



UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH
OFFICE OF CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Year in Review 2017-2018



Office of Civic Engagement Mission Statement

To cultivate knowledge, resources, and relationships to advance the economic, social, and environmental well-being of our communities.



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A letter from the director of Civic Engagement.

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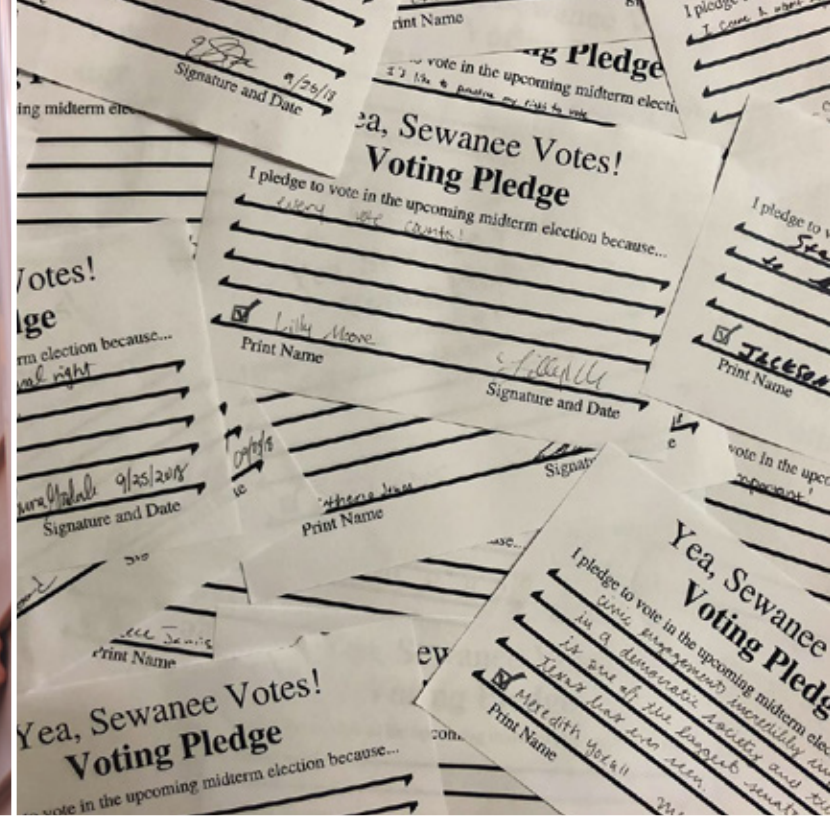
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September 2017

Sept. 8, 2017: Community Engagement House's Porch Light gathering. Student leaders at the "CoHo" hosted a kick-off event for students, faculty, staff, and members of the wider community to network and build connections.



October 2017

Oct. 11, 2017: Our partners at South Cumberland Community Fund (SCCF) hosted the **Know Your Worth Conference**. To conclude the conference, the inaugural cohort of six Philanthropy Internship Program students presented the second round of SCCF's grant awards to seven community organizations.

Oct. 20-24, 2017: Fall Outreach Trip to Houston, Texas. Over the University of the South's fall break, 13 students traveled more than 1,600 miles to Houston for two days of renovation work for a family that was impacted by Hurricane Harvey.

Oct. 27-28, 2017: Let's Go: Exploring Nonprofit Careers. Keynote speaker Maryetta Anshutz, C'97, founder of the Episcopal School of Los Angeles, joined other alumni to speak to students and faculty about networking and careers in government, nonprofit, national service, and community development.

January 2018

Jan. 5-14, 2018: Winter Outreach Trip to Jamaica. The Winter outreach trip to Kingston's Trench Town neighborhood examined the connection between Jamaica's political history and tourism economy at the epicenter of reggae. The group collaborated with partners in the Trench Town Culture Yard, and Kansas City and Jamaica-based artists to create a 120-foot mural showcasing Jamaican life and history.

Jan. 15, 2018: MLK Day of Service. Fifteen AmeriCorps VISTA members assisted Park Ranger Greer in clearing bushes and trees to free up forest understory as part of restoration efforts for the historic Civilian Conservation Corps camp in Tracy City, Tennessee.

Jan. 17, 2018: Introduction to Civic and Global Leadership course launch. Twelve students enrolled in the new Certificate in Civic and Global Leadership program and participated in their first class. The certificate program integrates students' experiences in a significant internship with interdisciplinary coursework that culminates in an applied capstone project with a community partner.

February 2018

Feb. 9-10, 2018: Sophomore Exchange in Nashville. Bonner Leaders from Sewanee met with other Bonners from Rhodes College and Centre College in Nashville for a weekend of service and bonding.



March 2018

March 3, 2018: Make A Difference Day. Through the AmeriCorps VISTA Project, OCE collaborated with partners at SCCF to host more than 400 volunteers, including University students, staff, faculty, and community members on Make A Difference Day. Volunteers served 1,600-plus hours and completed more than 40 projects at local elementary schools with the help of AmeriCorps VISTAs and school leaders.

March 15-25, 2018: Spring Break 2018. During the University's spring break students traveled across the country and globe on one of seven Outreach Trips. These short-term experiences are designed to give students a deeper understanding of communities that have long-standing connections with the University by acting as additional links to established partners.

April 2018

April 20, 2018: Tennessee Campus Civic Summit. During this one-day summit, students, faculty, and staff from campuses across the state came together to build connections and create action plans for engaging students in the democratic process during the 2018 election cycle and beyond through voter registration, education on the meaning and importance of democracy, and voter participation.

April 24, 2018: Office of Civic Engagement Sewanee Event. OCE hosted a community event highlighting community partners and celebrating the work of the past academic year.



Dear Reader,

I am delighted to share with you the first annual report produced by the Office of Civic Engagement at the University of the South. In doing so, we wish to highlight the work we have done with partnerships across the South Cumberland Plateau beyond. It has been a big year, and, indeed, a big four years since we officially formed the Office of Civic Engagement from elements of All Saints' Chapel's Outreach Program, the Community Engagement Office, and the Community-Engaged Learning programs, among other initiatives across the University. What has emerged from this dynamic collaboration is an amplified sense of cohesion and purpose—a commitment to strengthen collaborative relationships with our community partners.

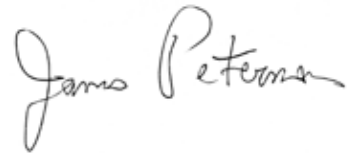
Therefore, *The Office of Civic Engagement's Year in Review* is centered on community partnerships. Ordered geographically, from local initiatives on the plateau and in the tri-county area to regional and global immersion experiences near and far, the report highlights the centrality of collaborative relationships in our work. The final pages of this report catalog our active community partnerships this academic year, offer data points to illustrate our work, and conclude with a roster of the talented staff in the Office of Civic Engagement.

I invite you to explore examples of our collaboration with community partners such as the Grundy County Sheriff's Office, the Zamni Kafe (Partners in Coffee) cooperative of farmers in Haiti, and a cross-disciplinary group of University staff and faculty in the Certificate in Civic and Global Leadership program. Along the way, you will get a fuller sense of the co-curricular and curricular programs we create and administer with partners across and beyond the University to help fulfill the University's commitment to prepare students for lives of achievement and service.

As the Office of Civic Engagement mission states, we seek to advance the well-being of our partner communities. Drawing on the time, talent, and passion of staff, faculty, students, and our community partners, we integrate academic inquiry with local knowledge and wisdom for the public good. More than just a choice, our commitment to this work emerges from the insight, paraphrasing environmental historian William Cronon, that wherever we live, we belong to communities whose prosperity and well-being are crucial to our own.

As you read this report, we invite you to consider ways we might work together to make a difference.

Sincerely,



Jim Peterman, Ph.D.
Director, Office of Civic Engagement



Collaborating with Common Purpose: Successful Re-entry

It all started with a grant: A successful grant application submitted to SCCF in 2015 generated possibilities for a number of collaborations at the Grundy County Sheriff's Office. The grant seeded a garden program at the Grundy County Jail that offered inmates the opportunity to grow their own food, and soon initiated a collaboration with the South Cumberland Plateau AmeriCorps VISTA program, a partnership between SCCF and the University of the South, to develop reentry and skill-building programs.

Grundy County Sheriff Clint Shrum and AmeriCorps VISTA member Dana Rasch quickly grew re-entry programming at the jail and applied for additional grants. Before long, the jail became a strong example of community collaboration around a common purpose: strengthening returning citizens' skills and resilience. Staff, faculty, and students from



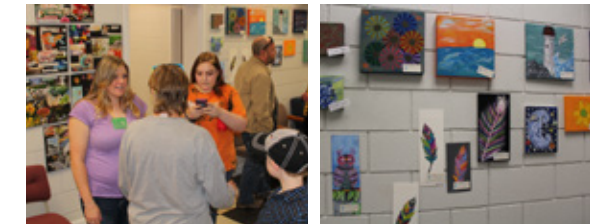
The Grundy County Jail's flourishing garden program, first seeding by a South Cumberland Community Fund grant.

the University quickly got involved. Sewanee Dining's Chef Rick Wright taught cooking classes using produce from the garden, and faculty offered lectures for inmates. Hilda Vaughan, both a former AmeriCorps VISTA member and dedicated volunteer, started *Arts Inside*, a rehabilitative art program that has now exhibited participants' work across the plateau community. As the program developed, multiple students, including Bonner Leader Graff Wilson, C'18, provided tutoring and assistance for further capacity building initiatives.

In three short years, the collaborative work at the jail has evolved into something more; something impactful. The jail continues to host an AmeriCorps VISTA member, and now employs a full-time staff member, Alicia Shadwick, to coordinate a suite of re-entry programs including skills training, GED preparation, job training, gardening, and art and writing therapy. Partnerships with local companies have resulted in job placements for inmates, and the jail's efforts to follow-up and assess re-entry programs have been strengthened.

Supported by collaborative efforts and the collective resources of community members, the jail's robust re-entry programs have been designed to move the needle on reducing recidivism rates.

The Office of Civic Engagement seeks to steward collaborative relationships across and beyond our own programs and the University to create common strategies and coordinate integrated activities with our local partners to achieve a common goal.

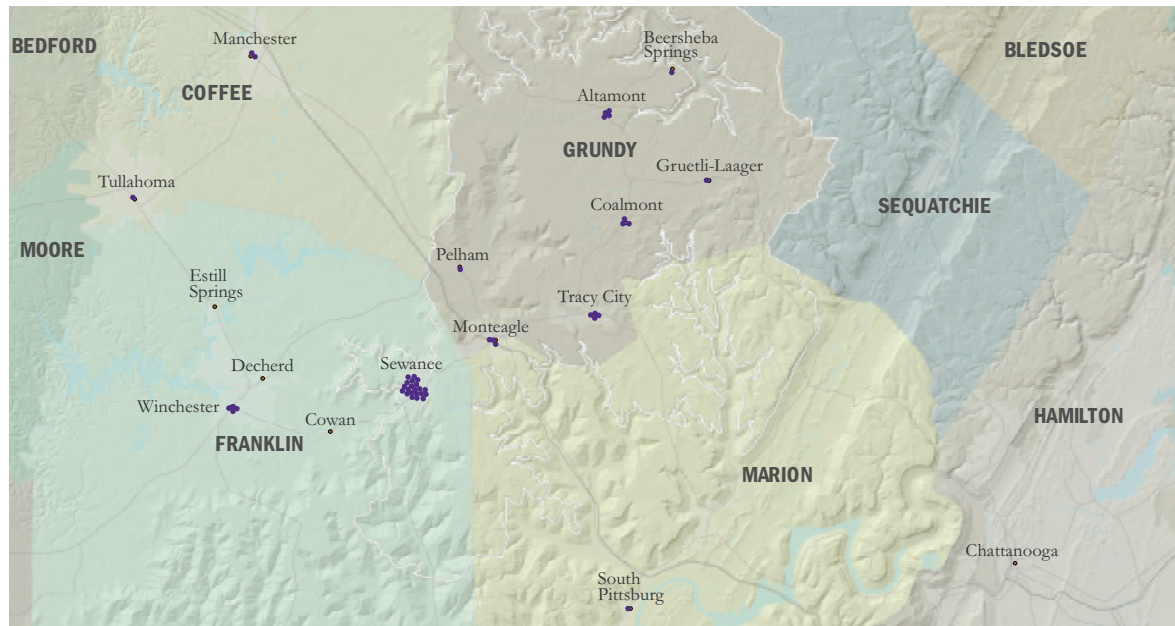


“True community interactions, true community development comes not in silos but with different people with different skills and different ideas weaving together all of those gifts into a whole that is bigger than any one participant.”

Bonnie McCardell, co-chair of SCCF's Community Development Committee

Where We Work

Site	Program(s)	Site	Program(s)
Sewanee		Coalmont	
Babson Center for Global Commerce	Bonner	Coalmont Elementary School	
Bonner Leader Program Grant Writing Committee	Canale	Activ8 Program	Bonner
Bonner Leader Program Video Design	Bonner	Mountain T.O.P.	Canale, AmeriCorps VISTA, Volunteer
Bonner Leader Program Web Design	Bonner	Grundy County Health Council	AmeriCorps VISTA
Cub Scouts	Canale, Volunteer	Tracy City	
Community Action Committee	Bonner, Greek Service, Volunteer	Discover Together	Canale, Volunteer
Diabetes Prevention Program	Canale	Grundy Safe Communities Coalition	Bonner, Canale, AmeriCorps VISTA
Folks at Home	Bonner, Canale, AmeriCorps VISTA, Civic Engagement Summer Internship, Greek Service, Volunteer	Appalachian Women's Guild	Volunteer
		Grundy County Food Bank	Volunteer
St. Mary's Convent	Bonner, Greek Service, Volunteer	Monteagle	
University Wellness Center	Bonner	South Cumberland Community Fund	Canale, AmeriCorps VISTA
University Farm	Bonner, AmeriCorps VISTA, Greek Service, Volunteer	Blue Monarch	Canale, Volunteer
		Monteagle Elementary	Canale
Well-Directed Curiosity	Canale, Volunteer	Manchester	
Sewanee Women Engaging and Empowering Community	Bonner, Canale, Volunteer	ESL Tutoring at Westwood Elementary School	Canale, Volunteer
South Cumberland Plateau AmeriCorps VISTA Leader	AmeriCorps VISTA	ESL Tutoring at All God's Children	Canale, Volunteer
Sewanee Senior Citizens' Center	Volunteer	Winchester	
Girl Scouts	Volunteer	New Life	Bonner
Cumberland Center for Justice and Peace	Volunteer	Christians Celebrating God's Bounty Clinic	Canale, Civic Engagement Summer Internship, Greek Service, Volunteer
Housing Sewanee, Inc.	Volunteer	Animal Harbor	
Halloween Children's Concert	Greek Service	South Pittsburg	
Sewanee Dance Marathon	Greek Service	South Pittsburg High School	Bonner, Canale, Volunteer
Beersheba Springs		Gruetli-Laager	
Beersheba Springs Medical Clinic	Bonner, Civic Engagement Summer Internship	Swiss Memorial Elementary School Garden Program	Bonner, Volunteer
Altamont		Pelham	
Grundy County Sheriff's Office	Bonner, AmeriCorps VISTA	Pelham Elementary School	
North Elementary School	Canale	Activ8 Program	Bonner
Grundy County Board of Education	AmeriCorps VISTA	Tullahoma	
Grundy County Mayor's Office	AmeriCorps VISTA	Partners for Healing	Bonner, Civic Engagement Summer Internship



Collaboration with the South Cumberland Community Fund

The Office of Civic Engagement strategically collaborates with the South Cumberland Community Fund (SCCF), the South Cumberland Plateau's first and only philanthropic organization, to build the capacity of local public and nonprofit institutions.

leadership. Both the Office of Civic Engagement and SCCF are committed to this mission. A unique partnership between the University and SCCF facilitates the South Cumberland Plateau AmeriCorps VISTA program and the Philanthropy Internship program—two initiatives housed in the Office of Civic Engagement and directed by Nicky Hamilton, director of community development for both the University and SCCF.

Established in 2012, SCCF's mission is to improve the quality of life across the plateau by increasing philanthropic giving and providing community



2018 SCCF grantees and AmeriCorps VISTA members are recognized at the Celebration for the plateau held at Dubose Conference Center on July 1, 2018.



Kelsey Arbuckle, C'19 (left), with Caroline McCullough of Tracy City Elementary School. Arbuckle is from Tracy City and a member of the inaugural, 2017 cohort of philanthropy interns.

Inaugural Philanthropy Internship Cohort Celebrates Awards

At SCCF's Know Your Worth Conference in October 2017, the inaugural cohort of six Philanthropy Internship Program students celebrated the second round of SCCF's 2017 grants cycle by awarding grants to seven community nonprofits. After a semester's study of philanthropy theory and experience shadowing SCCF's grantmaking process, the interns evaluated proposals, discussed projects with community partners, and made recommendations to SCCF's grants committee, comprised of local residents, who approved the awards.

The University's Philanthropy Internship Program's second cohort of eight students spent the 2018 Easter semester learning theories in philanthropy and shadowing interviews during SCCF's first round of 2018 grant applicants. The same pool of organizations submitted grant applications to the Philanthropy Internship Program in August 2018.

Thanks to a generous contribution from an anonymous donor, students in the 2017 cohort distributed a total of \$28,306 in grants to seven local organizations.

"The program has a big impact on the community as well as the students."—Nicky Hamilton, Community Development Director and director of the Philanthropy Internship Program

South Cumberland Plateau AmeriCorps VISTA Project



BetterFi Launched from AmeriCorps VISTA Project

BetterFi, an innovative lending program in the region, is a testament to the spirit of collaboration across the plateau. A three-year AmeriCorps VISTA Project at the University's Babson Center for Global Commerce culminated in the first nonprofit corporation generated from the South Cumberland Plateau VISTA Project. SCCF, the University, local organizations such as the Grundy County mayor's office and the Rotary Club of Grundy County, along with community members, worked with the AmeriCorps VISTA Project to make BetterFi a reality. Tower Community Bank provided critical partnership and office space that allowed BetterFi to open its doors in Coalmont, Tennessee, in April 2018.

BetterFi was created in partnership with the University of the South's Babson Center for Global Commerce, and spearheaded by former VISTA member Spike Hosch, C'12. As a community development loan fund (CDLF), BetterFi prioritizes affordable and successful repayment of loans rather than profit maximization. Profit-maximizing, high-rate payday loans and car title loans are a \$25 billion per year industry that routinely offers loans at annual interest rates of 200 or 300 percent, often to people in low-wealth communities. BetterFi recently began work with its first client from Winchester, Tennessee, saving the client nearly \$3,500 by working to provide an alternative to a title loan.



AmeriCorps VISTA is a one-year service program dedicated to poverty alleviation in communities across the United States.

The South Cumberland Plateau VISTA Project is a collaborative partnership between the University of the South, SCCF, and the project's community partners. The focus of the project is to help grow and strengthen communities through programs focused on education, economic development, and health.

The project's objectives are: to develop capacity and overall effectiveness of the project's partner sites; to develop and implement useful resources and programs that benefit community members and residents throughout the project service area; to strengthen community connections between AmeriCorps VISTA project members and area residents through program outreach and implementation; and to provide AmeriCorps VISTA members with the opportunity for both professional and personal growth through community outreach, workshops, and conferences.

The plateau community welcomed the first group of eight AmeriCorps VISTA members in August 2014. The program now hosts **16** VISTA members who serve with **11** partner organizations across the South Cumberland Plateau.

16
AMERICORPS VISTA
MEMBERS SERVE AT

11
PARTNER
ORGANIZATIONS
ACROSS THE
SOUTH
CUMBERLAND
PLATEAU.

AmeriCorps VISTA Project Highlight: Cumberland Teaching Gardens

The University Farm and AmeriCorps VISTA Project has partnered to support the Cumberland Teaching Gardens (CTG), a program dedicated to addressing food insecurity and cultivating knowledge through healthy food gardens. Led by Network Coordinator AmeriCorps VISTA members



Barbara Roberts and Ritchie Wai, CTG is made up of five gardens at schools, nonprofits, and government organizations across the plateau. Roberts and Wai work with local partners to offer gardening workshops, supplies, development support, and more.



Academic Year Service Internships

The Office of Civic Engagement facilitates two academic-year internship programs, the Bonner Leader Program and the Canale Leadership and Service Internship Program. Both programs offer leadership training to students and connect them with partners on campus and in the local, tri-county area to address community-identified needs and build capacity.

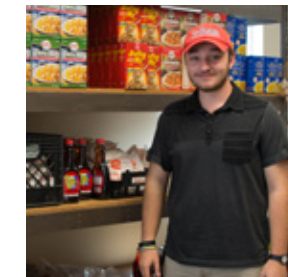
The Bonner Leader Program, now in its sixth year at the University, is a four-year service and leadership program that seeks to foster community, leadership, and civic engagement among students and community partners. The Office of Civic Engagement supported **43** Bonner Leaders this academic year.

The Canale Leadership and Service Internship Program is a year-long service and leadership program.



The Canale Program works to connect the passions of student applicants to community-identified needs, and engages interns with leadership trainings and other resources. The Office of Civic Engagement supported **11** Canale Interns this academic year.

Bonner Leaders and Canale Interns worked at **34** partner sites in the local, tri-county community this academic year.



Bonner Leadership Team Invites New Dimensions of Peer Leadership



As part of the Bonner Leadership Team, James Jurgensen, C'18, played a key role in building the effectiveness of the OCE by developing curriculum for other Bonner Leaders and collecting data to assess the program.

This academic year, nine Bonner Leaders organized themselves in committees focused on admissions, accountability, curriculum and assessments, mentorship, programming, and emerging needs in the program.

The Bonner Leadership Team (BLT) offered students in the Bonner Program the opportunity to take

on new dimensions of leadership among their peers. Together, the team developed new curriculum and workshops, worked to improve data collection and assessment in the program, interviewed prospective Bonner Leaders for the Class of 2022, and selected BLT representatives for next school year.

2017–2018 Bonner Leader Program Workshops

First-Year Students

Time Management and Professionalism
Community Building and How to Build It Intentionally
CliftonStrengths
Resume Writing
'Rivers of Life' Life Mapping
Burnout and Resilience

Sophomores

Conflict Resolution
Citizenship: Rights, Responsibilities, and Struggles
CliftonStrengths
Resume Writing
Introduction to the National Bonner Network
Sophomore Exchange Excursion to Nashville
Inclusivity in Action
Gender and Sex Diversity Awareness

Juniors

Empowerment: It's Intersectional
Advocacy and Public Education 101
Bridging the Divide: Civil Discourse
Developing an E-Portfolio and Semester Reflection Project
Power Mapping and Action Planning
Professional Communication
Gender and Sex Diversity Awareness

Seniors

Crafting a Four-Year Digital Reflection
How to Find a Job or Graduate Program
Bridging the Divide: Civil Discourse
Digital Reflection Technical Skills
Transitioning Leadership: Parts 1 and 2
Public Speaking



Service Internship Project Highlights

Black Soldier Fly Project at the University Farm

To help combat food waste and speed up the composting process, Bonner Leader Chris Hornsby, C'19, developed the Black Soldier Fly Research Project with the University Farm, which seeks to use fly larvae in the composting process to cut back on the daily 500-pound waste load produced by McClurg Dining Hall.

Web Development for Community Partner Organizations

A team composed of Bonner Leaders and a Canale Intern offered web development support for five community partners near and far: Community Action Committee (a local food bank), Dutch Maid Bakery (a small, locally-owned bakery), Trench Town Culture Yard (an Outreach Trip partner in Jamaica), Grundy County Food Bank, and Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds (a faculty-led program on nutrition and exercise for local elementary schools).

Community Medicine: Building Capacity in Beersheba Springs



Emmie Chambers, C'18, in the building she helped transform into a new wing of the Beersheba Springs Medical Clinic.

Emmie Chambers C'18, a Bonner Leader, interned for all four years of her college career at Beersheba Springs Medical Clinic. This year she supported the clinic's goal to transform a building donated to the Clinic into an annex of the rural medical office.

As a sophomore, Chambers began developing the clinic's patient assistance program, which helps patients apply for free medicines, and this year she effectively recruited volunteers for the renovation project and played a role in securing grant funding. Through her work, Chambers connected the Beersheba Springs community to student volunteers, the Bonner Leader program, and alumnus John Clark C'82, a Chattanooga-area real estate developer and founder of the Carpenter's Fund, which supported the renovation process.

As part of her pre-health pathway at Sewanee, Chambers opted to intern at the clinic last summer through a program co-sponsored by the University's Office of

Medical and Health Programs and the Office of Civic Engagement. The program, along with the welcoming staff and familial atmosphere at the clinic, helped confirm Chambers' interest in rural medicine. Next year, Chambers will be completing classes required for medical school while she applies to programs focused on rural medicine.

"As a Bonner, my priority has always been the Clinic. Beyond classes, I've always thought there was something bigger to engage with while at Sewanee," Chambers says. Summing up what she has learned, she says, "What makes a good doctor is realizing people are human and have stories."



Building on the successful clinic renovation, SCCF has awarded the clinic a grant to purchase dental equipment which will make possible much needed free dental services in Grundy County.

Supporting Student Neighbors

Service and philanthropy are a key part of the Greek experience at Sewanee. Greeks often go far above and beyond the individual chapter's service requirements to be good student neighbors.

The Office of Civic Engagement serves as an advisor to Sewanee's Greek community by collaborating with to Inter-Sorority and Inter-Fraternity Councils to foster long-term partnerships with local organizations.



Sam Seawell (front) with some of his fraternity brothers who helped clean up ATO Spring.

Signature Partnerships Highlights

Lambda Chi Alpha and Folks at Home

Lambda Chi Alpha demonstrated the ideals of Greek brotherhood by partnering with Folks at Home. This partnership started through an alumni brother, John Canfield, C'16, serving with Folks at Home as a AmeriCorps VISTA. What began as a one-time group service project raking leaves has grown into a relationship with a neighbor on the Mountain. Lambda has decided to continue working with Folks at Home and has signed a contract in order to keep the tradition going. This partnership is a new avenue for direct work with people on and around the Mountain, allowing Lambdas to be good student neighbors for years to come.

Kappa Omega and Sewanee Hearts and Grocery Carts

This year marked the fourth annual Sewanee Hearts and Grocery Carts event. In 2015, Kappa Omega created the project and developed their partnership with Community Action Committee (CAC). The event involves a silent auction, a raffle, arts and crafts, and lots of food all to support CAC.

This year, the sisters of Kappa Omega raised \$1,100 for ongoing initiatives at CAC. Kappa Omega keeps in touch with their CAC neighbors throughout the year. Members meet with Betty Carpenter, director of the CAC, to learn about community-identified needs and develop collaborative initiatives such as unloading food deliveries or a Christmas-themed babysitting event at Otey Parish for community children.

Phi Kappa Epsilon and the Halloween Children's Concert

The collaboration between the sisters of Phi Kappa Epsilon and Sewanee Symphony Orchestra to bring music education to the plateau continued into its fifth year. Through the Halloween Children's Concert, 500 students from seven elementary and middle schools gained exposure to scores from adventure movies such as *Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest*. The concert was an example of how compelling experiences can build community among neighbors, and multiplied impact through strategic partnerships that brought together local schools, the Greek community, the Sewanee Summer Music Festival, and the South Cumberland Community Fund.

Partners in Coffee: Agroforestry, Outreach and Economic Development Work in Haiti Comes Full Circle

The Haiti Outreach Trip is part of multi-year, collaborative effort called Sewanee in Haiti, formed from the work of Deborah McGrath, professor of biology; Pradip Malde, professor of art; Associate Director of Civic Engagement Dixon Myers, and a host of student interns, researchers, and volunteers. To support this project and Haitian coffee farmers, Sewanee in Haiti worked with the University, beginning in 2015, to use students' Green Fee to compensate Haitian coffee growers for reforestation efforts.

Myers traveled to Haiti in March 2018 as part of a group of 18 students and staff to create a nursery for coffee seedlings and shade trees in the mountain region of Bois Joli. The project was the next element of Sewanee in Haiti's seven-year partnership with a collective of coffee farmers called Zamni Kafe, or Partners in Coffee.

In Bois Joli and another community, Morne Michele, the Green Fee simultaneously offsets the University's carbon footprint and offers income to Haitian farmers. Carbon payments to coffee farmers also incentivize a diverse array of fruit trees and plants, including



coffee, mango, and banana, that can all be cultivated for market. These Green Fee-supported ecosystems are yielding their first crop of coffee this season.

The crop now needs a destination. While coffee is a morning staple in Haiti, it is also a major export, and one of the best bets as a boon to the country's ecology and economy. The collaborative of farmers and agronomists in Bois Joli have formed a partnership with Singing Rooster, a coffee company based in Port au Prince and Madison, Wisconsin, that is working to strengthen small farmer collectives in Haiti. Now, these efforts will bring Haitian coffee to mugs in Sewanee very soon.

In the summer of 2018, Sewanee student interns from the College, including Chris Hornsby, C'19, aided farmers' efforts. "The summer research season is where we really explore different aspects of economic and agricultural development, as well as the dynamics of a rural agrarian community," Hornsby says. By collecting data on coffee trees, interns and Haitian agronomists partner to estimate coffee production in Bois Joli in order to aid business planning for individual farmers as they work with Singing Rooster to bring the coffee to market.

Chris Hornsby, C'19; Crystal Ngo, C'20; Connor Stack, C'20; Bernice Leveque, C'21; and Megan Wade, C'19, all contributed to the coffee plant project this year.

"The summer research season is where we really explore different aspects of economic and agricultural development, as well as the dynamics of a rural agrarian community."

Chris Hornsby, C'19

Our work with Zanmi Kafe over the past five years has been focused on removing small barriers and accompanying Haitian farmers as they strive to adopt more economically viable and environmentally sound agricultural systems ... less than five years since the first seeds were sown (and one year ahead of schedule), over a dozen households in the mountain region of Bois Joli celebrated their first coffee harvest, a true milestone in this long-term collaboration.—Deb McGrath, Professor of Biology



Serving With Partners Near and Far on Outreach Trips

Over the fall, winter, and spring breaks, students traveled across the country and globe on one of seven Outreach Trips. These trips were led by a combination of staff and experienced student leaders during this past academic year. Locations included Houston, Texas; Kingston, Jamaica; Miami, Florida; New Orleans, Louisiana; Monteverde, Costa Rica; Quito, Ecuador; and various locations in Haiti including Bois Joli and Cange.

Outreach Trip programs are designed to give students a deep understanding of a place by becoming another link in a long term relationship with local community partners. On these programs, students come to understand multiple senses of community: a community of partners, a community among trip participants,

and engaging global citizenship through specific community partnerships.

Student preparation for outreach trips begin on campus with curriculum and group discussion on both the places and social issues to be encountered on the trips. A post-trip reflection process focuses on integrating participants' experiences into academic work, vocational discernment, and personal life. Through study, reflection, and sustained engagement, students engage with partner communities and direct service with the posture of active learners.

Seventy-seven students participated in outreach trips to five countries this academic year.

Hurricane Harvey Relief: Houston Outreach Trip

Over the University of the South's fall break, 13 students traveled to Houston, Texas, in partnership with the Episcopal Diocese of Texas to assist with restoration from the damage done by Hurricane Harvey. In a whirlwind weekend, the students traveled through six states, over 1,600 miles, and put in two days of renovation work for a family that



was impacted by the storm's flooding. The group also spent time hearing first-hand accounts of the storm and its aftermath from Texans. These stories inspired the students to squeeze an impressive amount of renovation work into a short period of time and they left with full hearts and new friends, including a number of Sewanee alumni and family who provided meals and places to stay.

Where We Serve Summer Internship Sites by Location (Local, Regional, International)

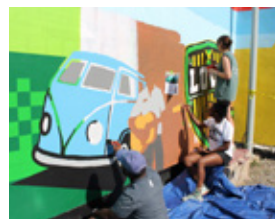
Working with partners near and far, Canale Summer Civic Engagement Interns develop their capacities to work collaboratively with others for social good. **Forty-one** Summer Civic En-

gagement Internships were sponsored by the Office of Civic Engagement in 2018 at **24 sites**. **Eighteen** of these interns served as VISTA summer associates on the plateau.

Site	Location	Site	Location
Local		International	
AmeriCorps VISTA Summer Associate Program (14 Various Locations)	South Cumberland Plateau	Sewanee in Haiti (Various Internships)	Mirebalais, Haiti
Folks At Home	Sewanee, Tennessee	New Ashongman Community Hospital	Accra, Ghana
Cumberland Plateau Medical Internship (3 Various Sites)	South Cumberland Plateau	Zanzibar Heritage Center	Zanzibar, Tanzania
Regional		Friends of Canon Gideon Foundation (FOCAGIFO)	Kampala, Uganda
Tennessee Justice Center	Nashville, Tennessee	Center for Domestic Violence Prevention (CEDOVIP)	Kampala, Uganda
Thistle Farms	Nashville, Tennessee	Makerere University and Johns Hopkins University Research Collaboration (MUJHU)	Kampala, Uganda
Nashville International Center for Empowerment	Nashville, Tennessee	The AIDS Support Organization (TASO)	Kampala, Uganda
Accenture	Washington, District of Columbia	Networks Romania	Siria, Romania
New Haven Farms	New Haven, Connecticut		

History, Arts and Culture at the Epicenter of Reggae: Jamaica Outreach Trip

The 2018 Winter Outreach Trip to Jamaica built on years of work with partners in the Trench Town Culture Yard and brought Kansas City-based artist Phil Shafer to Jamaica to lead a mural project in the yard focused on community literacy and tourism development. Shafer collaborated with Jamaica-based artist Alek Geerings and partners in



the Culture Yard to design a 12- by 120-foot mural that reflects a piece of history and displays a slice of contemporary life in Trench Town and Jamaica at large. Shafer, along with lead assistant Curtis Johnson, C'14, trip leader Dixon Myers, and student participants spent the majority of the trip painting the mural.

2018 Summer Internship Highlights

Tennessee Justice Center

Loring McDonald, C'19, is working in policy advocacy at the Tennessee Justice Center (TJC) in Nashville, Tennessee. The TJC is dedicated to advocating for laws and public policies that advance human dignity.

"Through my internship, I've been able to serve as a bridge between citizens and policy makers with the goal of helping to make Tennessee a just, inclusive, and compassionate home for all."—Loring McDonald, C'19

Friends of Canon Gideon Foundation

Peter Bahr, C'20, is participating in an international internship with Friends of Canon Gideon Foundation in Kampala, Uganda. The foundation is dedicated to supporting religious leaders who are affected by HIV, and seeks to alleviate the HIV crisis through youth empowerment.

USDA Summer Meal and Reading Initiative

The AmeriCorps VISTA Summer Associate program partners with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) summer meal program and multiple reading and enrichment programs across the plateau. With more than 13 million kids in America living in food insecure homes, the summer meal program offers meals and enrichment programs for local kids. The State of Tennessee's Read to Be Ready program engages Summer VISTAs in work with local teachers to create reading activities for students that address the "summer slide" and improve at-grade-level reading ability. Research has shown that reading at-grade-level by the end of third grade strongly increases students' thinking, problem-solving, and lifelong learning capacity.



"It is definitely very rewarding to see the progress kids are making and the difference this program makes in their lives. The kids are reading more often on their own and showing a lot more confidence in their abilities."

Coralie Chu, 2018 VISTA Summer Associate

Activating the Liberal Arts: Launching the Certificate in Civic and Global Leadership

Starting in the Easter 2018 semester, 12 students began working toward a new certificate combining community development theory and practice to enhance their work for social good. The new Certificate in Civic and Global Leadership offers students the opportunity to learn the Social Change Model of Leadership Development (SCM) and uses an interdisciplinary lens to better understand social issues.

Through two tracks—one in community health and one in politics, economics, and development—the

Certificate in Civic and Global Leadership integrates students' experience in a significant internship with in-classroom theory and reflection which culminates in an applied capstone project. Jim Peterman, director of the program, says "these courses will give students the academic tools for developing their understanding of social issues they encounter in their internships. Students' understanding of these issues and of promising solutions require them to understand problems from multiple disciplinary perspectives."

Along the way, students are encouraged to continually reflect and act as they work with community partners. First year Bonner Leader, Will Priest, C'21, found that his work through the Bonner Program at the CAC, a local food bank located at Otey Parish, was enhanced by the course. He says, "I became more prepared for hands-on work in Sewanee and more importantly for a lifetime of civic awareness and action."

"Two key social change model principles are that 1) leadership is not positional, it is an inclusive process, and that 2) authentic collaboration among individuals and groups is needed to drive sustainable positive change. Students who seriously study the model gain deep understanding of these principles and how to work with others to make a real difference in their communities."—Karen Proctor, Special Assistant to the Provost and Introduction to Civic and Global Leadership teaching faculty



"Through the Introduction to Civic and Global Leadership course, I became more prepared for hands-on work in Sewanee and more importantly for a lifetime of civic awareness and action."

Will Priest, C'21

Understanding the complexities of human life and addressing the social issues communities face through the curriculum cannot be done through any one discipline alone. Enhancing students' understanding of the issues they encounter and of promising solutions to them requires an interdisciplinary approach. Moreover, collaboration with community partners is key to integrating academic inquiry with local knowledge to advance the common good.

Introduction to Civic and Global Leadership Key Texts

Leadership for a Better World: Understanding the Social Change Model of Leadership
Susan Kornives, Wendy Wagner, et al.

Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City
Matthew Desmond

"Homelessness in Harvard Square: Multi-Stakeholder Collaboration in Action"
from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University

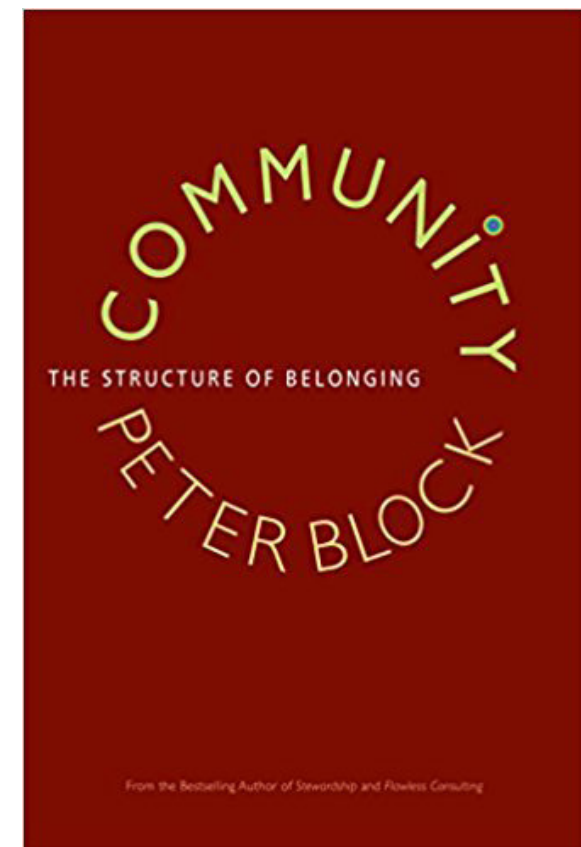
Community: The Structure of Belonging
Peter Block

Let Us Now Praise Famous Men
James Agee and Walker Evans

"Framing Responsibility for Political Issues: The Case of Poverty"
Shanto Iyengar

"Promoting and Protecting Mental Health as Flourishing"
Corey Keyes

Development as Freedom
Amartya Sen



"Leadership begins with understanding that every gathering is an opportunity to deepen accountability through engagement."
—Peter Block in *Community: The Structure of Belonging*

Engaging the Classroom with the Community



Community Engaged Learning Courses

Fifteen community-engaged learning courses were offered during the 2017-2018 academic year across a variety of departments and disciplines. The Community-Engaged Learning program offers academic courses throughout the curriculum with a community engagement component. Each course integrates community engagement and service to activate the liberal arts.

ANTH / EDUC 399: Anthropology of Education, Mae Wallace (Advent)

CEMT 560: Environmental Ethics, Andy Thompson (Easter, School of Theology)

BIOL 180: Principles of Human Nutrition, Cynthia Gray (Advent)

EDUC 161: Introduction to Educational Psychology, Mae Wallace (Advent and Easter)

EDUC 201: Instructional Technology: Digital Literacy and Learning, Toni Barnes (Easter)

EDUC 205: Introduction to Environmental Education, Daniel Carter (Advent and Easter)

EDUC 226: Teaching Children's Literature, Emily Herman (Easter)

EDUC 255: Introduction to Special Education, Teresa Wiseman (Advent)

EDUC 341: Methods and Materials of Teaching, Paige Hill (Advent and Easter)

ENST 304: Community Development and Place in Rural Appalachia, Daniel Carter (Easter)

PHIL 235: Bioethics, Jim Peterman (Advent)

PSYC 230: Child, Family, and Community Development in Rural Appalachia, Karen Yu and Linda Mayes (Advent)



Civic Engagement Faculty Fellows

This academic year, five Civic Engagement Faculty Fellows in three academic departments worked to give students the opportunity to enhance their learning through community engagement. The fellows spent the year attending professional development on civic engagement pedagogy, receiving personalized advising, building connections with community partners, and crafting course

offerings that link classroom learning with hands-on experiences in the community to promote social good. During the 2017-2018 academic year, five Civic Engagement Faculty Fellows in three academic departments worked to give students the opportunity to enhance their learning through community engagement. Five additional fellows have been approved for the 2018-2019 academic year.



2017-2018 Civic Engagement Faculty Fellows

Professor Brandy Tiernan, Psychology and Neuroscience

With collaborative efforts from Katie Goforth and the Volunteer Behavioral Health Care System, research is being conducted on Traditional Health Beliefs and Cultural Barriers to the Diagnosis and Treatment of Mental Illness by Dr. Brandy Tiernan and the University's Psychology Department.

Professor John Coffey, Psychology

In a research-led lab course, students will apply their knowledge about positive psychology to help a community partner. Students will also measure the success of their program and report back to the partner.

Professor JoyAnna Hopper, Politics

Through POLS 421, Reaching Community Policy Goals, students will learn about nonprofit management and discern community goals. Students will present research on a community issue to local partners.

Professor Katherine Cammack, Psychology

Through PSYC 350, Drugs & Behavior, students will partner with the Grundy Safe Communities Coalition (GSCC) to conduct research on alcohol and substance use among adolescents in a Southern Appalachian community.

Professor Lucia Garcia-Santana, Spanish

Through SPAN 420, Experiences of Displacement: Migration and Exile within the Hispanic World, students will partner with

Westwood Elementary School in neighboring Manchester, Tennessee to tutor and mentor Hispanic elementary school students and their families while reflecting on theoretical and cultural texts on displacement.

2018-2019 Civic Engagement Faculty Fellows

Professor Mark Hopwood, Philosophy

Through a course in the Philosophy Department, University students will teach philosophy in local schools.

Professor Greg Pond, Art, Art History, and Visual Studies

Through ART 349, Community Engagement and Creative Practice: Investigating the Highlander Folk School Through Art, students will produce an exhibition and publication that examines the various sites, histories, and impacts of the Highlander Folk School.

Professor Keri Watson, Environmental Studies

Professor Keri Watson will work with students to research the connection between sense of place and human wellness in a rural context.

Professor Russell Fielding, Environmental Studies

Students will collect survey data on the average adult diet in St. Vincent & the Grenadines. This information will be used anonymously to gauge exposure to health risks related to the presence of environmental contaminants in locally produced foods.

Professor Andrew Thompson, School of Theology

Through CEMT 560: Environmental Ethics, School of Theology, students will develop curricular projects for elementary school students using Sewanee Elementary School's Nature Trail.



Data Appendix

Working with the South Cumberland Community Fund, the inaugural Philanthropy Internship cohort distributed **\$28,306** to **7** community organizations in October 2017.

15 AmeriCorps VISTA members currently serve with **11** partner organizations across the South Cumberland Plateau through programs focused around education, economic development, and health.

29,774 hours were served by these AmeriCorps VISTA members from April 2017–April 2018.

\$344,548.27 in grants, monetary gifts, and in-kind donations was leveraged by AmeriCorps VISTA members on behalf of local organizations from April 2017–April 2018.

The University Farm and AmeriCorps VISTA program have partnered to support **5** Cumberland Teaching Gardens across the plateau that address food insecurity while cultivating knowledge by growing healthy food.

The Office of Civic Engagement facilitates **2** academic-year internship programs, the Bonner Leader Program and the Canale Leadership and Service Internship Program.

The Office of Civic Engagement supported **43** Bonner Leaders and **11** Canale Interns during the 2017–2018 academic year.

Bonner Leaders and Canale Interns worked at **34** partner sites in the local, tri-county community this academic year.

Bonner Leaders and Canale Interns recruited an estimated **541** volunteers to perform **4,703** volunteer hours for partner organizations.

As part of the Grants for Capacity Building Program, leaders in the Bonner and Canale programs applied for and leveraged a total of **\$5,590.57** in grant funding at **8** local organizations.

9 Bonner Leaders took on a new dimension of work in the program, forming the Bonner Leadership Team this year.

25 workshops on leadership and professionalism were offered to Bonner Leaders and Canale Interns this year.

A team of service interns built or updated websites for **5** community organizations during the 2017–2018 school year.

77 students participated in **7** Outreach Trips to **5** countries over fall, winter and spring breaks this year.

This summer (2018), **41** summer civic engagement interns are working collaboratively for social good with organizations near and far. **18** of these interns worked as VISTA Summer Associates with the USDA Summer Meal Program and multiple reading and enrichment programs across the plateau.

In the Easter 2018 semester, **12** students began a Certificate in Civic and Global Leadership, combining community development theory and practice to enhance their work for social good.

15 Community-Engaged Learning courses were offered during the 2017–2018 academic year across a variety of departments and disciplines.

This academic year, **5** Civic Engagement Faculty Fellows in **3** academic departments worked to give students the opportunity to enhance their learning through community engagement. **5** additional fellows have been approved for the upcoming year.

The Office of Civic Engagement supported partnerships with **103** different community organizations this year.

An estimated **78** percent of University students participated in service and philanthropy efforts as part of a fraternity or sorority this year.

Our Partners

We thank our community partners:

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| Accenture | Grundy County Food Bank | Ronald McDonald House in Chattanooga |
| The AIDS Support Organization | Grundy County Health Council | Salvation Army |
| All In Campus Democracy Challenge | Grundy County Mayor's Office | School Communities in Schools Color Run |
| American Red Cross | Grundy County Sheriff's Office | Sewanee Dance Marathon |
| Animal Harbor | Grundy County Zumba | Sewanee Elementary School |
| Appalachian Women's Guild | Grundy Safe Communities Coalition | Sewanee Equestrian Center |
| Babson Center for Global Commerce | Hacienda El Refugio | Sewanee Hearts and Grocery Carts |
| Baptist Church in Tullahoma, Tennessee | Halloween Children's Concert | Sewanee Hunger Walk |
| Beersheba Springs Medical Clinic | Housing Sewanee | Sewanee Senior Citizens Center |
| Blue Monarch | Hurricane Harvey Fundraiser | Sewanee Women Engaging and Empowering Community YMCA |
| Bonner Leaders Program | Jericho Road Episcopal Housing Initiative | Shake a Leg Miami |
| Center for Domestic Violence Prevention | Juvenile Diabetes Research Facility | Signal Mountain High School |
| Chattanooga Area Food Bank | Knights of Columbus | Sisters of St. Mary's Convent |
| Civic Tennessee | Lower Nine | South Cumberland Community Fund |
| Cloud Forest School | Make a Difference Day | South Pittsburg High School |
| Coalmont Elementary Activ8 | Makerere University and John Hopkins | St. James Episcopal Church |
| Community Action Committee | Marion County Task Force | Susan G. Komen Foundation |
| Community Engagement House | Monteagle Elementary School | Swiss Memorial Elementary School |
| Coral Gables High School | Morton Memorial Food Ministry | Swiss Memorial Garden |
| Cowan Elementary School | Mothers Against Drunk Driving | Tennessee Justice Center |
| Cub Scouts of America | Mountain T.O.P. | Thistle Farms |
| Cumberland Center for Justice and Peace | Nashville International Center for Empowerment | Trench Town Culture Yard |
| Cumberland Plateau Medical Internship | Networks Romania | TurboVote |
| Decherd Elementary School | New Ashongman Community Hospital | Turkey Trot |
| Department of Education | New Haven Farms | Tutoring |
| Diabetes Prevention Program | New Life | University Farm |
| Discover Together | North Elementary School Activ8 | University Research Collaboration Mt. Zion |
| Ducks Unlimited | Partners for Healing | University Wellness Center |
| English as a Second Language (ESL) | Partners in Agriculture (Zanmi Agrikol) | Volunteers in Medicine of Southern Tennessee |
| Folks at Home | Partners in Health (Zanmi Lasante) | Well-Directed Curiosity |
| Food With Friends | Pelham Elementary School Activ8 (ACE) | Zanzibar Heritage Center: Anglican Diocese of Zanzibar Zanmi Agrikol |
| Franklin County Election Commission | Project Linus | |
| Friends of Canon Gideon Foundation | Puppy Kisses | |
| Fundraising for Rohingya Refugees | Rape Crisis Center of Chattanooga | |
| Girl Scouts | Richard Hardy Elementary School | |
| Girls for a Change | | |



Our Staff

As we begin the 2018–2019 academic year, Office of Civic Engagement staff include:

Jim Peterman, Director
Nicky Hamilton, Senior Associate Director
Dixon Meyers, Associate Director
Robin Hille Michaels, Assistant Director
Kai Koopman, Office Coordinator
Sharron Bockman, Post-baccalaureate Fellow for Student Programming and Office Support

Our South Cumberland Plateau AmeriCorps VISTA Members
As of June 2018, AmeriCorps VISTA members include:

Sarah Hess, VISTA Leader
Douglas Tuers, VISTA Leader
Corrinne Taylor, Systems and Programs Coordinator at Folks at Home
Evelyn Ahnrud, Family Engagement Coordinator at Grundy County Board of Education
Caroline Bell, Attendance Coordinator at Grundy County Board of Education
Caroline Todd, Health Ambassador Coordinator at Grundy County Health Council
Jim Gass, Economic Development Coordinator at Grundy County Mayor's Office
Tim Moser, Re-Entry and Rehabilitation Coordinator at Grundy County Sheriff's Office
Emily Senefeld, Grundy Safe Communities Coalition Outreach Coordinator at Grundy Safe Communities Coalition
Audrey Valli, Housing Coalition Coordinator at Mountain T.O.P
Christian LeGrand, SCCF Communications and Fund Development Coordinator
Adele McAllister, SCCF Grant and Nonprofit Management Coordinator
Emily Heid, Specialty Crop Economic Development Coordinator at the University Farm
Barbara Roberts, Cumberland Teaching Garden Network Coordinator at the University Farm
Ritchie Wai, Aquaponics Economic Development Analyst at the University Farm

2017–2018 Student Staff

Many thanks to our outstanding student staff for the 2017–2018 academic year.

Bonner Leader Program Senior Interns

Sharron Bockman, C'18
James Jurgensen, C'18
Abbie Warr, C'19

Office of Civic Engagement Work Study Students

Hadley Montgomery, C'18
Evans Ousley, C'18
Kelsey Arbuckle, C'19
Abby Straessle, C'20



“One place comprehended can make us understand other places better.” —Eudora Welty





SEWANEE
THE UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH

**OFFICE OF
CIVIC ENGAGEMENT**

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