**Keyed-In November 2011**

*The Monthly Newsletter of the Key Center for Community Citizenship and Service Learning.*

Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In this issue:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community Engaged Scholar Information Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poverty and Social Justice in Appalachia: Alternative Spring Break Trip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service-Learning Designated Courses (Spring 2012)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Events for Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Get Involved: Advocacy/Awareness Building/Service Internship/Award/Job Opportunities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Last Word: Facts on Hunger and Homelessness in Asheville and Buncombe County</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Community Engaged Scholar Information Session**

**Thursday, November 17th at 12:30 PM in Highsmith Union 222**

Come find out more details about this brand new program!

Successfully completing two Service-Learning Designated Courses and completing a Public Service project during your time at UNCA will allow you to graduate with the new academic honor of **Community Engaged Scholar**. For more information, check out the [Key Center website](#). You are welcome to stop by the Key Center anytime with questions.

Note: Let us know if you can’t make this session ([keyctr@unca.edu](mailto:keyctr@unca.edu)) and we will find a time for a second session in December.
If you already have an idea for a Public Service Project, email us at keyctr@unca.edu so that we can discuss your project idea with you.

**Alternative Spring Break: Poverty and Social Justice in Appalachia**

Are you interested in fighting poverty and doing social justice work? Want to spend your Spring Break somewhere besides the beach? Apply to join this group of students who are headed to Kentucky to do service work with Appalachia Service Project (www.asphome.org). This trip will have a strong emphasis on learning about issues of poverty and social justice in Appalachia. Interested? Contact Flannery Pearson-Clarke (fmpearso@unca.edu).

**Applications are due by November 22nd**

...and you can find one here.

According to Appalachia Service Project, for the population the program serves: poverty is more than double the national average and one in four lives below the poverty level. 62,500 homes are substandard, and nearly half of the families have annual household incomes below $20,000.

The need is so great, Appalachia Service Project is only able to help one in ten families who apply for help. The more people who volunteer, the more families they can help. Apply to serve with Appalachia Service Project now through the Alternative Break program!

Read testimonials about Alternative Break Programs: http://www.asbuic.org/testimonials

**Announcing the Student Leadership Board**

Congratulations to Yaw Amanfoh, Audrey Bolick, Keith Brannum, Katie Combs, Kyla Fallon, Katie Pindell, Michael Sokoletsky, Richard Stanley, Katie Taverner, and Maria Vicente, who have been selected to serve on the Student Leadership Board! These students will be exercising their individual leadership abilities through working as a group to examine how student-led service and service-learning offices work around the country, and, based on their findings, will potentially create a proposal for a student-led model at UNCA.

**Spring Semester Service-Learning Designated Courses**
Here are the Service-Learning Designated Courses coming online this Spring! Courses that have the official service-learning designation (and therefore would count toward you graduating as a Community Engaged Scholar) will be marked with an SL notation in the online registration.

------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
ARTS 310 (Kloeppel) Arts and Ideas
EDUCATION 314 (Rupert) Teaching Reading and Writing in the Content Areas
POLITICAL SCIENCE 374 (Betsalel) ReStorying Community
PSYCHOLOGY 342 (Berryhill) Community Psychology
SPANISH 110 (Bailey) Elementary Spanish (Note: Only 1 of the 2 sections offered by Professor Bailey will be Service Learning Designated; make sure to check for the “SL” notation when you register.)
SPANISH 300 (Bettencourt) Oral Skills
HONORS 479 (Hobby) Liberal Studies Senior Colloquium

As registration draws near, make sure to check out the Key Center website for the most up to date information. There are a few more courses that will be added as Service-Learning Designated in the next month.

Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week
November 12th-19th 2011

“50.1 percent of students within Buncombe County School System were enrolled in the free and reduced lunch program during the 2009-2010 school year, up from 46.7 the previous year.” - The Future of Food in Asheville & Buncombe County, http://ashevillefoodsecurity.wordpress.com/about/.

UNCA and COMMUNITY EVENTS

“The Invisible Ones… is a remarkable production on the plight of homeless veterans in America today. Shocking statistics reveal the high percentage of those with post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) who are homeless and without adequate support. A must see for all compassionate people who are driven to help stop the inhumane (mis)treatment of our veterans.”

- http://www.theinvisibleones.org/invisible_ones_testimonials.html

Co-sponsored by Student Veterans Programs and the Key Center.

Wednesday 11/16: 7:30 PM Screening of “Harvest of Dignity” in Highsmith Room 104.

This film reveals the appalling living situations, child labor conditions, and food insecurity experienced by migrant agricultural workers in North Carolina.

Co-sponsored by HOLA and the Key Center.

Beginning 11/12: Holiday “Rise & Shine” Family Support and Food Drive

Donations will go to support the Emma Family Resource Center, which is a program through Children First/Communities in Schools.

**Items needed:** Healthy non-perishable food and snack items and personal care items. See flyers for more details coming soon. Cash donations will also be collected for purchasing needed items.

**Location of collection bins:** Karpen, Library, Highsmith, Dining Hall

Feel free to do your own collections within your student organization, class, or other group!

These items will go to benefit Emma Community families. This community has among the highest rates of poverty in Buncombe County, and 80% of kids at Emma Elementary are on free or reduced lunch.

For questions or to help out please contact Ciel Santos cesantos@email.unc.edu

Co-Sponsored by the Pharmacy School Students, Black Student Association, CRU, the Muslim Student Association, and the Key Center

11/17: Blanket Drive to Benefit ABCCM

Join Insurance Service of Asheville for our second annual Blanket Drive to benefit Asheville Buncombe Community Christian Ministries (ABCCM). Donate your new or gently used blankets to ABCCM's Crisis Ministry in the Insurance Service of Asheville parking lot at the corner of College and Charlotte streets the morning of Thursday, November 17th. Drive through, drop off your blanket and get some coffee and a treat!
“Approximately 2,000 people experience homelessness in Asheville and Buncombe County at some time during the course of each year. Thousands more live doubled-up in the homes of family and friends, or they are at imminent risk of homelessness, living in substandard or overcrowded housing they cannot afford.” - 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness, Asheville and Buncombe County. http://www.endhomelessness.org/content/article/detail/679

How to Get Involved

Getting Involved through Advocacy and Activism

****Asheville/Buncombe Food Policy Council: Next meeting is Saturday, November 18th from 4-6 PM in the Sherrill Center Room #417. Mark your calendar. There may also be a possibility of doing an internship with the Food Policy Council. Contact bvolz@unca.edu if you are interested. ****

RESULTS  Interested in advocacy work on issues of hunger, preventable disease, and other global issues of poverty? Consider getting involved with RESULTS, a national lobbying organization with a chapter right here in Asheville. (http://resultsasheville.wordpress.com/). Contact resultsasheville.gmail.com to get involved. Their next meeting is on November 12th. The National Website can be found at www.results.org.

Just Economics:  http://justeconomicswnc.org/ Just Economics of Western North Carolina (JE) is a regional, membership organization based in Asheville, NC. Their mission is to educate, advocate, and organize for a just and sustainable economy that works for all in Western North Carolina.

Building Awareness and Student Engagement


Organize a Hunger Banquet: The Key Center would be interested in co-sponsoring a Hunger Banquet with interested students or student groups. Find out more at http://actfast.oxfamamerica.org/index.php/events/banquet/. If you think you or your student organization would be interested in doing this kind of event, feel free to contact the Key Center keyctr@unca.edu.
Service Learning and Veterans? Too many Veterans, despite having done a great service for the United States, currently suffer from homelessness, mental illness, joblessness, food insecurity, and a host of other setbacks. There are 300+ homeless vets in Buncombe County. Veterans make up 10 to 20% of the local homeless population. The Key Center is currently exploring ways that we could begin to work with Veterans through Service Learning and other forms of engagement. If you are interested in being part of this effort or know professors who may want to be involved in creating a service-learning class that engages with Veterans or know a professor who would be interested in this project, contact bvolz@unca.edu.

Engagement through Service

Interfaith Service with a focus on Food Security: November 22nd from 6-9 PM. Interested in working side-by-side with people from different religious backgrounds doing meaningful service and engaging in interfaith dialogue? Contact Britta bvolz@unca.edu or Amarra aghani@unca.edu to get connected to this group of students from UNCA and Warren Wilson who are volunteering at Manna Food Bank.

Links to SOME local organizations you can do service with that work to combat hunger and homelessness:

- **Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project**: http://www.asapconnections.org/
- **Bountiful Cities** http://www.bountifulcitiesproject.org/
- **Women’s Wellbeing and Development Foundation** http://www.wwd-f.org/
- **Emma Family Resource Center** Click the link for more information on how to get involved: http://childrenfirstbc.org/index.php/programs/family-resource-center-at-emma/
- **Asheville Buncombe Community Christian Ministry (ABCCM)** http://www.abccm.org/
- **Manna Food Bank** http://mannafoodbank.org/
- **Homeward Bound** http://www.hbofa.org/about-homelessness/

Volunteering at the VA Hospital The VA is located on Tunnel Road serves many local Veterans, including a number of homeless Veterans. To get involved as a volunteer, you must commit to longer-term service. Volunteer trainings are held on the first Monday of the month. The next training is THIS Monday, November 7th. You can call Darleen Laughter at 298-7811 to get involved. Please let the Key Center know if you get involved with service at the VA.

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance The VITA program offers free tax help to people who cannot afford professional assistance. VITA volunteers help prepare basic tax returns for taxpayers with special needs, including persons with disabilities, those with a low to limited income, non-English speaking persons and elderly taxpayers. The IRS provides VITA training materials and instructors to train volunteers on federal income tax preparation. Volunteers may take part in various VITA program activities, such as

For a more complete list of opportunities to get involved, visit our website at [http://keycenter.unca.edu/service-learning-opportunities](http://keycenter.unca.edu/service-learning-opportunities). We are happy to meet with students one-on-one at the Key Center to discuss what kind of work with community organizations interests you.

If you prefer to operate in cyberspace, fill out our Find a Service Learning Opportunity Form on our website. You can also let us know about the work you are doing in our community by logging your service hours with us. If you know of a great organization or if you are doing work with a local organization, come tell us about it.

---

**Internship, Award, and Job Opportunities**

**Children First Advocacy Committee Internship Opportunity:** This awesome local internship for next semester would give you the opportunity to help craft and lead a campaign aimed at raising awareness among UNCA students about child poverty in Buncombe County. The need for action is urgent. More than 1 in 5 children in Buncombe County and 48% of children in Asheville City Schools live in poverty. Please feel free to contact Magan Thigpen (maganthigpen@gmail.com) anytime if you have any questions about this opportunity. Attached you will find a complete description of this position. Applications are due by November 11th.

**Washington D.C. Non-Profit Internship:** The 2012 Institute on Philanthropy and Voluntary Service held at Georgetown University is now accepting applications. This academic internship program provides students with the opportunity to gain hands-on experience in the nonprofit field, while living in the nation’s capital. Students who apply by the early deadline of December 2 to receive a 5% discount on their tuition balance. For questions contact Kristen Wright at 202.986.0384 or by email at kwright@tfas.org. Please let the Key Center know if you are considering applying.

**Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Internship:**
[http://www.asapconnections.org/volunteer.html](http://www.asapconnections.org/volunteer.html)  ASAP is currently accepting applications to our Growing Minds, Programming, and Research Fall Internships, which will run from early September to mid-December. We welcome applications from recent graduates, community members, and college students. To apply, please send a resume, cover letter, and two references to Anna Littman by August 5th. Click here for details or email anna@asapconnections.org
**Food Corps:** Through the hands and minds of young leaders, FoodCorps strives to give all youth an enduring relationship with healthy food. Get involved at [http://foodcorps.org/](http://foodcorps.org/). You can do a year of paid public service (and earn an AmeriCorps Education Award) or volunteer alongside a member.

**Nominate a Student for the 2012 President William Jefferson Clinton Hunger Leadership Award** This award, given annually, was established in 2009 to recognize a college or university student who has demonstrated outstanding leadership in the fight against hunger and a commitment to a life of service in the area of hunger, poverty reduction or related field. In order to qualify for the award, you must be an enrolled student at an accredited post-secondary institution, have demonstrated leadership in the fight against hunger, and show a commitment to a life of service in the areas of hunger, poverty reduction or related discipline. To apply, you must submit 3-5 minute video detailing your vision for a world without hunger as well as your efforts to provide leadership in this area by November 17, 2011 (more details available on the website).

If you know of a student who meets these criteria, please direct them to the Stop Hunger Now website for information on how they can apply for this award. Be sure to alert them to the application timeline and requirements: [http://www.stophungernow.org/site/PageServer?pagename=Clinton_Hunger_Leadership_Award&AddInterest=1021](http://www.stophungernow.org/site/PageServer?pagename=Clinton_Hunger_Leadership_Award&AddInterest=1021)

The award recipient will be honored at the Universities Fighting World Hunger Summit to be held in Honduras on March 2-4, 2012.

**AmeriCorps NCCC** Applications for Fall cycle (2012-2013) just opened in November 1st. The earlier you apply the better! Travel around the US with a team of 18-24 year olds engaging in service projects with a variety of organizations. Through this program you have the opportunity to gain extensive teamwork and leadership skills, as well as experience with a variety of non-profits and governmental organizations, and earn an education award of approximately $5,000 (which can be used to help pay off student loans). Come by the Key Center for more information and check out [http://www.americorps.gov/about/programs/nccc.asp](http://www.americorps.gov/about/programs/nccc.asp). To apply, set up an account at [https://my.americorps.gov/mp/login.do](https://my.americorps.gov/mp/login.do).

-------------------------------------

**The Last Word**

**Food Security and Hunger in Buncombe County and North Carolina:**

- Fourteen of Buncombe County’s fifteen ZIP codes contain a food outlet of some sort, yet **one out of every six people in Western North Carolina experiences food insecurity.**
- There was a **27 percent increase in county residents that receive food assistance**, up to 31,011, in 2010.
In July 2011, 5,522 people in Buncombe County were on WIC (Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children), up from 5,135 in May 2011.

North Carolina is ranked 11th for child food insecurity nationally.

Source: The Future of Food in Asheville & Buncombe County, http://ashevillefoodsecurity.wordpress.com/about/

More resources on Food Insecurity:

Community Food Security Coalition: http://www.foodsecurity.org/
Editorial from the Citizen Times: http://mannafoodbank.org/articles/asheville-citizen-times-editorial
Food Security in Western North Carolina: Getting to the Heart of the Issue: Service-Learning Video

Homelessness in Asheville and Nationally:

At the most recent count (2008), there were over 500 people who were homeless living in Asheville. Of these individuals, there were 58 children and 441 adults. Furthermore, of the individuals surveyed, 121 were veterans (over 20%), 181 were chronically homeless (over 30%), 158 suffered from mental illness and 124 from chronic substance abuse, and 45 were homeless after experiencing domestic violence.


Nationally:
There are 643,067 people experiencing homelessness on any given night in the United States.

17 percent of the homeless population is considered "chronically homeless," and 12 percent of the homeless population - 67,000 - are veterans.

Source: The National Coalition to End Homelessness http://www.endhomelessness.org/section/about_homelessness/snapshot_of_homelessness

Note that Asheville has a significantly higher rate of both homeless veterans and chronically homeless individuals than the national rate.

Also consider that any count of people experiencing homelessness is likely to be an underestimate.

More resources on homelessness:
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services: http://www.ncdhhs.gov/homeless/
Asheville Homeless Network: http://ashevillehomeless.org/resources.shtml
Homeward Bound http://www.hbofa.org/about-homelessness/

Want to get involved? Contact the Key Center and we can help get you started.

248 Highsmith Union
Email keyctr@unca.edu
Phone (828) 251-6400