was a valuable reflective start on our way to Philadelphia that allowed the students to learn about Judaism. On Saturday morning, the group attended a meditation service at a Buddhist temple in the Philadelphia area, which opened students' eyes to a faith tradition that does not have a large representation on Dickinson's campus. We also attended Sunday morning services at Mother Bethel African American Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church, the first AME church in the country. Each service gave students the opportunity to have spiritual experiences unlike those they had had before.

Students also participated in multiple service projects on the trip. From mulching and weeding invasive species at the Awbury Arboretum and serving the homeless at Grace Café to helping to organize the Stop Hunger Now warehouse, we were able to make a positive impact in the community and have fun while doing so. We also visited the National Museum of American Jewish Heritage while in Philadelphia, which was a meaningful and informative experience.

Although the trip spans only a few days, students learned from each other, the community they served, and the faith communities in which they participated. This trip brought participants from diverse backgrounds together and allowed them to provide their unique perspectives on every aspect of the trip, which only increased student learning. Join us for our 2017 trip during Fall Pause, October 13-18!

DID YOU KNOW POSTER SERIES

The "Did You Know?" poster series, started in Spring 2016 to promote literacy in Islam, expanded this year to provide information about religious holidays from many different faith traditions. From Sukkot to Diwali and Hanukkah to Ash Wednesday, the posters were created to promote religious literacy on campus. They are displayed in the HUB before and during religious holidays. We hope these posters will promote a warm and inclusive environment for students from all religious backgrounds and encourage students to be curious about religious faiths different from their own.

Spirituality at Dickinson

What is the meaning of life? Can science and religion co-exist? What is your greatest wish for the world? These questions are by no means easy to grasp, but, together with the Dickinson community, CSSS has set out on a journey to discover the answers. If on one fall day, you see a lot of people in orange, hear lively, deep conversations, and smell hotdogs cooking, then you are at the Beliefs and Big Questions Barbeque!

Creating spaces like the one described above is part of our effort to provide open spaces to explore spirituality and meaning in life. In the beginning of the year, we introduced students to faith communities on campus in the surrounding area during the Fall Faith Fest. The successful event had representatives from nine different religious communities and allowed students to find spaces they could practice their faith. Another effort in opening up space to explore what is important is the What Matters Most Dinner series. Based on Randy Pausch's book *The Last Lecture*, the series invites faculty and staff to share what matters most to them in small group settings. This year, Professors Vy Dao, Ren Wei, Theodore Pulcini, Suman Ambwani, Russell Bova and Mariana Past were guest speakers. These dinners help students to connect with their professors and find meaning in their own lives.

The "Faith and..." lunch series continued this year, providing great discussion around the intersections of faith and different topics selected by our student staff. In the fall, we hosted talks focusing on faith's intersection with politics and women. We also hosted our largest ever "Faith and..." event, "Faith and Standing Rock," with Professors Sheela Jane Menon, Heather Bedi, and Vy Dao. The event, with a turnout of about 50 students, faculty, staff, and community members, explored the roll that faith played in the protests against the Dakota Access Pipeline. In the spring, we hosted a follow up titled "Faith, Pipelines, and Native Land Rights: From Standing Rock to Pennsylvania" with Malinda Harnish Clatterback from Lancaster Against Pipelines speaking about pipeline development right here in Pennsylvania. We also hosted "Faith and Queer Identity" in partnership with the Office of LGBTQ Services. This talk featured a panel of two students, two professors, and administrator, and a clergy member, all of whom identify as people of faith and as members of the LGBTQ community. Many students and faculty came to listen to the panel and participate in the discussion.



COMMON GROUND: ONE DICKINSON

Emily Armando '19

This year, CSSS filmed a video titled "**Common Ground: One Dickinson,**" which brought together a cross-section of Dickinson students, faculty, and staff in an attempt to break down the boxes that we put ourselves and others in and reveal that we have more in common than we may think. The video was inspired by a Danish commercial called "All That We Share," which challenges the us versus them mentality. Check out the video on our YouTube page, Dickinson CS3!





Day of Service

Macey Cohen '17, Eunsol Jun '19

In 2016-2017, Day of Service held a number of events intended to engage students, faculty, and staff in service with the goal that every student have at least one service experience before graduating from Dickinson.

In the fall, Day of Service took students to visit Claremont Nursing home and talk with residents several times in the semester. Each week, one of our students took a group to serve at the soup kitchen at the Salvation Army of Carlisle. On campus, Day of Service engaged students in writing thank you notes to the facilities staff because they are hardworking staff who are not often thanked for their work. Just before winter break, about 100 individuals participated in our annual Giving Tree, which sent gifts to the Salvation Army and United Methodist Home for Children this year.

To start of the spring semester, Day of Service held our annual Forward Fair, during which students make crafts that are donated to local organizations. About 50 students stopped in to paint picture frames for foster children, pot

plants for nursing home residents, make dog pulls for the Furry Friends Network, and more! Day of Service also continued their successful thank you note writing event by having students write to Wellness Center staff and DPS officers to thank them for their hard work.

In April, several students helped to set up and run an Easter Egg Hunt held for over 100 children hosted by the East Side Neighborhood Association in Biddle Mission Park. Finally, Day of Service held a Spring Service Day with over 40 individuals participating in projects across Carlisle. The volunteers helped with distribution day at Project SHARE, mulched and planted at Bosler Memorial Library, First United Church of Christ, and New Life Community Church, and spent time chatting with residents at Thornwald Nursing Home.

Montgomery Service Leaders

Nyree Addison '17, Alan Jacks '17



As 2016-2017 came to a close, there were so many achievements to look back on! After receiving more applications than ever, 10 new members were selected and began their Level 1 experience. These new members immediately began learning about the Carlisle community, tackling difficult tasks, and engaging in current issues at their non-profit placements.

At one of our new placements this year, REACH!, Rebecca Stout '20 created a brand new homework club which has become a huge success. The kids involved in the hip hop program at REACH! even came to perform at our Meet the Montgomery Service Leaders event on Britton Plaza, which caught the attention of many Dickinsonians during the live performance and on the Dickinson College SnapChat! The event sought to show the campus what MSL is all about and the great work that our students and community partners are doing.

In addition to all of this wonderful work, MSL volunteered at the King's Gap Garden Harvest Festival, helping to run stands and build birdhouses, and at our annual volunteer meal-packaging event with Rise Against Hunger. Having spent the majority of our college careers as members of Montgomery Service Leaders, we are so proud of the accomplishments we have seen throughout the years. We have learned so much from our passionate students and are constantly amazed by their work. In the coming years, we cannot wait to see the impact that these students will have in the community!

Montgomery Service Leaders has been the most fulfilling and important experience I've had at Dickinson. It has given me an opportunity to get real world experience and impact my community. I couldn't be more grateful for the program or more proud of the work we do. – Becca Stout '20

Justice Served

Carol Fadalla '18, Brandi Hunter '17,
Olivia Lyman '19, Lisa Teitelbaum '17



During the 2016-2017 year, Justice Served put on many events focusing on the intersection of community service and social justice issues, challenging students to learn, grow, and engage with the difficult problems we face in the world.

During the fall semester, Justice Served had a table at the Office of LGBTQ Services' Out on Britton celebration to raise awareness of LGBTQ youth homelessness. About 40% of homeless youth identify as LGBTQ, whereas LGBTQ youth make up only 7% of the general population. To raise awareness, Justice Served put a couch on Britton Plaza because many homeless LGBTQ youth sleep on friends' couches due to difficulty in finding a shelter that respects them.

Justice Served held an event titled "My Culture Is Not a Costume" shortly before Halloween to focus on cultural appropriation common in Halloween costumes. The event, held on Britton Plaza, featured pictures of culturally appropriative costumes and appropriate costumes, such as a crayon, pumpkin, or Power Ranger. The pictures sparked conversation among students about which costumes were or were not culturally appropriative and hopefully helped the campus to have a respectful and fun Halloween!

In November, Justice Served hosted our annual Hunger Banquet, which aims to increase awareness of global food disparity. Our group teamed up with the community and was able to gain donations from different restaurants for the event. As students entered, they randomly selected their lot—high, middle, or low income—out of a bowl. Students with a high income were served a four-course meal by waiters at fancy tables. Students with a middle income received a single slice of pizza and a cup of water. Lastly, students with a low

income sat on the floor and were given only rice and water. Finally, students heard from Project SHARE founder, Elaine Livas, and others about how poverty and food disparity impacts the Carlisle area. The event proved impactful as it opened a dialogue about hunger and food distribution.

The proceeds from the Hunger Banquet were donated to Rise Against Hunger, an international nonprofit that distributes nutritious meals to schools across the world. Throughout the fall semester, Justice Served raised \$3,000 dollars for Rise Against Hunger. In February, Justice Served hosted our annual volunteer meal packaging event with Rise Against Hunger. This event brought together over 70 students, faculty, and staff who came to help package more than 10,000 meals, which were distributed to communities around the world.

Throughout the spring semester, the students organized small group discussions, typically over lunch, about social justice issues about which they are passionate. Olivia chose to follow up on our couch pop-up with a discussion about LGBTQ youth homelessness with Peter Ruiz, an LGBTQ youth advocate from the LGBT Center of Central PA, who shared his experience, answered questions, and offered insight into how students can take action on this issue and other issues affecting the LGBTQ community. Brandi chose to focus on Human Trafficking, having Professor Donna Bickford, who teaches Contemporary Human Trafficking, speak with students and answer questions about the topic. Lisa focused on how race and unequal access to education are related with Professor Sarah Bair, who teaches Race and Education. The students who attended these discussions were engaged and had many questions for the individuals who kindly gave their time to talk with them.

Meet Our Staff



Donna Hughes

This year marks Donna's fourth year with CSSS. An ordained Methodist Minister since 1995, Donna came to Dickinson after four years as the Executive Director of United Protestant Campus Ministries of Cleveland (Case Western Reserve, Cleveland State and Cuyahoga Community College). She was heavily involved in President Obama's Community Service and Interfaith Challenge, coordinated service trips to Laos/Cambodia and Kenya, co-lead a Catholic/Protestant Pilgrimage to Italy, and oversaw protestant religious life programming on the three campuses. Before Cleveland she served churches in South Dakota and Iowa, taught courses in World Religions, Cultural Anthropology, Environmental Biology and led service trips to India, Israel, Russia, Lithuania, Belize, and Nicaragua. Before her involvement with the ministry, Donna received a Masters of Agricultural and Equestrian Studies from Texas A&M and taught Agricultural English in Inner Mongolia.



Kim Sallie

Kim Sallie completed her first full academic year as the administrative assistant for CSSS. She was born in Buffalo, N.Y., but has lived in Carlisle for over 30 years. She graduated from Shippensburg University in 1999 with a double major in Spanish and Psychology. She is the proud aunt of one niece and four nephews who keep her busy with all of their activities! In her spare time, she enjoys traveling, cooking, and spending time with family and friends. Kim really enjoys working in her hometown and values the incredible work that the students and staff do for our campus and the community!



Jaime Phillips '16

At the end of the 2016-2017 academic year, CSSS bid farewell to Program Coordinator Jaime Phillips. Jaime was a recent alumna of Dickinson, having graduated in the class of 2016. She returned to Carlisle to work full-time in Landis House. Jaime has a deep passion for work that seeks to build stronger communities expressed through her involvement in community service with Montgomery Service Leaders and Alpha Phi Omega while a student. In the fall, Jaime will attend the Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy at Rutgers University for her Masters in City and Regional Planning.

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DICKINSON
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30,000
hours

IN THE
COMMUNITY!



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