

## Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service Campus Collaborative

This year marked the 17th annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service campus collaborative event. The partnership included United Way of Southeast Michigan, Henry Ford Community College, Lawrence Tech University, Madonna University, Oakland Community College, Oakland University, University of Michigan- Dearborn and Wayne State University. Over 500 volunteers served at 22 various agencies around Southeast Michigan.

Three campuses served as hubs for volunteers on the actual day of service: UM- Dearborn, Oakland Community College and Oakland University. At UM- Dearborn, volunteers participated in the kick-off ceremony and proceeded to serve around Southeast Michigan, finishing the day with reflection. Teams returned to UM- Dearborn for lunch, testimonials, prize raffles and performances. On Oakland University's campus, students participated in a full day of service and events. Students traveled to Grace Centers of Hope in Pontiac where they organized donations the organization had recently received. After serving, students returned to campus to listen to the annual "Keeper of the Dreams" speaker, featuring Susan L. Taylor, Editor Emeriti of Essence magazine and Founder of National Cares Mentoring Movement. During reflection, students were able to discuss service and how volunteerism builds communities. Lastly, the students brainstormed a variety of projects to tackle throughout the rest of the semester. At Oakland Community College, students volunteered around the Metro Detroit area.

Michigan Campus Compact AmeriCorps\*VISTAs were responsible for many aspects of the planning and implementation of this day of service. This included being present at all meetings, being involved in the decisions that were made, recruitment of student volunteers on their respective campuses.

**Evan Finley**

The University of Michigan-Dearborn



Evan Finley is from Farmington Hills, Michigan and graduated from Alma College with a degree in Political Science. Evan served two years as President of Alma College's Student Government, was a fellow of the Center for Responsible Leadership, and a member of the Sigma Chi Fraternity. He lead multiple service projects. Evan is currently serving The University of Michigan-Dearborn as the Michigan Campus Compact AmeriCorps\*VISTA working in the Student Activities Office. He works on major campus incentives around community service and civic engagement.

**Nicole Nagy**

Madonna University



Nicole Nagy is from Linden, Michigan and graduated from Saginaw Valley State University with a degree in Political Science and minor in Management. She was actively involved with her Residence Hall Association and Alternative Spring Breaks. Nicole is serving Madonna University as the MCC AmeriCorps\*VISTA, working in the Office of the First-Year Experience. She helps coordinate service learning projects for the freshman seminar courses offered at Madonna, and helps students get involved with various community service opportunities, centered on college access.

**Jessica Shaddawvine**

Lawrence Technological University



Jessica Shaddawvine is from Westland, MI and graduated from Oakland University in Rochester, MI. She received her Bachelor's Degree with a major in Communication and a focus on Urban Studies. Jessica has been passionate about service for the past seven years and has used that

**Tiffany Sims**

Oakland University



Tiffany Sims graduated from Eastern Michigan University with a degree in International Business. She was actively involved in the Alternative Breaks Program. Tiffany now serves Oakland University as a Michigan Campus Compact AmeriCorps\* VISTA, where she works with faculty to incorporate service

passion to gain a position as a Michigan Campus Compact AmeriCorps\*VISTA member serving at Lawrence Technological University in Southfield, MI. She coordinates, promotes, and hosts volunteer activities for the campus.

learning into new courses and collaborates with student organizations to get students involved in the local communities.

**Donna Marie Merogi - Oakland Community College**

Donna Marie Merogi lives in Farmington Hills, Michigan. She majored in Paralegal Studies at Oakland Community College. As an MCC AmeriCorps\*VISTA serving at Oakland Community College, she works with faculty, students and community partners in service projects. Donna oversees the Michigan Service Scholars Program, coordinates the bi-annual Volunteer Fairs and other special events, and develops and coordinates service learning and volunteer recruitment initiatives for all five OCC campuses. Her greatest job is being a mother to her daughter Margaret.

**Supervisor Notes:**

**Chris Benson, Associate Dean for Academic Advising and First-Year Experience at Madonna University:**

"Anytime you get this group of VISTAs together .... WATCH OUT! They are going to "get things done!"

**Kevin West, Director of the Office of Service Learning at Madonna University:** "We had the largest group of participants from Madonna ever this year for the MLK Day of Caring. That wouldn't have happened without Nicole's hard work and dedication. We are lucky to have her!"

**Melissa Grunow, Leadership Curriculum Coordinator in the Office of Leadership Programs at Lawrence Technological University:** "Lawrence Tech's participation numbers grew dramatically this year compared to last, in part because of Jessica Shaddawvine's efforts at mobilizing student volunteers on our campus. The students have come to know and appreciate Jessica's commitment to them and to service."

**Jonathan Larson, Program Supervisor at University of Michigan – Dearborn:** "With the assistance of our MCC AmeriCorps\*VISTA, Evan Finley, we were able to coordinate and implement a remarkable Day of Service. It was amazing to see the great work accomplished by the partner campuses and the United Way when we work collectively to engage our student populations."

**Chris Jensen, Assistant Director of Student Activities & Greek Life at Oakland University:** "Tiffany is committed to giving back and providing the resources for students to learn about service. Her approachability, sincerity, and well thought-out actions have earned her the respect of not only the students, but also her fellow professional colleagues. It is great to see Tiffany lead with her heart and have the action to go with it."