



Service for Social Action Center

Volume 3, Winter

January 2006

Service for Social Action Center
ASC 112C

Circle K Club

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A Word from the Director:

The efforts of so many students, faculty, staff, and administrators to live our mission of “service with and among others” during the fall semester have been truly amazing! A heartfelt thanks from the SSAC for your work! We look forward to featuring more of your service achievements in our 2006 newsletter.

Hope you had a happy and blessed holiday!

In 1936, Jay N. Emerson, a member of the Pullman Washington Kiwanis Club, presented a plan to his club proposing that it purchase a house that could be rented to young men in need of assistance while attending the local college. The plan became a reality as the Kiwanians established the “Circle K House” at Washington State College. Eleven years later in 1947, Donald T. Forsythe, Trustee of Kiwanis International, aided in transforming Circle K from a fraternity to a service-oriented organization. That year, the first Circle K Club similar to our present day organization, was chartered

at Carthage College in Carthage, Illinois.

Circle K is a collegiate-level, international youth service organization. On April 9, 1999 the first Circle K Club was founded at Wheeling Jesuit University by Greg Sheperd and several others. The club now has over 20 active members sponsoring Special Olympics, and other service projects including shoe boxes for Santa and Saturday Soups Kitchen Days.

For club members Circle K offers scholarships, leadership trainings, and the opportunity to become involved in national service projects. Circle K, similar

to many high school Key Clubs, is always looking for new members that feel a deep sense of commitment to serving the poor, oppressed, and vulnerable members of our community. (cont'd page 2)



“Culture of Service Day”

Last semester WJU students served enthusiastically in East Wheeling-based programs such as Laughlin Chapel, Agape Baptist Church, and the Catholic Neighborhood Center. On Saturday October 8th, 2005, our first “Culture of Service Day,” ten Wheeling Jesuit students and one administra-

tor pitched in to give this low-income, hard-working neighborhood a facelift. In chilly, rainy weather, the dedicated participants — members of the Justice and Peace in Our Time (JAPOT) Club, the Arrupe Scholarship Program, Circle K, and others — joined Hopeful Housing community organization

members James Tiu and Pam Wood for the clean up. Work teams spread throughout the 13th to 15th Street area with industrial sized garbage bags and bright orange gloves to rid streets of trash and debris.

Thanks to all who generously gave of their time for our “Culture of Service Day.”

In Gratitude to all who Embraced a "Culture of Service"

Over the course of last semester Wheeling Jesuit students, staff, and faculty participated in "Culture of Service Day," "Make a Difference Day," the "Boo at the Zoo" and Red Cross Blood drives. They donated money and supplies for hurricane Katrina relief, served meals at Sr. Constance's volunteer appreciation dinner, and walked in the American Heart Association's Heart Walk. An amazing group of our volunteers hosted the Disc Dance, an annual event for local developmentally challenged adults, held on campus.

Wheeling Jesuit students have tutored children at Laughlin Chapel, Agape Baptist After School Program,

Kidznet, and St. Alphonsos'. They have served meals at the Catholic Neighborhood Center and the Greater Wheeling Soup Kitchen. They made "bread runs" and deliveries to Meals on Wheels recipients. Generous students have spent hours being present with and among the sick at Wheeling Hospital, Bishop Hodges Continuous Care Center, and Wheeling Health Right. They mentor at-risk teens with Big Brothers Big Sisters, the Marshall County Youth Center, and HESS.

A few students that have become compassionate advocates for victims of domestic violence through their service at the YWCA and Women's Tri-County Help Center. Others loaded trucks

with Appalachian Outreach and served the elderly with Faith in Action Caregivers, and the Sisters of Saint Joseph. Dedicated crews are coordinating the Sunday School Program at St. John's and St. James Parish in Benwood and running their own Brownie troops.

In the spirit of Christmas students, staff and Faculty members donated Christmas presents to needy families through the Catholic Neighborhood Center, Crittendon House, and other programs. They volunteered to wrap presents at the YWCA.

While you are too numerous to name individually, we thank you for your generosity and kindness, and for living the Wheeling Jesuit University mission!

Circle K Club (Cont'd)

If you would you like to be part of a club that works with the homeless, the developmentally challenged, or the poor then contact the Service for Social Action Center (or the club president, senior Priya Arokiaswamy) to receive additional information about Wheeling Jesuit's Circle K Club or for information about other service oriented clubs.

If you're interested in helping with Circle K's major event, the Special Olympics, scheduled for Saturday April 29th, 2006, contact the SSAC for additional information. "Circle K is a great opportunity for students to get involved in an international service organization, which works to serve the disabled, poor, and disadvantaged." ~ Priya Arokiaswamy

Service for Social Action Center
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Circle K Club is looking for enthusiastic service oriented students to join!

Got Blood?? Then Donate on Feb. 13, 2006!

Wheeling Jesuit hosted an American Red Cross Blood Drive on November 21st, 2005. The Service for Social Action Center, in partnership with the Student Government Association, recruited over 60 donors and 12 volunteers for this event.

Thanks to all the students, staff, and faculty that generously donated blood or gave of their time.

The next Red Cross Blood drive is

scheduled for Monday, February 13th, 2006. Mark your calendar now!

If you haven't donated blood before, we encourage you to sign up for February's Blood Drive. Ask your friends to join you! It's not difficult and you could save a life!

For additional information contact Erin McDonald in the SSAC at extension 8728 or via email at emcdonald@wju.edu.



Hurricane Katrina Relief Trip

In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, ordinary people sprang into action—giving blood, donating resources from bottled water to money. Some even offered to house displaced families.

Now, three months later, the flood waters have receded and so has that deluge of compassion. Most emergency workers have left, donations have slowed, and many New Orleanians find that their flood insurance isn't being honored. The government isn't helping them much either. They are struggling to pick through the

rubble of their lives and in many cases, they are doing so alone.

Lots of people have forgot about the victims of hurricane Katrina, but not Wheeling Jesuit students! At the cost of "losing" a week of their Christmas break, a small but committed group of Wheeling Jesuit students drove to New Orleans to help people clear out and rebuild. They may have given up a week of hanging out with old friends and sleeping in, but they realized that to whom much is given, much is expected and when doing service, you gain more than you could ever give.

Watch for upcoming stories and personal testimonies of the 11 students and four staff that journeyed to New Orleans, LA on January 1st through the 8th, 2006.

The Service for Social Action Center is also planning an alternative spring break to New Orleans for Hurricane relief work. For more information, contact the SSAC at x8728 or email Susan Haarman at shaarman@wju.edu

*Written by: Susan Haarman
Mother Jones House Mentor*

New Prison Ministry Program

Are you a criminal justice major, theology major or seeking a degree in psychology? Need a New Year's resolution? How about committing to 2 hours of service a week? How about committing to one evening a week serving with incarcerated youth that need your guidance and support?

There's a new ministry starting at the Lincoln Detention Center in Wheeling. Mr. Chapin Engler, a seminarian in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston

is launching a youth ministry/mentoring program. He is looking for 10 Wheeling Jesuit students who are willing to get involved.

Meetings will be held every Thursday evening from 6-7:30pm at Lincoln Detention Center. Those who commit to the project will have the opportunity to work one-on-one with the incarcerated youths. Mr. Engler would like to meet with committed WJU students in advance to develop interesting and

challenging programs for the teenagers.

Interested? Give us a call at the SSAC — x8728 or via email at emcdonald@wju.edu to sign up. Kids out there who need your attention! Give of your time! Be a role model!

**Lincoln Detention
Center—Youth
Ministry/
Mentoring
program needs
WJU students!**

"My address is like my shoes. It travels with me. I abide where there is a fight against wrong." ~ Mother Jones

It's that time of the year again... You're coping with the papers; you're coping with the exams; you're coping with the residence hall rowdies; and your coping with another semester of Broom food. You feel pretty good about it the beginning of another semester but you wonder, "Isn't there more to the 'real world,' isn't there more to who I am than what I'm doing here?"

You bet there is! You don't have to put "real world" experiences or per-

sonal, spiritual growth on hold during your college years. You can follow in the steps of Bethany Beppler, Patrick Gallagher, Eric Roe, Jason Tuite, Daniel Ucheatu, Asher Zaccagnini, and the five Mother Jones House "classes" that preceded them. You can immerse yourself in the East Wheeling community where neighbors struggle to make ends meet even though jobs are scarce; where they are fighting battles against dilapidated housing, drug dealers, and homeless-

ness; and where, with your help, they are building a better life for the children born into these circumstances, for the men and women in need a free meal or need a hot meal, and for the elderly who benefit from access to medical care in area free and reduced-cost clinics.

Does it sound like too much to accomplish or absorb while being a student? Not so! Because you won't be in this alone. The Mother Jones House stu
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Service for Social Action Center

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We're on the Web!

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Wheeling Jesuit
University

SSAC Vision Statement:

To engage all Wheeling Jesuit University students, faculty and staff in diverse activities that contribute to positive social change and justice and that prepare them "for service with and among others" in Wheeling, Appalachia, the nation, and the world.



Mother Jones House (cont'd)

dents follow up their 10 hours of weekly service with House meetings, meals, and prayer. They share the ups and downs of their service. They examine how their experiences impact their faith. They learn how others have taken on the social service and social justice issues through history.

And they have fun like no other available on campus. Did you see *The Exorcist* in the dingy, dark basement of a 100-year-old house? MJH members did. Have you shared a dinner you prepared with the likes of Fr. Hacala, VP Birge, Dean Greco, or Dean Zook. The MJH members did. Do you have a baby Jesus pumpkin in front of your house (to celebrate both Halloween and Christmas simultaneously). I'm sure you know who does...

The Mother Jones House has always attracted students that work hard in their courses, take their community service seriously, and who learn to

have fun in both the "campus world" and "real world." And now, as four of the six plan for life after graduation, they can turn to five brothers and sisters and house mentor Susan Haarman to say, "What do you think of this plan?," "What on earth am I prepared to do?," or "This whole graduation thing is freaking me out!" These people know them. They know their per-



A new year...a new semester...What will
you do with your one precious life...

sonalities, the strengths of their character, and the depth of their faith. They want each other to succeed, and they know how to help each other.

So think about applying for the Mother Jones House. Think about what you want next year to be like. Think about the Mother Jones House as a place to live and grow next year. In January, the application forms will be everywhere — posted on the SSAC website, in the SSAC and Residential Life offices and on bulletin boards. The MJH members will be there, too, willing to talk with you, to show you the house, to help you decide if the "something else" that the Mother Jones House offers is what will make your 2006-2007 academic year an unforgettable one.

For info regarding the MJH contact
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