In light of recent tragic events that took place in Boston, many people are searching for ways in which they can help. If you find yourself searching, here’s a list of resources for how you can help:

The American Red Cross has enough blood donations to care for victims in Boston but they are asking for help with future emergencies. Sign-up to donate.

The Boston Children’s hospital is seeking Lego Sets and Dr. Suess books.

Students at TUGG (Technology Underwriting Greater Good) are collaborating with the mayor’s office, Red Cross, and area hospitals to find the best places to distribute donations. Check out their fundraiser page.

Mayor Menino and Governor Patrick have formed The One Fund to help those most affected by Monday’s tragedy. Check it out here.

Students at Emerson have created a “Boston Strong” tee shirt, the cost of which will reportedly be donated to help victims. Get yours here.

If you’d like to make a more symbolic sign of solidarity, you can join the #RunChat call to wear Boston Marathon colors of blue and yellow when you go jogging this week.

If you have a suggestion that the Key Center missed, feel free to update us on our Facebook page.
Key Center Social Media

Want to stay connected with the Key Center beyond the Weekly Wednesday?

Well, thanks to our own Louise, you can now check out our blog space and our updated Facebook page. The Weekly Wednesday is posted on both as well as happenings in and around Asheville. Check us out!

Facebook

Lock and Key

Service Learning:

1) Community Engaged Scholars:

Public Service Project Workshops have concluded for the year.

Important Dates for Eligible Community Engaged Scholars:

- Revised Paper Due: **Monday, April 22nd.** Submit to keyctr@unca.edu.
- Approval of UNCA Public Service Project Form with signatures due to Key Center by **Monday, April 22nd.**
- Spring Symposium for Poster Presentation: **April 24th**

Applications for the Poster Presentation Symposium were due on March 18.
Service:

Short Term Opportunities

1) RiverLink

On Saturday, May 18 RiverLink and Asheville GreenWorks will host a Clean Streams Day for the Asheville area.

Volunteers can sign up individually or as groups. RiverLink will provide gloves, vests, waders, as well as bags for trash and recycling. Volunteers who can provide their own aquatic transportation (aka canoes and kayaks) are encouraged to help on Clean Streams Day.

The groups will meet independently along assigned sections of streams, roads, and rivers early that morning. The teams will tackle trash, tires and debris on foot and in boats at many locations across the watershed. There will be food and libations after clean-up.

2) West Asheville Carnival

The West Asheville Carnival will be held at Vance Elementary School on Saturday, April 20.

Vance is seeking volunteers to staff the carnival. Events that need to be staffed include, box office, bounce house, face painting, games, circus arts area, set-up and take-down. The Carnival lasts from 4 PM to 8 PM. Volunteers may take a two hour shift up to a four hour shift.

For more information contact Jordan Diamond at jordan.diamond@asheville.k12.nc.us.

3) Johnston Elementary School
Johnston Elementary will be hosting a Garden Workday on April 19.

The Workday will start at 12 pm and go until. Volunteers will be building garden beds and making labels.

4) Urban Trail Spring Cleaning

On Saturday, April 20 from 8:30 AM to 2 PM the Asheville Urban Trail will be cleaned up for the mounting tourist season.

Volunteers are needed to clean the plaques along the Asheville Urban Trail. Training for cleaning techniques will be held on Friday, April 19 from 4 PM to 5 PM.

For more information contact bpunsalan@ashevillenc.gov or 337.3724

Long Term Opportunities

1) Western Carolinians for Criminal Justice

The mission of WCCJ is to reduce recidivism among male and female offenders, as well as the necessity for their incarceration, by providing a comprehensive treatment alternative to prison. WCCJ offers two programs: Women at Risk and WCCJ Men's Program.

2) Loving Food Resources

The mission of Loving Food Resources, Inc. (LFR) is to help provide food; and health & personal care items to persons living with HIV/AIDS or persons receiving home hospice care.
LFR serves an average of 80 clients per week. From the earliest days when volunteers packed boxes of food for clients to pick up, now clients shop from shelves and coolers and select the food themselves. Food boxes average approximately 45 lbs per week.

LFR is seeking volunteers to staff the operating hours of the pantry each Saturday, shopping at MANNA on Tuesdays and transporting food to the pantry, and driving clients home after after shopping on Saturdays.

For more information go [here](#).

### 3) Carolina Mountain Land Conservancy

CMLC is a local nonprofit organization creating a regional network of permanently protected farm, forest, and natural land.

CMLC is seeking volunteers for special events, administrative help, educational outreach, stewardship, and photography.

For more information go [here](#).

### Community Engagement

#### 1) Business and Economics in Costa Rica

On Tuesday, April 23 from 5 pm to 6 pm in the Laurel Forum the Management 273 course and the Spanish 473 course. The 14 students who are currently enrolled in the Management 273 course and the Spanish 473 course entitled "Business and Economics in Costa Rica" and who, as a required part of both courses, spent spring break in Costa Rica, will be presenting the findings from their final project.

In collaboration with a local, private business, Dynamite Coffee Roasting Company (in Black Mountain) and a 5-family, organic coffee cooperative in Costa Rica, they developed a project based on needs of both companies. One of the owners of Dynamite Coffee Roasting
Company, Andy Gibbon, will be at the presentation to provide fresh coffee that came from the cooperative in Costa Rica, but that he roasted here. Costa Rican cookies too!

**2) The Gatekeepers**

On Thursday, April 18 at 7 PM a film screening of the Gatekeepers will be held in Alumni Hall.

The Gatekeepers is a documentary about the Shin-Bet from six former heads of Israel’s Secret Internal Security Service.

After the conclusion of the film there will be a discussion on the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict.

**3) Recovery Connections Community**

Recovery Connections Community is a recovery support service provider that offers various levels of opportunity to persons with substance use disorders and process addictions. The program emphasis is on building community, rebuilding healthy relationships, developing a strong sense of self, productive habits, and a foundation of life skills to promote long lasting recovery.

Recovery Connections Community is seeking donations for their garden. The community is trying to start a garden so that residents may grow food and be caretakers of plants.

For more information contact Kelly at **828-669-0560**

**4) The Grapes of Wrath**

The Classic Steinbeck novel, *Grapes of Wrath*, will be performed on stage at the Asheville Community Theatre April 12th -28th.

MANNA will benefit through a food drive, and a portion of ticket proceeds. Unfortunately, some of the themes of the play about Americans struggling to survive are becoming more and more familiar today.
5) Firestorm

On Saturday, April 20 Barbara Morrison will present her memoir *Innocent: Confessions of a Welfare Mother* at Firestorm cafe.

She will begin at 2 PM and will have a question and answer session.

On Monday, April 22 at 7 PM Imogen Binnie will present her novel *Nevada* and local transgender writers will share their work.

To see all of the Key Center’s service opportunities go [here](#).