



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



METHODIST UNIVERSITY

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“The journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.”

– Lao Tzu



For more information on the Center for Community Engagement, scan the code above.

 **METHODIST UNIVERSITY**

Engage. Enrich. Empower.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Engaging with the professional and volunteer community

Students who are involved in community-based projects are more marketable than the average job seeker. At Methodist University, we are preparing students to become life-long learners and solid professionals.

There are two parts to the concept of Community Engagement: problem-solving internships, available through the Office of Career Services, provide students with valuable real-world experience in the job market; and community-based internships, through the Center for Community Engagement, which give students opportunities to improve their local community in ways that extend beyond basic volunteerism.

Service and internship opportunities abound for MU students. These experiences help and improve the community, but the students also benefit by learning the value and beauty of service to others. Applying their classroom knowledge in these internships prepares them for a life of satisfying careers and civic involvement.

CENTER FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Methodist University has been actively involved in supporting the local community since it's founding in 1957. Since 2012, this initiative has become more intentional through the creation of the Center for Community Engagement.

Problem-based internships involve individual students gaining real world experience in the job market. Students apply their classroom knowledge and engage in experiences that prepare them for life-long careers. Community-based internships involve teams of students solving real world problems. For example, Methodist University students coordinated a feeding project for a local nonprofit organization, Operation Inasmuch. Students also utilized their marketing skills to raise funds to support homeless assistance in the Fayetteville area. The impact beyond Methodist has been observed by our community partners.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

The Center for Community Engagement partners with a variety of local organizations to serve the local community.

- ◆ American Red Cross
- ◆ American Red Cross Community Engagement Club
- ◆ Cape Fear Botanical Garden
- ◆ Cape Fear Regional Theatre
- ◆ Cape Fear Valley Health System
- ◆ Child Advocacy Center
- ◆ Cumberland Community Foundation
- ◆ Cumberland County Dept. of Public Health
- ◆ Cumberland County Partnership for Children
- ◆ Family Promise
- ◆ Fayetteville Animal Protection Society
- ◆ Fayetteville Rotary Club
- ◆ Fayetteville Area Convention & Visitors Bureau
- ◆ Fayetteville Regional Chamber of Commerce
- ◆ New Member Orientation
- ◆ Young Professionals
- ◆ Fayetteville Urban Ministry
- ◆ Habitat for Humanity
- ◆ North Carolina Campus Compact
- ◆ NC Veterans Nursing Home
- ◆ Operation Inasmuch
- ◆ Pine Forest High School
- ◆ Rape Crisis Center
- ◆ Salvation Army
- ◆ Second Harvest Food Bank
- ◆ Sullivan Foundation Service
- ◆ SENC Radio Reading Service
- ◆ Sustainable Sandhills
- ◆ The Arts Council
- ◆ The Designing Station
- ◆ Whispering Pines Nursing Home



STEP 1: COMMUNITY SERVICE

Participate in the Community Engagement Day at Methodist University. Paint a room. Plant a community garden. Meet new friends while working in the community. See how personally rewarding it is to help others. Start seeing the connections between community service and your academic interests.

STEP 2: CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Volunteer at a local community organization. Spend spring break serving in a different community or abroad. Apply what you are learning across the country or around the world.

STEP 3: CIVIC LEADERSHIP

Work with an advisor on a community-based research project. Volunteer as a board member in a community organization. Discover how to pursue your ideas and interests while leading others toward a common goal.

STEP 4: ENGAGED CITIZENSHIP

Lead change. Rally for a cause. Become an activist. Join AmeriCorps. Vote. Get involved in government. Be a mentor. Determine what needs to be accomplished and then do it. Find your place in the world – as a citizen, humanitarian, and leader.



VOLUNTEER AND SERVICE PROJECTS

The Center for Community Engagement is committed to helping students find the volunteer opportunities and service projects for them. By engaging in service opportunities, MU students grow personally and become more well-rounded adults who keep their community's best interest in mind.