Critical Service-Learning Initiatives and Community Engagements

Purpose
This project engages local and national stakeholders in discussions on critical service-learning and community engagement initiatives. It promotes sustainable ways for public schools, universities, and communities to collaborate in centering student learning and pedagogical practices. The project sponsored a national service learning conference, advisory board meetings, research roundtables, and local philanthropy programs. Together, these events highlight the value of addressing student achievement and community needs across K-16 contexts.

Impact
A unique professional development partnership among the Columbus Education Association, Columbus City Schools, NEA, and Ohio State.

Through an Ohio State graduate course, we have trained over 80 CCS K-12 teachers across content areas to create and implement unique service-learning initiatives in classrooms and communities.

Over 6,000 students have participated in service learning experiences, many of whom have presented at national conferences, spoke to local audiences, developed grant writing skills, and engaged in student philanthropy.

Contact
Tamara Butler
Doctoral Candidate
College of Education and Human Ecology
School of Teaching and Learning
butler.472@osu.edu

Ohio State Colleges/Units Involved
College of Education and Human Ecology
Office of Diversity and Inclusion
Columbus City Schools
Columbus Education Association
National Education Association
NEA Foundation

Community Partners Involved
Saint Stephen’s Community House
Grange Insurance Audubon Center
Nationwide Children’s Hospital
Neighborhood House
Greater Linden Development Corporation
See Kids Dream/Penny Harvest
Columbus Zoo
Church of the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church
Northside Community Center