

# University Service Learning

SPRING 2012 NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Michelle Murphy's Accounting Skills Support Paths of HOPE Program at Catholic Charities
- Chelsie Hancock Nominated for Faculty Women's Association Award
- ASU Snags Another President's Community Service Award
- Alternative Spring Break Trip Sparks Change in ASU Students
- Mentor Camille Waseta Wows Future for KIDS Staff and Kids
- USL Quick Facts
- 2nd Annual Mark Haugland Day of Service a Success
- Thank You to Our Donors & Community Partners

## Michelle Murphy Brings ASU Accounting Expertise to EmpowerU

EmpowerU (formerly Paths of HOPE) is a Catholic Charities volunteer-facilitated program that helps motivated individuals and families get out of poverty forever. We provide a continuum of services to help participants achieve long-term prosperity. The mission of Catholic Charities is to help our community's most vulnerable with solutions that permanently improve lives.

In Fall 2011, EmpowerU had the pleasure of hosting Michelle Murphy as a Service Learning intern. During her five months of volunteer service, Michelle served as a Financial Education instructor, trainer, facilitator for our *Getting Ahead* course, and one-on-one mentor with participants. She would utilize examples from her Accounting classes at ASU to make abstract concepts such as compound interest easy to understand, and her knowledge of curriculum topics like budgeting, economic class and resource building, credit and investments proved to be invaluable to the program.



Michelle Murphy serving as financial education instructor.

As a mentor, Michelle often took time to speak with participants one on one prior to or after class to offer advice on everything from credit scores to employment opportunities. Her enthusiasm translated into a creative and approachable teaching style. Participants were able to flourish in her classes due to her genuine desire to see them succeed.

Michelle's service was a great benefit to our program, its mission, and our community. Through her work, we were able to staff our various finance classes and expand other finance programs. Thank you to Michelle for her hard work!

## Chelsie Hancock Nominated for Distinguished Graduate Student Award

America Reads Management Intern Chelsie Hancock was recently nominated for the ASU Faculty Women's Association 2012 Distinguished Graduate Student Award. The awards recognize Doctoral and Master's degree candidates who have distinguished themselves through exceptional scholarship, research, creative activities, and noteworthy performance in leadership and service.

Chelsie serves as manager for the America Reads Tutoring Program, working with The Salvation Army Phoenix Citadel Corp and several schools within the Phoenix Elementary School District. One of her outstanding contributions to the America Reads program has been creating the curriculum for the new Boys Mentoring Program, which includes college and career exploration, self-esteem, cultural awareness, public speaking and conflict management. The program itself is very popular among the boys themselves, as well as their parents, who have seen improvement in their children in regard to behavior and responsibility. Chelsie's prototype for the mentoring program has been used to expand this program to include middle school girls with a different partnership with The Salvation Army Kroc Community Center in South Phoenix.



Chelsie Hancock of America Reads

In addition to managing America Reads, Chelsie has also assisted USL courses as a grader, and served on the first leadership team that helped create and develop Changemaker Central, ASU's new student-run hub for social embeddedness, service, service learning, and high impact careers.

*“Once there is seeing, there must be acting. Otherwise, what is the use of seeing?”*  
*-Thich Nhat Hanh, Vietnamese Zen Master and author of Peace is Every Step*

## ASU Boys Mentoring Program Highlighted in Community Service Honor Roll Award

Arizona State University was named once again to the 2011 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll by the Corporation for National and Community Service. Service Learning was a prominent feature of the application, including a highlight of the ASU Boys Mentoring Program. The program aims to improve academic achievement, self-esteem social competence and avoidance of problem behavior for young men (middle school-aged) who live in distressed communities by providing a relationship with an ASU student who works to help youth achieve their potential.

In 2011-2012, 422 students in USL hours of service, while 371 Ameri- over 19,000 hours in metro Phoe- recognizes higher education institu- plary community service and achieve meaningful outcomes in their communities. Selection to the Honor Roll is recognition from the highest levels of the federal government of the commitment to service and civic engagement on our campus and in our nation.



courses completed over 35,000 ca Reads student tutors served nix communities. The Honor Roll tions that reflect the values of exem- plary community service and achieve meaningful outcomes in their communities. Selection to the Honor Roll is recognition from the highest levels of the federal government of the commitment to service and civic engagement on our campus and in our nation.

Congratulations to ASU and to all the students who serve our community!

## United Way's Alternative Spring Break Creates New Paths for ASU Students

Student United Way at ASU sponsored three ASU students to spend their Spring Break in Tucson lending a helping hand at the Boys & Girls Club for United Way's Alternative Spring Break (ASB) 2012. As part of their service project, the students worked as mentors and tutors, developed and implemented enriching curriculum in a variety of programming areas, and increased the capacity of community-based agencies throughout Tucson.



**Stefanie Taylor and Kelsey Nelson get their hands dirty for local Tucson organizations at United Way's Alternative Spring Break 2012.**

After working with one little girl in particular, ASU student Kelsey Nelson decided to take on a double major in Psychology and Early Childhood Education, and added a minor in Speech and Hearing. "I worked with a girl named Ariana who is deaf. I had never worked with someone who was deaf before but I was able to catch on a little bit when she would sign things to me and it was so interesting." After her experience with Ariana, Kelsey is considering working in an elementary school for the deaf. "I've been a babysitter before, but after being with kids all day, every day during the week, I realized I want to spend my career working with kids." Nelson plans to continue her volunteer work through taking USL courses in the next coming year.

Kelsey wasn't the only one who noted a change in herself from her ASB experience. "Usually I'm really shy, but our group bonded instantly," says Stefanie Taylor about the week with her fellow ASB-ers. "It's because I knew I was spending Spring Break with people who are volunteering, and it made me trust them more."

ASB was a success not only for the students, but for the new Student United Way at ASU. For their efforts in Tucson, the group was awarded the 2012 Student United Way Signature Program Award by United Way Worldwide.

## Future for KIDS Thankful for Mentors Like Camille Waseta

**FUTURE  
for KIDS**



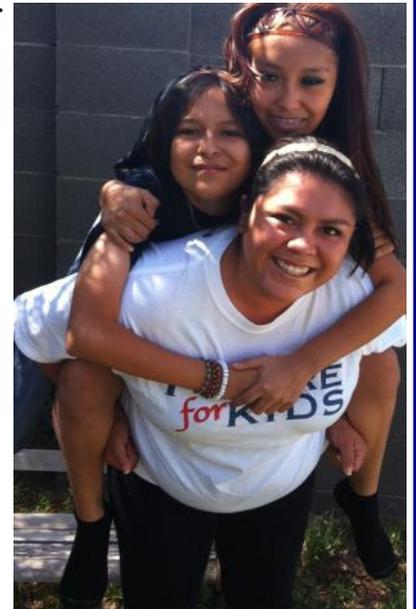
The mission of Future for KIDS is to provide at-risk youth education through mentorship and sports & fitness programs. Through academics, athletics and ethics, we build the tomorrows of our community's youngest and most vulnerable.

Each semester ASU USL students have contributed to Future for KIDS by working directly with at-risk children in our programs. We offer rewarding and fun volunteer opportunities for those interested working directly with youth in our "Discover Your Future" program! This after school enrichment program is delivered at 5 locations which serve at-risk children ages 6 to 12. Each week mentors spend 2 hours with kids. Mentors help with homework and teach & encourage them to be active and healthy.

The intent is to motivate youth to be healthy in mind and body, and to provide inspiration for success.

Last fall we were fortunate to have a USL intern involved with our organization. Camille Waseta generously chose to work with the youth at a Tempe school that specifically caters to students who are homeless and at a low income housing facility. Twice a week, Camille helped a small group of kids with homework, engaged them in meaningful discussion, and taught them new ways to be active and fit. Her commitment to these kids was phenomenal; she was a true mentor to the kids she saw on a weekly basis. Each week the kids looked forward to working with Camille and enjoyed hearing about her experiences and accomplishments at ASU. We are thankful to have ASU students like Camille who stand out as positive role models to children in need of caring adults in their lives.

Future for KIDS has an annual Youth Sports & Fitness Camp on June 9, 2012. This camp brings 300 at-risk children from across the valley to the ASU practice facility. Camp participants move through 12 fitness rotations and listen to motivational speakers who share their personal challenges and outcomes. You can give back to the community by volunteering at our camp this summer or in our program this fall. Contact Future for KIDS today to get more information!



USL intern Camille Waseta (bottom), pictured here with sisters Lindsay (top) and Savannah (middle). Waseta served her semester with Future 4 Kids.

## University Service Learning Quick Facts

**USL 210 / 410 / 402:** <http://servicelearning.asu.edu/courses>

Students learn about their community and the effects of social injustice through weekly seminars, coursework, and 70-100 hours of community service at an approved Title I school or community organization. Students address a broad range of needs including education, health care, immigration, social services, environmental concerns, poverty, homelessness, and much more.

**America Reads / Counts:** <http://americareads.asu.edu>

Offers paid positions to students receiving Federal Work Study aid. Students tutor and mentor children attending under-resourced schools in reading, writing, math, and other academic subjects.

**During Academic Year 2011-12, 422 students contributed 35,180 hours of community service while participating in University Service Learning programs.**

# America Reads Tutors Honor Mark Haugland with Day of Service at ASU's Largest-Ever Devils in Disguise



(Above) America Reads tutors sport the ASU pitchfork for a job well done

On Saturday, March 10th, America Reads tutors participated in Devils in Disguise for its 2nd Annual Mark Haugland Day of Service. Tutors cleaned the surrounding area of University Park in Downtown Phoenix. The group gathered 129 bags of trash in 2 hours in the surrounding area.

Mark Haugland is a former tutor who passed away on November 23, 2011. Because he was an alum of the program who highly valued education and learning, Mark's family asked his family and friends to give tributes to the America Reads program. The America Reads program has dedicated a day of service every Spring in Mark's memory.

Devils in Disguise is the largest ASU service project of the year, hosted by the ASU Community Service Coalition. Over 800 ASU students volunteered at 25 sites around the Valley as part of the 2012 Devils in Disguise. It was the largest Devils in Disguise event to date.



Joe Sweet gets down and dirty with the shovel



Tutors listen to the safety debriefing



Hilary Yastrum wades into the weeds



**THANK YOU!**

**Thank you to our fantastic Community Partners for hosting our students!**

**Thank you to our major donors:**

**Jim & JoAnn Armstrong**  
**Armstrong Family Foundation**  
**State Farm Insurance**

Find us on the web!  
[servicelearning.asu.edu](http://servicelearning.asu.edu)



“Like” us on Facebook! Search for “ASU University Service Learning”