Dr. Jenn Marts

The Central Piedmont Community College Service-Learning Center has had another amazing year! Our students continue to complete thousands of hours of service throughout the academic year which has had such an amazing impact on the local Charlotte community. We have had the privilege of working with more than 100 community agencies in the past year, and have served many people and animals, making Charlotte and CPCC a great place to live and learn.

The Service-Learning Center continues to grow and has added more service-learning instructors to our current roster, increasing the classes and sections that offer a service component. In addition, student clubs and organizations that are committed to completing service as part of their membership requirements have found their home with us.

Faculty and staff at CPCC have also continued their commitment to service in the local community by spending many hours working with our team to plan service projects and civically engage their students. This past year, the Service-Learning Center engaged more faculty at all CPCC campuses through a new initiative known as the Faculty Liaison Program, which successfully recruited 25 new service-learning faculty members. We have also expanded our eService-Learning offerings to provide service-learning opportunities for remote and online students and developed and participated in our first ever Toys for Tots Drive, collecting 466 toys and educational items for children in the local community. It is easy to tell that we are determined to sustain our programs while consistently developing new opportunities to engage our students, faculty and community partners.

I want to thank all of our students, staff, faculty and community partners for their continued partnerships and support of our service-learning programs. We are looking forward to another year full of service, networking and fun and hope that you will join us in being a part of it all.

Warm Regards,
Jenn Marts
WHAT STUDENTS ARE SAYING ABOUT SERVICE-LEARNING

"I have never done anything like this. It was an eye opener for me. I realized that I need to give back to my community and make a difference in my community."

"I learned about the field that I am interested in going into and was able to apply my learnings from class in a real world situation."

"I really enjoyed knowing that I was helping hundreds of families in need. It made me appreciate what I have in life."

"It gave me an opportunity to see first-hand everything that goes into providing services to our community."

"It has shown me what it’s like through other people’s eyes, and it has taught me to treat everyone as I want to be treated."

"It helped me realize that I can make time to give back to the community. It feels good to be able to help other people and see the smile on their faces. I’ve made a commitment to keep on going even after the course is over."

"It was such a humbling experience. Growing up I was so privileged to have my parents so involved with my school and I realized that not many kids have that. Being able to be there for those student meant the world to me."

"The hands on experience is like no other, and the things I have learned could not have been taught in a classroom, only via personal experience."

"This experience meant a lot to me and totally changed my views on community service. I now want to do more service and educate others on the beauty of community service and the entire service-learning experience. I thought my time volunteering was a better use of my time than what I would normally do, and I will definitely do more service after this course."

(L-R): Service-Learning students during the Spring 2016 Regional Alternative Spring Break Trip to Charleston, South Carolina and the 2016 Martin Luther King, Jr. Challenge

SERVICE-LEARNING MISSION STATEMENT

The Service-Learning Center initiates and supports curricular and co-curricular activities that enhance student learning, promote civic responsibility and respond to critical needs of our community through collaborative campus and community partnerships.
BY THE NUMBERS: 2015-2016 BREAKDOWN

22,345 CURRICULAR SERVICE-LEARNING HOURS COMPLETED
by 1,742 CPCC students

6,089 CO-CURRICULAR SERVICE-LEARNING HOURS COMPLETED
by 737 CPCC students

59,992.50 UNPAID CO-OP EDUCATION HOURS COMPLETED
by 298 CPCC students

$2,279,842.50
total value of service-learning hours completed by CPCC students, faculty and staff. The average individual volunteered hour in 2015-2016 is valued at $23.56 by volunteeringinamerica.gov

6,349.50 WORK STUDY HOURS COMPLETED
by 16 CPCC students placed at Service-Learning Center Community Partner locations
BY THE NUMBERS: 2015-2016 BREAKDOWN

PARTICIPATION BY 61 INSTRUCTORS, 76 COURSES, 183 SECTIONS AND 31 DISCIPLINES

42 SERVICE-LEARNING PINS Earned

This pin is earned once CPCC students record 30 or more service hours with the Service-Learning Center within a calendar year.

1,707 Service in Action Event Hours Completed

by 254 CPCC students

1000+ Martin Luther King, Jr. Challenge Hours Completed

by more than 100 CPCC students

96,767.50 total service-learning hours completed in 2015-2016

A service-learning student participates with the Kids Fun Zone at the 2016 CPCC Skyline Run
Service-Learning Projects & Partnerships

CSC 134, STARS Club and Geek Fest

Students at a neighboring college, Rowan Cabarrus Community College (RCCC) visited CPCC at the annual Geek Fest event in fall of 2015. The students from RCCC were adults with intellectual disabilities who, alongside their advisor, came to learn more about computer science and technology. These RCCC students attended a workshop that was led by the CPCC STARS Club. CSC 134-02 programming students served as volunteers during the workshop and throughout the Geek Fest at the demonstration booth.

During the workshop, CPCC students taught attendees how a program called Scratch could be used to creatively learn the logic behind computer science. Attendees learned how to use critical thinking skills to develop a short story that involved programming the interaction between multiple characters. The RCCC students were able to walk away from the workshop with a better understanding of animation, timing and problem solving skills.

In spring 2016, CPCC STARS students visited RCCC to teach a classroom of 18 students with intellectual disabilities about computer science for the second time. During this second Scratch workshop, attendees learned how to customize a character’s appearance, movement and conversation.

PSY 241, Huntersville Family Fitness and Huntersville Oaks

In the Developmental Psychology course PSY 241, students study human growth and development throughout the lifespan. Emphasis is placed on major theories and perspectives as they relate to the physical, cognitive and psychosocial aspects of development from conception to death.

Last spring, psychology instructor Stephanie Sabbagh developed a partnership with Huntersville Family Fitness and Aquatics Center (HFFA) and Huntersville Oaks. At HFFA, students rotated each week between eight stations including an infant room child-watch, several different age groups of preschool and a cardiac care fitness group. Students volunteered their time and helped out in each of these locations by working with children and adults.

After these rotations, they volunteered at Huntersville Oaks Nursing Home, where they worked on crafts and exercise activities with the clients. This was a phenomenal experience as students were able to apply what they were learning in the classroom to real life experiences.

One student stated, “Instead of memorizing definitions, we had the opportunity to memorize the experiences that related to the concepts and to interact with it first-hand. This not only made me more certain of my area of study, but also made me excited for my future career.”

MAT 152, Carolina Raptor Center and Carolinas Aviation Museum

The Carolina Raptor Center (CRC) has been collecting data on the injured and orphaned raptors it serves for several years. Under the guidance of statistics instructor Gregg Miller, MAT 152 Statistical Methods students used the information learned in the course to explore the data on the CRC’s patients since January 2014 to investigate the many variables collected on the raptors.

Students stated that “overall, we loved learning more about these animals and are thankful for the opportunity to put our skills to use for a great cause” and that “this project was interesting to me and my partner because we got to take a more in-depth look at the diversity of raptors that are brought into the Carolina Raptor Center and how many survive and are released once again to the wild.”

MAT 152 students in Gregg Miller’s class also worked with data from the visitor surveys provided by the Carolinas Aviation Museum in Charlotte,
SERVICE-LEARNING PROJECTS & PARTNERSHIPS

Home of the Miracle on the Hudson plane. The statistical analysis helped the museum better understand who their visitors are and how they rated their experience at the museum. The museum included the detailed information of the demographics of their visitors as part of a successful grant proposal.

Geology and Creek Releaf

Every year since 2010, Steppen Murphy’s Introductory Geology students participate in a service-learning project called Creek Releaf. Creek Releaf is an annual tree-planting event designed to reforest streams in the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County. This project requires students to research the benefits of planting trees along waterways and present their research to college classrooms on campus.

A day prior to the event, students prepare, package and provide instructions for planting tree saplings, which are given to all event volunteers so they can plant their own tree at home.

On November 21, 2015, 25 students from the Introductory Geology class, and 40 volunteers they recruited, helped plant 700 trees along Irwin Creek in the Clanton Road neighborhood in Charlotte. Since the beginning of the project, about 250 students have been involved in planting more than 10,000 tree seedlings along Little Sugar Creek, Briar Creek, Irwin Creek and McDowell Creek.

ELC 115 and Mobile Hearing Testing Center

Erhard van Vuuren, instructor, Electrical Systems Technology, was approached by Mr. Anver Classens, division director, Applied Technologies, who asked if Electrical Systems students could help wire a trailer that was to be used as a mobile hearing testing center. It was a commercial project consisting of four light fixtures and two outlets. Mr. van Vuuren asked his Commercial Wiring class (ELC-115) for any volunteers and three agreed to come and help out.

They met on campus early on a Saturday morning. Mr. van Vuuren guided his students and tested them by asking how they think it should be done. He agreed with their ideas, only needing to make a few suggestions to make sure the project adhered to the National Electric Code, and then oversaw their work, again helping out only as he was needed.

The Welding department showed their gratitude by supplying these students with lunch, which they greatly enjoyed. Mr. van Vuuren states that overall it was an excellent learning opportunity and that he appreciates Mr. Classen’s recommendation of this service-learning project.

BIO 163, Adult Care and Share and Horse "N" Around

Khursheed Wankadiya and Basic Anatomy and Physiology, BIO 163 students, did their service at sites that involved hands-on patient interaction. Some of their community partners were Adult Care and Share, an adult day care for disabled adults, and Horse “N” Around for traumatic brain injury patients. Students researched diseases such as hypertension, dementia, stroke, cerebral palsy and Multiple Sclerosis and presented their findings to the class.

They worked with the residents and participated in activities and games while they made careful observations about the day-to-day challenges faced by their clients. Inspired by the courage demonstrated by their clients, most students continued their service beyond the requirements of the course.

It was a positive, life-changing experience for all and it motivated them to study and fulfill their career goals in health care.
Early Childhood Education Night of Service

The Early Childhood Education (ECE) Program partnered with Service-Learning and four community organizations to host their Night of Service at Harris Campus in March 2016. Nearly 70 students and guests attended the event, contributing more than 130 collective hours of service. This is double the amount of participants who attended the first Night of Service in summer 2015. The ECE Night of Service brings various community organizations together for an evening so they are accessible to a large group of students simultaneously. Spring 2016’s event included projects that will impact communities in Charlotte and around the globe. Students worked in four groups to cut more than 20 shoe templates for Sole Hope, assemble nine baby care packages for Bright Blessings, put together more than 25 solar lights for World Mission Go! and tie 27 baby blankets for the Levine Children’s Hospital NICU. Students also had the chance to hear an informational introduction from each of the project partners and write their reflections afterward relating the experience back to their ECE coursework. Shoe templates for Sole Hope will be sent to Uganda and sewn into shoes for children there, protecting their feet and preventing injury and infection. Care packages for Bright Blessings will help homeless and impoverished babies and toddlers in the Charlotte area who are in need of hygiene and care items. Solar lights for World Mission Go! will be sent to communities in Central and South America where they will provide lighting to families who may not have previously had adequate access to electricity. Blankets made for the Levine Children’s Hospital will help regulate temperatures for babies and cover their cribs.

eService-Learning

eService-Learning is a teaching and learning method that combines online service to community, regardless of whether or not the service is completed partially or fully online, with a focus on critical and reflective thinking.

Prior to fall 2015, the majority of service-learning opportunities at CPCC required students to complete the service component at the physical location of a non-profit agency. However, in order to reach online students, students need opportunities for service to the community that can be completed partially or completely online.

These online service-learning opportunities are beneficial for students in traditional seated classes too. eService-Learning provides opportunities for students with disabilities or lack of transportation, for instance, to complete service projects online.

The Service-Learning Center at CPCC, in conjunction with research completed by Shannon Blair, M.T., faculty fellow and English instructor at CPCC and with support of CPCC’s College Fellows and Faculty Training and Development programs, continues to adapt to the needs of our students regardless of their physical or virtual location.
Oxfam America Hunger Banquets: Luck of the Draw

This interactive and memorable event has been changing people’s lives for more than 40 years. Every year, thousands of people attend Oxfam America Hunger events around the country, and in fall 2015 CPCC hosted two events with an additional event in spring 2016. An Oxfam America Hunger Event brings hunger and homelessness to life.

When guests arrive, they draw tickets at random that assign each to a high-, middle-, or low-income tier based on the latest statistics about poverty around the world. Each income level has a different experience. The 20 percent in the high-income tier are served a sumptuous meal; the 30 percent in the middle-income group eat a simple meal, like rice and beans; and the 50 percent in the low-income tier help themselves to small portions of food such as rice and water. Even where the participants sit is dictated by the luck of the draw. Finally, the guests come together to share their thoughts, reflect on their experience and take action after the meal.

The Service-Learning Faculty Liaison Program

The Service-Learning Faculty Liaison program was launched by the Service-Learning Department in August 2015, and the goal of this new program is to cultivate faculty engagement in the Service-Learning curriculum in order to coincide with CPCC’s mission and core competencies.

The faculty liaisons strengthen professional ties between campuses and CPCC Service-Learning staff, increase college support for service-learning and civic engagement by recruiting new Service-Learning faculty and provide a voice for service-learning faculty members.

Holly Woodruff, the Levine Campus service-learning faculty liaison and a service-learning instructor of 10 years, states that “the impact service-learning has had on my students is rewarding to observe, and many of my students continue to work with the community even though they are no longer in my class.” Stephanie Sabbagh, the service-learning faculty liaison for the Merancas Campus, similarly values Service-Learning as a teaching tool as “it gives students hands-on experience so they can relate the classroom material to real world experiences.” The remaining service-learning faculty liaisons are Kristin Monteith - Harris Campus, Chris Brawley - Central Campus, Steve Gore - Harper Campus, and Martha Inge - Cato Campus. The Service-Learning Center at CPCC looks forward to the growth and development of this new program in the coming years!

Service-Learning Coordinators Now Cover All CPCC Campuses

Spring 2016 saw an exciting change for CPCC’s Service-Learning Center with the addition of two new service-learning coordinators who serve five area CPCC campuses. Kay Printy splits her time between the Central, Harris and City View campuses. Since starting this role, Kay has helped the Baking and Pastry Arts, Early Childhood Education and Fire Protection programs expand their service-learning offerings and better track their service-learning hours, among many other initiatives. Ramona Dowdell covers the Cato and Merancas campuses. She has developed service-learning opportunities for several programs at the Merancas campus and brought the first poverty simulation to the Cato Campus. These two new service-learning coordinators enable CPCC’s Service-Learning Center to assist more staff, students and community partners.

(L-R): Kay Printy and Ramona Dowdell, Service-Learning Coordinators
Pathways to Achieving Civic Engagement (PACE) Conference

In early February 2016, CPCC sent eight service-learning staff and faculty members to the Pathways to Achieving Civic Engagement (PACE) Conference at High Point University - six of whom were presenting on topics such as CPCC’s eService-Learning and Faculty Liaison programs. The single-day conference was geared toward bringing North Carolina Campus Compact members together to discuss the topics of civic engagement and service as they relate to college campuses and their communities.

Jenn Marts and Shannon Blair presented Shannon’s research on eService-Learning within her courses at CPCC. eService-Learning also opens up service opportunities for students with disabilities, transportation restrictions and time constraints.

Service-learning coordinator Jessi Preussner and service-learning director Jenn Marts, along with three faculty members, presented on CPCC’s groundbreaking Faculty Liaison Program. Martha Ingel (ASL Interpreter Education), Chris Brawley (Religion) and Stephanie Sabbagh (Psychology) offered insight into their roles as leaders in the Faculty Liaison Program which connects service-learning to classrooms across all six campuses.

(L-R): Martha Ingel, Jenn Marts, Chris Brawley, Stephanie Sabbagh, Jessi Preussner and Shannon Blair

Poverty Simulation Training

Kay Printy and Ramona Dowdell, service-learning coordinators, attended the Missouri Association for Community Action (MACA) Poverty Simulation Training in Kansas City, Missouri. This training demonstrates new strategies and best practices for hosting Community Action Poverty Simulations (CAPS) at CPCC and within the local community. During the simulation, participants role-play the lives of low-income families to promote a greater understanding of poverty. Service-learning offers these simulations throughout the academic year for a variety of areas of study at CPCC.

eService-Learning Professional Development Seminars

eService-Learning, a delivery method that is becoming more and more relevant as virtual classrooms are becoming the norm, is a new service-learning initiative. Professional development seminars led by Shannon Blair, an English instructor at CPCC, were held at the Central and the Levine campuses in spring 2016. The goal of these professional development seminars is to help faculty members differentiate between traditional service-learning and eService-Learning, identify a possible eService-Learning pedagogical model best suited to faculty needs, contribute what faculty already know about service-learning in online courses and compile a list of questions about eService-Learning that the faculty in attendance would like addressed through the College Fellows Applied Research program.
FACULTY & STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Civic Engagement Film Series

The Student Life and Service-Learning departments teamed up during the 2015-2016 academic year to give faculty and staff an in-depth look at Americans from all ages and backgrounds dealing with life below the poverty line - a reality that many CPCC students face on a daily basis. The films that were shared with participants showed the current challenges within the American education system and how they impact American culture, job markets and poverty. The documentaries included in this series were “Dropout Nation,” “Paycheck to Paycheck,” “American Teacher” and “The Graduates.” This film series was expanded in 2015 to the Levine and Harper campuses due to the addition of a service-learning coordinator at these campuses.

North Carolina Service-Learning Coalition (NCSLC) Retreat

The North Carolina Service-Learning Coalition (NCSLC) is an organization dedicated to building and fostering relationships between K-20 education institutions and community partners. Kay Printy, CPCC service-learning coordinator, serves on the NCSLC Executive Board as a higher education representative. Along with monthly conference calls, she was able to attend the semi-annual, in-person meeting in Wilmington this past June, where the Executive Board discussed mission statement revisions, 501(c)(3) qualifications and upcoming workshops.

Community Engagement Administrators Conference (CEAC)

This conference is designed for faculty and staff who facilitate campus-community engagement efforts. This gathering offers deep reflection about community and civic engagement work through presentations and workshops, facilitated discussions and networking.

The 2016 conference brought together more than 85 administrators and faculty from 31 campuses and organizations in North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia and beyond. Participants chose among 18 break-out workshops in three blocks. Six service-learning staff members attended the 2016 conference.

Faculty and Community Partner Networking Breakfast

Service-Learning hosted a networking breakfast for service-learning faculty and community partners in May 2016. This opportunity allows faculty to meet face-to-face with community partners in order to discuss potential partnerships and projects that may be able to be implemented with their students throughout the following academic year. Thirty community partners and 17 service-learning faculty attended this networking event.
PRESIDENT'S HIGHER EDUCATION COMMUNITY SERVICE HONOR ROLL

The President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll recognizes outstanding colleges and universities that reflect the values of exemplary community service and achieve meaningful outcomes in their communities. The Honor Roll is part of the Corporation for National and Community Service's strategic commitment to engage millions of college students in service and celebrate the critical role of higher education in strengthening communities.

Presidential Awards are made for General Community Service, Education, Economic Opportunity and Interfaith Community Service categories. For the 2014-2015 academic year, CPCC's Service-Learning Center received the Honor Roll from the President of the United States for the extraordinary and exemplary community service contributions of its students, faculty and staff in meeting critical community and national needs in the area of General Community Service and Education. The outstanding service-learning programs and initiatives submitted for the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll include the following:

**Outstanding General Community Service Category**

**International Alternative Spring Break:** CPCC sponsored an international alternative spring break trip to Atenas, Costa Rica, that took place in March 2015. International service trips give students the opportunity to learn about another country and immerse themselves in a different culture while doing service. Eight students and two staff members participated in this seven-day trip. Students applied and were selected for this program based on past service hours and commitment to service. There were four service projects planned for the week in Atenas, and each project lasted between four and five hours and focused on a different population.

The first project was to paint a school that was promised funds to help update the structure, but due to government financial issues, the funds was rescinded. The next project was working with students in the INA program to improve their English. Cen Cinaí is the National Center for Education and Child Nutrition, and for this service project, CPCC students and staff helped paint a structure outside that had been weathered and rusted. The last project was at Hogar de Ancianos de Atenas, an elder home. The CPCC students and staff members played games, painted nails and danced with 20 residents at this home.

**Toys for Tots Drive:** In conjunction with Service-Learning Center staff, the Central, Levine, Merancas and Cato Campus student-led Rotaract Clubs, Student Life staff members and Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society students collected toy and baby item donations from CPCC faculty, staff and students throughout November and December 2015. These items were received by two organizations in the Charlotte area: Toys for Tots and Bright Blessings. Toys for Tots is a non-profit organization that aims to deliver, through new toys at Christmas, a message of hope to less fortunate children that will assist them in becoming responsible, productive, patriotic citizens. The 466 toys collected at the conclusion of the drives at CPCC campuses went to the Charlotte, North Carolina-based Combat Logistics Battalion 451 Toys for Tots campaign and were disbursed to 466 Mecklenburg County children who would otherwise have no gifts to celebrate the holiday season. Bright Blessings was also selected to receive donated items collected through these drives. Bright Blessings provides birthday parties and essential items to homeless children and babies in Mecklenburg County. More than 350 baby toys and items were collected through the drives and then donated to Bright Blessings.

**Project Life:** The Project Life Movement is dedicated to saving lives and curing cancer and other diseases by identifying and registering volunteers for marrow and tissue donation. In 2015, three new drives were added, including a drive at the annual Skyline 5K Run that supports student scholarships at CPCC, a tent at fall and spring fests and drives at the Health Career Open House Nights for incoming students and their families. With the continued and new efforts to increase numbers year after year, CPCC was able to add 773 new potential donors to the National Bone Marrow Registry in 2016. Since Project Life and CPCC Service-Learning’s partnership began, CPCC has registered more than 3,034 individuals that could be a potential donor to help save a life.
Outstanding Education Category

**Duke Energy North Carolina Science Festival Science Fair:** Students who are in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) programs at CPCC are part of the NC STEM Alliance. The students in the NC STEM Alliance hosted a Science Fair for 3rd and 4th Grade Students at Elizabeth Traditional Elementary School for approximately 175 students as part of a statewide program called the Duke Energy North Carolina Science Festival. The purpose of this science fair was to participate in the state wide initiative to increase the amount of enthusiasm in the STEM areas among parents and students. Approximately 32 CPCC NC STEM Alliance students set-up 12 stations of pre-designated science activities, including Build-A-Bubble, Invisible Ink, Sound Sandwich, Marshmallow Towers, Fingerprints, My Genes Bracelet, Parachutes and Stomp Rocket. The students from Elizabeth Traditional were able to participate in these activities that reinforced science, physics, math, technology and engineering topics that they were learning in the classroom. The Science Fair was enjoyed by children, teachers and parents.

**Creek Releaf:** This annual tree-planting event is designed to reforest streams in the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County. This project requires students to research the benefits of planting trees along waterways and present their research to college classrooms on campus. Since the beginning of the project, about 200 students have been involved in planting more than 10,000 tree seedlings along the Little Sugar Creek, Briar Creek, Irwin Creek and McDowell Creek.

**Early Childhood Education Night of Service:** The CPCC Service-Learning Center and Early Childhood Education (ECE) Program have been working together for the past three semesters to host a Night of Service for ECE students. The program is hosted at CPCC’s Harris Campus and brings students and community partner organizations together for an evening of service projects. During the most recent Night of Service in spring 2016, nearly 70 students and guests attended the event contributing more than 130 collective hours of service. This is double the amount of participants who attended the first Night of Service in summer 2015. The spring 2016 event included projects that will impact communities both in Charlotte and around the globe.

This event makes service-learning accessible to students who may not be able to attend service projects during the day, and allows for a large number of students to participate in service at one time. It also provides students with an opportunity to learn about issues facing communities both locally and globally while providing them with hands-on ways to help.

(L-R): Students painting Cen Cinai during the International Alternative Spring Break Trip and CPCC students participating in the 2015 Creek Releaf event.
SERVICE-LEARNING PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Service in Action

More than 250 CPCC students completed 1,707 hours of service in the Charlotte community through their participation in 27 Service in Action events. These events are one-time service opportunities that span the spring and fall semesters.

The Service in Action calendar of events is released during the first week of classes in the spring and fall semesters, and students can pre-register for these service experiences directly through the Service-Learning website.

Some of the service opportunities for 2015-2016 academic year included preparing meals for homebound residents of Mecklenburg County with Friendship Trays, assisting Reedy Creek Elementary School with their International Festival, cleaning kennels at the CMPD Animal Care and Control, cheering on walkers at the LIFESPAN Dandelion Walk, and assisting with CPCC's annual Skyline Run, among many others.

Volunteer Fairs

Volunteer fairs are events that the Service-Learning department provides for CPCC students to become aware of service opportunities within local community agencies. Likewise, service-learning community partners are able to engage CPCC students while sharing specific needs according to the students’ interests. A Volunteer fair was held at the Central, Levine and Cato campuses in fall 2015 and spring 2016. In total, more than 700 students were able to connect with community agencies for potential service opportunities as well as learn how the service-learning coordinator at each campus supports their educational endeavors.

2015 Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week

National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week is held each year the week before Thanksgiving. Fall 2015 marks the first semester that CPCC’s Service-Learning Center officially recognized National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week by establishing several events that align with the week of November 14-22, 2015.

Each of the six CPCC campuses tackled the issues of hunger and homelessness with the events that they held. The Central Campus, for example, participated in an Oxfam Lunch in the Overcash building on Thursday, November 19. At the Cato Campus, Service-Learning and Student Life joined forces and implemented the Oxfam approach to a breakfast on Wednesday, November 18, and the Cato Student Government Association organized a toiletry drive with the proceeds directly benefiting the CPCC Family Resource Center. The Harper Campus hosted a Civic Engagement Film Series, and students and faculty previewed the movie “Homeless: The Motel Kids of Orange County.” Graphic Arts students at the Harper Campus hosted a canned food drive with all proceeds benefiting Loaves and Fishes.

Each department at the Harris Campus competed to collect canned food items. The 2015 goal was to raise 1,100 items in order to beat the 900 item goal of 2014, but they far surpassed their goal by collecting more than 1,300 items.

The Levine Campus hosted the Levine Harvest where poetry and short story readings were shared by CPCC faculty, staff and students. Student’s CanSculptures, created using cans collected by students in the ACA, English and Humanities Division, were on display as well. All donated canned good items from the CanSculptures went to the Matthews HELP Center. The Levine Rotaract Club also hosted a toiletry drive with all donations going to Essentials Ministries.

The Rotaract Club at the Merancas Campus made sandwiches for Urban Ministries Charlotte, an organization with the mission to end homelessness in the Charlotte community.
SERVICE-LEARNING PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Blood Drives

Several blood drives were hosted at CPCC’s Central, Cato, Merancas, Levine, Harris and Harper campuses through a partnership with Student Life. CPCC welcomes and encourages all faculty, staff and students to participate by donating blood that stays in Charlotte-Mecklenburg and helps save local lives. Six-hundred and seven units of blood were collected and hundreds of volunteer hours were given in support of the American Red Cross and the Community Blood Center of the Carolinas in 2015-2016.

Poverty Simulations

Poverty simulations give a perspective of families who live in poverty attempting to balance communication, critical thinking, personal growth and responsibility all while living in an environment with various daily life stressors. After the simulation, there is a powerful debrief and discussion about what participants experienced. A poverty simulation was held at the Levine Campus in fall 2015, one was held at the Cato Campus in spring 2016 for the first time and one was held at the Harris Campus in both fall 2015 and spring 2016.

2016 Project Life Movement

The Project Life Movement, a campus-based, national marrow donor organization, is dedicated to saving lives and curing cancer and other diseases by identifying and registering volunteers for marrow and tissue donation.

In 1987, a federal mandate created the National Marrow Donor Program. The program has a simple goal: connect volunteer donors with patients whose only chance for a cure is a bone marrow transplant.

The Cytotechnology Student Association, Medical Assisting, Nursing, Health Careers, the Student Government Association, CPCC Rotaract Clubs and Phi Theta Kappa Honorary Fraternity partner with Service-Learning and Student Life every year to support this initiative.

The 2016 goal to add 800 potential new donors to the National Bone Marrow Registry List was tackled head on with at least one Project Life drive at each of CPCC’s six campuses and the college’s City View Center. These drives included a drive-thru swabbing event at the Central Campus. This event allows potential donors to pull into the front of the Overcash building and complete the registration process without even leaving the car!

After the culmination of the drives and events, 773 potential new donors were added to the National Bone Marrow Registry List in 2016.

Community Partner Workshop Series

The Service-Learning department hosted three, free workshops for Service-Learning community partners in spring 2016. These workshops were developed to address topics community partners wished to learn more about and as another way to help community partners build capacity.

The three different workshops hosted in spring 2016 were program assessment, introduction to grant writing and social media.

Mary Margaret Kantor, director of learning outcomes assessment at CPCC, facilitated the first workshop about program assessment. At this workshop, participants learned about outcome statements and how to use data gathered to further their organizations.

Jennifer Nelson, development director at KIPP Charlotte, was the facilitator for the grant writing workshop where she shared best practices of writing and researching grants.

The last workshop focused on social media and reaching a basic understanding of each different social media program. Brigitte Acosta, from SHARE Charlotte, presented on how to effectively use different social media sites and how they can benefit organizations.
STUDENT ORGANIZATION & CLUB SERVICE PROJECTS

Student organizations and clubs at CPCC are very active in service opportunities throughout the year. Student organizations utilize service opportunities as an opportunity to build relationships and connections within their group, network with local agencies and to gain a deeper understanding of the issues impacting the local community. The following represents some of the projects that CPCC student organizations and clubs completed in the 2015-2016 academic year:

IT-ology and STARS Club

In partnership with IT-ology, a non-profit collaboration of businesses, academic institutions and other organizations, CPCC STARS club participated in computing outreach through a monthly Cyber Saturday Program. Cyber Saturday, either hosted on CPCC’s campus or alongside area events, targets middle and high school students. The sessions were designed to provide fun and engaging opportunities to learn about computing. CPCC STARS students assisted with sessions lead by area IT industry professionals, and led several sessions of their own. Impact was measured through pre and post surveys. The Cyber Saturday Program was a big success. Both college and K-12 students loved learning and working with new technology. The program was also a great way for CPCC STARS students to network with area industry IT professionals.

HOSA and MedAssist

Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) is a student club primarily for students who are in CPCC’s allied health programs, but it is open to any student who is interested in participating. The main focus of this organization is community service, and through the HOSA club and students from CPCC’s Medical Assisting, Medical Laboratory Technology, Pharmacy Technology and Ophthalmic Medical Assistant programs, support has been provided to numerous nonprofit organizations including North Carolina MedAssist, which was led by the Pharmacy Technology students.

North Carolina MedAssist is a non-profit pharmacy program that provides free medication to low income, uninsured and underinsured individuals. Each month they host an over-the-counter (OTC) giveaway day, and in the spring of 2016 they partnered with CPCC’s HOSA to provide this service to CPCC students and the community at large. The OTC Medicine Program provides adults and children who are low-income with free OTC medicine. On the day of the event, students from the various disciplines within the Health Careers program came together to serve 407 Mecklenburg County residents and log more than 220 volunteer hours.

CPCC Rotaract: Levine and Cato Campuses

The Levine and Cato Campus Rotaract Clubs were created in the fall of 2015. Fall semester was focused on member recruitment and development of a Rotaract Executive Board at the respective campuses. During its first semester, the Levine Rotaract completed two service projects. The club hosted a week long bake sale to raise money to purchase more than $200 worth of toiletry items for Essentials for Life Ministries. and also collected more than 50 contributions for Toys for Tots and Bright Blessings.

The Cato Rotaract Club participated in the Girl Scouts, Hornets’ Nest Council Cardboard Campout Event which promotes awareness of homelessness. The Cato Rotaract also participated in a Privilege Walk with the Girl Scouts and joined in several of the service projects organized by the Central Campus Rotaract Club.
STUDENT ORGANIZATION & CLUB SERVICE PROJECTS

CPCC Rotaract: Merancas Campus

The Rotaract Club at Merancas Campus had a very active 2015-2016 academic year serving their local community, networking with professionals and nonprofits and gaining leadership skills through their civic engagement. Some of the projects that they have participated in have included United Way’s Day of Caring by landscaping and painting Cornelius Elementary School, raising $137.22 from a bake sale to donate to the Dr. Lilli K. Johnson golf tournament, volunteering at the BeTheMatch 5K, cleaning Verhoeuff Road for Adopt-A-Highway each quarter and raising $94.50 from a bake sale to fill shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child.

Merancas Campus Rotaractors also raised money for Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation from a Pumpkin Smash, made sandwiches for Urban Ministries Charlotte, collected gifts for Toys for Tots, collected clothes and blankets for Crisis Assistance Ministries, made Valentine’s cards for women at Cabarrus Victims Assistance Network, sold candy grams to raise $29 for the American Heart Association, donated baked goods for the SGA lunch and learn, made Mother’s Day cards for Grief Haven and raised $332.50 for Relay for Life.

CPCC Rotaract: Central Campus

Central Campus Rotaract participated in a variety of service projects during the academic year which include helping Charlotte North Rotary with their annual street clean-up in University City on Tryon Road, participating in the annual Day of Caring for United Way, helping at the Carolina Raptor Center with cleaning and building of items that are used to help educate visitors, monthly assistance with the W. G. Byers Backpack program with Second Harvest Food bank to help local elementary school families get access to food, serving at the Halloween Ghost Walk at the Latta Plantation as tour guides and ghosts and ghouls that helped in raising money for the historic site and donating and recruiting hundreds of contributions for Toys for Tots and Birthday Blessings.

Central Rotaractors also staffed and assisted with games and presents at the annual Morning with Santa event for CPCC Classified Staff and the community, organized and assisted with all eight CPCC Project Life Bone Marrow Swabbing Drives, helped with the Novant Health Thanksgiving Day Parade in uptown Charlotte, partnered with Phi Theta Kappa and MAN UP at the Second Harvest Food Bank warehouse to sort canned food items to share with those in need, supported and assisted at the annual CPCC Skyline Run to help raise funds for student scholarships and raised over $300 in bake sale fundraisers on campus and with Rotary North to support an end-of-the-year party for all CPCC Rotaract Clubs and purchase t-shirts for all CPCC Rotaract members.

Phi Theta Kappa

Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) is an international honor society that recognizes high academic achievement and encourages scholarship while fostering a commitment to service for the college and the community. One of PTK’s four hallmarks is service both on campus and within the local community. PTK members accumulated more than 472 hours of service as a student organization. Some of their involvements have included: passing out race packets to participants in the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure to support breast cancer research, partnering with Classroom Central in support of area teachers and collecting more than 15 bags of trash during fall and spring street clean-up along Elizabeth Avenue.

Members had the pleasure of putting on a carnival at Alexander Youth Network in November 2015, collecting toys and gifts through the Toys For Tots program. In the spring, the club was able to sort, prepare and box more than 250 pairs of shoes for Samaritan’s Feet. They also visited Sow Much Good, which grows fresh fruits and vegetables for under-served neighborhoods. The school year ended with participation in the annual Skyline Run event that raises money for student scholarships at CPCC.
SERVICE-LEARNING AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

2015 Larry M. Harding Award Recipient

The Larry M. Harding Award recognizes a CPCC employee who best exemplifies excellence as an educator and who has rendered outstanding service to the community.

Dena Shonts, associate dean of Student Engagement, states that the 2015 award recipient, Dr. Mary-Margaret Kantor, "is a hard-working, dedicated educator deserving of this esteemed award. She exemplifies commitment and excellent service in all she does. She is an expert in teaching and learning strategies, student engagement and authentic assessment. Dr. Kantor serves both her colleagues and students in the CPCC community as a collaborative partner, a mentor and a devoted instructor. She is also active in the Charlotte community supporting secondary education initiatives, theater and the arts, and the Jewish community.

If anyone is deserving of this award, it is Dr. Kantor. Her tireless efforts, willingness to serve and assist, and exceptional quality of work is what makes her so special."

2016 Service-Learning Faculty of the Year Award Recipient

Dr. Lisa Godwin works in the Early Childhood Education (ECE) department that requires a service-learning component for all students. She encourages her students to be involved and active in the community through service, and in the past two years her students have accumulated more than 200 hours of service.

Dr. Godwin also created a new program for students to become more involved in service-learning opportunities. This event is known as the ECE Night of Service. It gives students the opportunity to learn about and create items to support community partners including the Linus Project, World Mission Go, ImaginON, Sole Hope, Bright Blessings and SMART Start.

The service-learning staff members are lucky to have Dr. Godwin as part of its service-learning team, and it looks forward to working with her in the years to come.
2015-2016 TOP 10 NON-PROFIT AGENCIES

The following ten non-profit agencies had the most CPCC service-learning student participation for the 2015-2016 academic year:

2015-2016 SERVICE-LEARNING INSTRUCTORS

Central Piedmont Community College is an innovative and comprehensive college that advances the life-long educational development of students consistent with their needs, interests and abilities while strengthening the economic, social and cultural life of its diverse community.

The College accomplishes this purpose by providing high-quality, flexible, pre-baccalaureate and career-focused educational programs and services that are academically, geographically and financially accessible. This purpose requires a fundamental commitment to students success through teaching and learning excellence within a supportive environment.

The College is the country's premier workforce development resource, offering its educational services throughout the area. Currently, CPCC is embarking on additional capital improvements and expansion to serve a growing region.

Dr. Tony Zeiss, CPCC's third president, has led the College since December 19992. He is devoted to the mission of CPCC and to serving students and the community through customized training and workforce development.