Benefits of Service Learning to our students and to our communities

* Service learning builds academic skills and connects classroom lessons with service to the community.

* Service learning allows students to develop valuable skills, expand their world views, and become active participants in community and civic life.

* Students make connections by applying what they learn with real world applications.

* Students participate in “structured reflection” about their field experience and how it relates to the course curriculum.

* Effective partnerships are designed to meet the academic needs of students whose addressing community needs of partner agencies.

“Our jobs are to help transform the community, and in return, we are supposed to be transformed, and I think both of these things have happened.”

-President Willie Hagan as he accepted the 2014 President’s Higher Education Award for Community Service on behalf of California State University, Dominguez Hills

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Our Mission
The CSUDH Center for Service Learning, Internships & Civic Engagement (SLICE) is committed to facilitating and fostering quality experiential learning opportunities for students. We support the development of symbiotic relationships among campus, local communities in the Greater Los Angeles/South Bay areas, and global neighbors of the world community. SLICE advocates campus contributions of knowledge and skills which promote the quality of life in these communities. We support high impact practices for student success including experiential learning and community based research. Our work upholds the University Mission in its commitment to “excellence and pluralism in higher education and to further the goals of a democratic society through wide participation and civic responsibility in community, social, and economic affairs.”

Faculty
We offer the following to assist faculty who plan to incorporate service learning into one or more of their courses:
* Curriculum Development
* Assistance with Service Learning, Internships, and Community Engagement
* S4 Training for tracking and assessing student internship and service learning hours
* Resources: books, DVDs, class presentations, workshops, and personalized assistance

Students
As proven effective high impact practices, service learning and internship experiences, particularly for our students, have the potential to raise the level of student success, retention, and graduation rates at our university. The SLICE office offers assistance in finding academic bearing internships, volunteer opportunities, and civic engagement projects.

“Jumpstart has impacted me by making me more aware of the inequalities in the education system, the importance of giving back to impoverished neighborhoods and aid in the efforts to close the education gap. Jumpstart has inspired me in so many ways that I find myself continuously trying to improve myself so I can better assist the students.”
Cristo Molavy, CM

Community Partners
As a higher education institution, we want to develop, promote, and enhance internship/volunteer opportunities for our students. We strive for mutually beneficial relationships with our surrounding communities.

We partner with diverse organizations to serve the community while integrating course disciplines to the service.

You may visit our website at csudh.edu/slice or the SLICE office at SCC 300 to get more information about our community partners.

Programs
SLICE houses two AmeriCorps programs and maintains a volunteer list for students interested in short and long term service.

Jumpstart for Young Children
Jumpstart is a full year commitment serving preschool children in various preschools in Compton, California that serves low income families. Students complete a minimum of 300 hours helping preschoolers develop essential language and literacy skills needed for school success. Upon completion, students receive an educational award to help pay for school related expenses.

JusticeCorps
Students get invaluable legal training and work experience while helping others. Students work under the supervision of court attorneys and provide assistance in California’s court-based Self-Help Centers. Students in this program help self represented litigants complete legal forms, provide referrals, and help with legal workshops.

Volunteer Opportunities
Check out the opportunities for you to make a difference in your own communities. Students can sign up to be a part of the SLICE volunteer list. Our office sends emails when volunteer opportunities are available. Short term and long term volunteer opportunities are offered.