SEWANEE BONNER AND CANALE SERVICE SITES 2020–2021

ABBO'S ALLEY

Students working with Abbo's Alley work to restoring and maintain the on campus natural garden and trail through invasive plant management and manual labor.

BETTERFI

BetterFi is a 501(c)(3) financial non-profit operating out of Coalmont, TN that serves the South Cumberland Plateau. BetterFi provides financial coaching as well as an affordable alternative to costly predatory consumer loans that often entrap low-income individuals and families. Bonner interns will be able to work on identifying and establishing partnerships between BetterFi and regional organizations; become IRS tax certified to assist in free income tax filing for local residents in order to save local families hundreds of dollars that they would otherwise spend; and teach and manage financial literacy and career planning games and activities with local 8th graders via Junior Achievement.

BEERSHEBA SPRINGS MEDICAL CLINIC

Beersheba Springs Medical Clinic is a free medical clinic in Grundy County, TN that serves an annual 2,000 patients a year. Student volunteers partake in patient in-take, filing, organizing medical stocks, data tracking for the clinic, and can be trained to be Diabetes Educators for patients with diabetes. In addition to this, Bonner Leaders help with capacity building projects, such as running the Patient Assistance Program and getting volunteers for the new building renovation (which will one day become a dentistry office).

BLUE MONARCH

Blue Monarch is a residential recovery program for women and their children that aims to break the cycle of addiction and repair families. This position will be working with the Pen Pal Program between the children and individuals who sign up through Blue Monarchs website. With over 350 applications already the program is expanding to be able to meaningfully engage everyone involved. We also aim to foster learning and creativity through this process for the children. This will also allow them an opportunity to take on some responsibility, practice writing skills and penmanship.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT & MARKETING TEAM

Bonner’s Business Development & Marketing Team aims to promote the development of businesses and organizations on and around the Cumberland plateau. It is our belief that information (about the business or organization) presented in a clear and concise manner and that is easily accessible plays an integral role in the long-term stability of businesses. Furthermore, we also believe that consistent communication with clients helps to develop trust and lasting relationships with them. With these ideas mind, we plan to empower local business owners and organization heads by providing direct assistance in three primary areas: strategy and consulting Marketing Advanced Analytics.

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CHRISTIANS CELEBRATING GOD’S BOUNTY CLINIC

Sewanee students volunteer at Volunteers in Medicine are responsible for working with the other community volunteers on a variety of tasks that are necessary for the clinic’s efficient function: checking patients in (retrieving/making files, taking histories, vitals, blood sugar, etc.), sanitizing patient rooms between uses, locating and properly packaging medication prescribed to a patient, identifying and organizing donated medications categorically, making appointments in person or over the phone, taking/recording phone messages, and any general organization or cleaning that might be necessary at the time. Additionally, students will sometimes have the opportunity to shadow the day’s volunteer physician. On these days, the student is able to learn by observing the physician interactions with patients, and also helps the physician in any way that might be needed.

COMMUNITY ACTION COMMITTEE

The CAC is a local food bank in Sewanee. Bonners pack groceries once a week, unloading food shipments, organizing shelves, providing support for clients as needed, and starting a garden for CAC. Bonners go to the CAC 1-5 days a week. They also work on organizing food insecurity awareness and alternative ways to help the community. Additionally, CAC interns offer monthly meals to CAC friends and families. Volunteers will help pick up food, cook food, set up tables, talk with clients coming to eat meals, and clean up after the meal. Students can also offer weekly tutoring for elementary-aged children in the adjacent Midway community.

DIABETES PREVENTION PROGRAM

The Diabetes Prevention program works with the Franklin and Grundy County Health Educator and Assistant Director to Sewanee’s pre-health program to develop, implement, promote, and lead a weekly, evidence-based program designed to help prevent diabetes from developing in two counties with low health rankings in a state that is ranked low, nationally, in health. In 2010, 35% of the Grundy country residents reported taking insulin and 30% of the population has adult obesity. Students interested in working with this program apply during the spring semester to work the following year as a Diabetes Education Fellow.

FOLKS AT HOME

Folks at Home is a local non-profit organization developed for and dedicated to assisting its members in continuing a dignified and comfortable lifestyle in the community through coordination of services they need during their elder years. Students working with Folks at Home would offer companionship to seniors, develop student volunteers for services, teach health-based classes, and offer general support to the work and mission of Folks at Home.

GRUNDY SAFE BABY COURT

Grundy Safe Baby Court is a collaborative effort to support young families and address intergenerational trauma. Students work to develop virtual substance abuse classes for families on ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences) and research best practices from other small rural communities on successful expansion of Foster Parent Program.
GRUNDY SAFE COMMUNITIES COALITION

GSCC is an outreach program focused on addressing opioid-related addictions and overdoses in Grundy County; it works to reduce substance abuse rates among youth and young adults in Grundy County. Students working with GSCC will work on: weekly social media posts to educate on substances; attend community meetings to learn about GSCC and their community partners and initiatives; lead educational prevention programing through after-school programs; and coordinate other youth events with substance abuse programming.

GROWING ROOTS

Role 1: Community Garden Coordinator(s) / General Garden Support: Our two current teaching and community garden sites, located at the South Cumberland Learning & Development Center and in downtown, residential Tracy City represent our greatest opportunity for service. Activities in these locations include the construction of garden infrastructure, such as the building of raised beds and raising of greenhouses, general workshop support, the daily maintenance of garden spaces, and the harvesting of produce. Moreover, the space presents an opportunity for volunteers and residents to claim a stake in their labor, utilizing gardening beds for their own personal food production. In this role, you will help to open and close the garden space, provide camaraderie and assistance to volunteers and community members, support workshop leads in the logistics of workshop organization, and help to maintain the garden, the greenhouse & resource shed, and community harvest using sustainable practices. In the Winter season, when weather does not permit outdoor activities at the garden, we invite the Garden Coordinators to join us in planning and strategizing for the next growing cycle.

Role 2: Growing Roots After School Initiative / Building Strong Brains Collaboration - Tutor: We are building a team of wellness-informed instructors to facilitate the After School Initiative. ASI emphasizes holistic education and a social justice-oriented approach to instruction. Inaugurated in the Winter of 2020, this partnership is expected to grow and as we look forward to the end of the coronavirus pandemic, both in the numbers of students and scope of students utilizing these services. If you have worked in teaching capacities, are motivated by nontraditional approaches to education, or are especially interested in helping to develop a community of social justice-oriented educators on the South Cumberland Plateau, consider this position.

FRANKLIN COUNTY PREVENTION COALITION

The Franklin County Prevention Coalition is a community coalition that brings people and organizations together to reduce youth substance abuse and violence through education and prevention strategies in Franklin County.

HERITAGE TRAIL PROJECT

The Heritage Trail Project works to establish a trail recognizing a large part of our community’s history and honoring the individuals and places that helped form and shape present day Sewanee. Our mission is to lay the groundwork for the locations that will be marked on this trail to memorialize areas around the Sewanee Domain that are a part of Sewanee’s historically black community. Locations such as the St. Marks school, the swimming pool, the cemetery, and other locations are key foundations of Sewanee’s black history that have long gone unnoticed, and it’s past time to implement the recognition of these significant aspects of the black community within the town.
LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF MIDDLE TN AND THE CUMBERLANDS

The Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee and the Cumberlands is a non-profit law firm that works throughout the state of Tennessee to “enforce, advance and defend the legal rights of low income and vulnerable families in order to obtain for them the basic necessities of life.” This position could help perform research, collect data, as well as potentially translate for staff members working with Spanish speaking clients on issues like criminal problems, child support, immigration, and any other need for free legal support.

HOSPITALITY SHOP

Having a presence since 1968, the Hospitality Shop is a volunteer-run business that upcycles, recycles and re-purposes donations to lessen the impact on the environment. Most of the Hospitality Shop’s revenue is awarded to Franklin and Grundy County graduating High School students, and in 2013, the shop was able to raise $29,000 for the hospital programs. Students' tasks and specific responsibilities would include assisting in day-to-day operations, as well as trying to further increase our presence on campus through social media platforms and making the shop more accessible and appealing with Venmo Saturdays.

HOUSING SEWANEE

Housing Sewanee, was founded in 1993 and, since then, the organization has built 18 houses, working with families, providing no-interest loans and financial counseling, and marshaling volunteers who gladly and energetically help with the construction of fine, quality homes.

LONE ROCK CONVICT STOCKADE PROJECT

From 1870 until 1895, tens of thousands of primarily African American men, women, and children -- including many who had been born into slavery -- were held in bondage across the state of Tennessee. These individuals were forced to work in industries that came to define the ‘New South’ after the Civil War, including coal mines, iron mines, and coke ovens. As people who had been convicted of a crime, they were exempted from the 13th Amendment’s vow to abolish slavery, the first sentence of which states “Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as punishment for a crime... shall exist within the United States.” Archaeologists are now exploring the lives and experiences of these individuals through an examination of the places they were held: convict stockades. The Lone Rock Convict Stockade Project documents the history of convict leasing in the state of Tennessee and follows the archaeologists’ discoveries.

MARC - MARION ANIMAL RESOURCE CONNECTION

MARC is a non-profit group of concerned citizens in Marion County TN whose mission it is to improve the lives of animals in Marion County through education and spay/neuter promotion and advocacy. Interns will be involved with searching for useful and age appropriate videos and worksheets, to share with classroom teachers AND for civic groups. In person classroom teaching. Set up zoom teaching lessons, for K-8 students. Create a video specific to our animal non profit.
NATIONAL HISPANIC INSTITUTE

National Hispanic Institute engages college-age interns (JFL interns) to facilitate inner-communications between high school students and the NHI learning environment. Through a three year progressive training model that largely works through college students and guides, younger Latino students are introduced to leadership as a process that requires self-change and community collaboration. The Great Debate (GD) – for rising sophomores – focuses on strengthening oral communication skills and critical/analytical thinking around broad social themes that have relevance to Latino communities. The Lorenzo de Zavala Youth Legislative Session (LDZ) – for rising juniors – focuses on managing organizations/systems and creating policy. Finally, the Collegiate World Series (CWS) – for rising seniors – focuses on the college admissions process and inquiry-based decision making. Internships will work closely with NHI leaders to support the organization in a variety of efforts including, but not limited to, student outreach, mentoring, research, program execution and related support, program evaluation, and overall organizational needs. In addition, interns will have the opportunity to promote their institution of higher education among our student members, oftentimes working to build meaningful relationships with students considering their college options.

NEW LIFE

This position will work with the clients of New Life, being trained by the staff there to understand the needs and complications around working with adults with disabilities. This position will assist individuals to be as independent as possible; provide direct care for individuals with basic needs including, but not limited to, outdoor education, meals, safety, and other related issues. Individuals will be transported to Sewanee once a week to be led on hikes and other activities on the domain. They are also interested in having art and/or music classes taught to their members.

PARTNERS FOR HEALING

Partners for Healing is a free medical clinic in Tullahoma, TN. They serve 3 counties, over general care, lab work, and referrals. They have a prescription assistance program and offer diabetes education to patients. The clinic is interested in students willing to research and write grants, organize clinic structure, create new initiatives, digitize medical records, educate the clinic on technology and offer cooking demonstrations.

RICHARD HARDY MEMORIAL SCHOOL COLLEGE COUNSELING

Providing college application assistance to students through essay reviews, mock application workshops, college explorations, FAFSA assistance, resources for test prep, explorations of skills, majors, futures jobs, and visits to nearby colleges. Research, develop and implement workshops to help students succeed and keep retention at community colleges, given during the spring after they have been accepted.

ROOTED HERE

Rooted Here is an organization of farmers, artisans, and agricultural producers who work together to facilitate and expand the sale of local products; provide education, services, and support to farmers and consumers; and lay the groundwork for a just, equitable, and sustainable local food economy.
SOUTHEAST TN YOUNG FARMERS COALITION

The Southeast TN Young Farmers Coalition facilitates and advocates communication and cooperation among local farmers and between local entities, and champions the generation and dissemination of sustainable agriculture/food system-related education and information. Students working with this site develop basic communications process, assist with researching organizations and creating a network of organizations that work on topics that connect with and affect our members (i.e. create clearinghouse for state policy that affects small farmers), and research land ownership/and farming history as it pertains to Indigenous and Black people on the Domain and also in the area.

SOUTHEAST TN YOUNG FARMERS COALITION

SEWANEE, TN

SOUTH CUMBERLAND LEARNING CENTER

For over 75 years the old Grundy County High School has stood proudly on High School Hill reminding those who walked its halls that we too were built on a strong foundation! Though the county needed a larger school with more room to expand, the hearts and souls of those who graduated from the old GCHS long to see the school reopened and put to use. The Town of Tracy City has been working with local, state, and federal agencies to raise the money needed to renovate the school. The mission of this project is to transform the campus into the South Cumberland Learning and Development Center (SCLDC), which we envision as a hub of community building resources, including physical and behavioral health, education, social support, and economic development. Interns at this site will work as tutors for high school students.

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SEWANEE, TN

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SOUTHEAST TN YOUNG FARMERS COALITION

SEWANEE, TN

SOUTH PITTSBURG HIGH SCHOOL CORE YOUTH EMPOWERMENT MENTOR

CORE (Connecting Others Respecting Each Other) is a mentoring and empowerment program. The goal of the program is to mentor at risk girls identified by faculty and follow them throughout their high school career. That means bonners will start CORE as a freshman and mentor a group of high school freshman girls, ideally both groups will graduate from college and high school respectively creating a tight bond. Through individual and group mentoring the girls will eventually embody CORE. Part of the goal of this program is to increase in the graduation rates because the girls are learning self worth, goal setting skills, and leadership development.

SOUTH PITTSBURG HIGH SCHOOL CORE YOUTH EMPOWERMENT MENTOR

SOUTH PITTSBURG, TN

UNIVERSITY FARM

The University Farm supplies McClurg Dining Hall, Stirling's Coffee House, and the Cup & Gown Cafe with over one ton of product annually, including fresh eggs, salad greens, and other produce. Want to get your hands dirty? Students help with planting, harvesting, washing, and delivery of produce to CAC (weekly) and Morton (monthly) for food banks.

UNIVERSITY FARM

WINCHESTER, TN

SEWANEE BONNER AND CANALE SERVICE SITES 2021-2022
WEDNESDAY WONDERINGS YOUTH MENTOR

Wednesday Wonderings (WW) is an after-school program at Sewanee Elementary School, held each Wednesday from 2:30-3:30. Students offer themed classes with curriculum for 6 weeks each semester and potential classes could include: fort-building, building a garden, writing and acting out plays using items found in nature as props, or any other subject that students feel interested in leading.

WESTWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

Students teach ESL to Spanish-speaking children at Westwood Elementary School in Manchester, TN. This is a new site that involves supporting their afterschool program including lessons, workshops, help with homework. This program could work in tandem with the ESL program for adults as both programs will share family members and are right around the corner from each other.