

Opportunity Knocks

Reporting on OWU Community Service Learning & Opportunities in Delaware and Beyond
Martha Park ~ Editor In Chief

Introducing Ohio Wesleyan's New VISTA Volunteer



AmeriCorps, created by President Bill Clinton, is a program of the Corporation for National and Community Service.

The Ohio Wesleyan Community Service Learning Office is excited to announce the addition of Mery Kanashiro, who is serving Delaware this year as an Ohio Campus Compact AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer. Mery is a twenty-three year old from the D.C. area. She is bilingual in Spanish and English, majored in Psychology with a Sociology/Zoology double-minor, and is a first-generation college graduate. She graduated from OWU last spring but will be sticking around for another year to work specifically to learn about homelessness and poverty in Delaware. Mery has found that these two issues are often overlooked, as many assume that Delaware is a mostly upper-middle class college town.

Over the next year, Mery will be working in conjunction with Ohio Wesleyan University, Family Promise of Delaware County, and The Women's City Club. Family Promise is an organization serving homeless families with children in the Delaware area to achieve lasting independence. Delaware churches rotate duties as needed on a weekly basis, providing meals and shelter for the families they serve. The Women's City Club is a local organization that provides stable housing for low-income, single working women, and it is where Mery is living throughout her year as a VISTA.

Mery is currently building relationships and getting to know the community. She will explore Delaware and its resources for low-income and homeless individuals and will spend time learning about the needs of the partner organizations. The next step she will take will be working with Ohio Wesleyan students to help fulfill needs. A challenge Mery faces is finding sustainable ways to make a difference in the community. She recognizes that she must be careful not to make decisions too quickly and miss the long-term solutions in pursuit of short-term, less sustainable ones. She hopes to plug Ohio Wesleyan students in to the community in a way that will challenge misperceptions both of the town itself and the students who reside in it.

If you're interested in getting involved with Family Promise of Delaware County or The Women's City Club, contact Mery Kanashiro at mmkanash@owu.edu or stop by the Community Service Office on the fourth floor of the Hamilton Williams Campus Center.

Further information about the Ohio Campus Compact, and Mery's partner organizations can be found at their websites:



Mery Kanashiro

Ohio Campus Compact: <http://www.ohiocampuscompact.org/>

Women's City Club: http://www.wccdelaaware.org/Home_Page.html

Family Promise of Delaware: <http://www.familypromise-delawareohio.org>

OWU Responds To Global Crisis



Photograph: Paula Bronstein/Getty Images

The Ohio Wesleyan campus club Horizons International hosted a campus-wide meeting on Thursday, September 10th during which a detailed overview of the magnitude of the floods in Pakistan was presented. Horizons International has taken on Pakistani aid and relief as a priority and would like to be in touch with you if you have any ideas.

Across campus, student groups are coming up with ways to support Pakistan during massively devastating flooding. Groups have had to be quick on their feet to come up with fundraisers and benefits quickly as aid is needed in Pakistan immediately.

During the weekend of September 11th, the Vietnamese Club and Rafiki Wa Afrika hosted two events that benefited Pakistani relief efforts. The Vietnamese Club had a cookout, while Rafiki Wa Afrika hosted a party at the Citizens of the World House. The party was called "Welcome to America" and donations were taken at the door.

On Wednesday, September 15th, Amnesty International will be hosting a burrito bar, where students can order burritos to be delivered to their dorms or to be picked up at the Peace and Justice House. All proceeds will go to Pakistani aid efforts.

As dates for future projects become finalized, keep an eye out for them on campus. Projects like kebab and henna stands have been proposed, as well as concerts with local bands, and dorm storming for food points which will continue throughout the semester.

In collaboration with the Chaplain's Office, Horizons International is serving as the primary facilitator for Pakistan Flood Relief efforts at OWU. The Delaware County Bank has established a special account, "Pakistan Flood Relief." As requested by Horizons, donations to this account will be distributed to three agencies: Doctors Without Borders, The Citizen's Foundation, and Giving Children Hope. Any who wishes to donate directly to these agencies can go directly to their web sites and donate through pay-pal. Horizons also recommends the following web-site for on-going updates on the situation in Pakistan: www.floodrelief.pk.

Contact Ali Oosman or Shahryar Khan to learn more about "Sympathize With Pakistan".

Crop Walk 2010 ~ Sunday, October 3rd

Registration at 1:30 ~ Walk at 2:00 p.m.

Walk Starts at Ham-Will Benes Room and Ends at First Presbyterian Church
Sponsored by Delaware Area Churches, OWU Community Service Learning & Chaplain's Offices
To benefit the work of Church World Service ~ www.churchworldservice.org



What is it? A 10-k Walk to Raise Money & Awareness for: Global Disaster Relief & Refugee Relocation, Self-Sufficiency Projects in Developing Countries and Delaware's own hunger-fighting Agency: *People In Need*

Who Should Participate? OWU Student Groups of all types: Service Clubs, SLU's, Dorm Floors, Greeks, Religious Organizations of all Faiths, Anyone who Cares about Fighting Global Hunger

To Participate: Send a Group Representative to the Community Service Office (HWCC-407) for information packet/pledge forms, etc.

Contact: Sue Pastors, (smpaster@owu.edu) OR Mery Kanashiro, (mmkanash@owu.edu) to learn how YOU can make a difference!

Proceeds from this year's Crop Walk will help support Pakistani Flood Relief



Agency Spotlight: People in Need, Inc.

People in Need, Inc. (PIN) of Delaware County, Ohio is an organization that provides short-term emergency food, medical, or housing needs to residents of Delaware County. PIN also works with community and government resources to help their clients during the rebuilding process after an unexpected loss, illness, or other financial emergency. The upcoming Crop Walk event on October 3rd will raise funds and awareness to benefit PIN as a local organization, as well as raising money for global disaster relief and self-sufficiency projects in developing countries.

Since PIN started in 1980, the population of Delaware County has increased by 200 percent, and it's still climbing. With this population growth, PIN has grown to accommodate the number of people in need of their services.

To support PIN, consider volunteering and participating in the **Crop Walk**. Another way you can get involved and help PIN is by donating to their food pantry. Some items are always needed. A more comprehensive list can be found on PIN's website, but here are a few of these items:

Bar Soap	Peanut Butter	Cereal / Oatmeal
Boxed Dinners	Shampoo	Macaroni & Cheese
Canned Fruit	Shaving Cream	Canned Pasta
Canned Milk	Soups	Potatoes - boxed/instant
Dish Soap	Spaghetti Sauce	Canned Vegetables
Kleenex	Sugar	Cake Mix / Frosting Mix
Laundry Detergent	Tea	Jam / Jelly
Paper Towels	Toothbrushes	Pancake Mix / Syrup

www.delawarepeopleinneed.org

People In Need is located at 138 Johnson Drive - Delaware, Ohio 43015

Phone: (740) 363-6284

Service Learning Internships



Global Village Collection - 37 N. Sandusky Street
www.globalvillagecollection.org

We are a non-profit, volunteer-staffed retail store filled to overflowing with amazing and unique hand-crafted Fair Trade items. Our main goal is to promote Fair Trade practices and to improve the economic welfare of Third World artisans and farmers by marketing their handicrafts. Purchases made at our store help provide a sustainable and fair economic system for the artisans and farmers who would not otherwise have access to our marketplace. Fair trade is not about charity. It is a holistic approach to trade and development that aims to alter the ways in which commerce is conducted, so that trade can empower the poorest of the poor. Fair Trade Organizations seek to create sustainable and positive change in developing and developed countries.

Substantive Service Learning and Internship opportunities are available for Ohio Wesleyan students who are interested in gaining hands-on skills in non-profit management, fair trade and social entrepreneurship.

e-mail: volunteers@globalvillagecollection.org

Phone: (740) 363-6267

ENVIRONMENTAL INTERNSHIPS AVAILABLE AT STRATFORD ECOLOGICAL CENTER

Stratford Ecological Center has 2 intern positions still open for this fall. One position is an Environmental Education Intern. This person would work Monday through Friday, either 8-4 or 9-5. They will lead school field trips, short in-school presentations, work in the children's garden, and other jobs. This position starts on September 8 and ends on November 12. There is a \$1400 stipend for the term.

The second position is for a Sunship Earth Intern. Sunship Earth is a week-long program for fifth graders where they learn about energy flow, diversity, community, etc., by taking part in hands-on activities. The intern will teach during the program, and will work from 7:30-2:30 pm on Mon, Tues, Wed, and Friday. On Thursday, they will work 7:30 am-8:30 pm to accommodate the evening component of the program. The position starts on September 27 and ends November 19. There is a \$1200 stipend for the program.

For more information, go to **www.stratfordecologicalcenter.org** or call (740)-363-2548 with any questions.

Let Us Help You, Help Others.....

The Council for Older Adults will design an Internship to fit you!

The Food and Nutrition program provides hot meals daily to older adults in their homes. The program delivers over 190,000 meals per year throughout the county on 39 different routes. Volunteer drivers are needed from 11-1pm either long term any day Monday through Friday.

Volunteers are also needed as kitchen assistants to help label and get meals ready. You can volunteer one day per week between 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Internships Available:

- ◆ Coordinator of Volunteer Program's Assistant
- ◆ Food and Nutrition
- ◆ Marketing Assistant
- ◆ Volunteer Department—Advisory Board Position

More information can be found outside the Community Service Office, 4th floor - HWCC.



Mentoring and Tutoring



Willis Big Brothers Big Sisters

Are you free on Tuesday afternoons from 3:15 to 5:15? If so, these two hours a week can make a huge difference in a child's life.

Applications for the Willis Big Brothers Big Sisters program are available on the table outside the Community Service Learning Office on the fourth floor of Hamilton Williams Campus Center...(room 407).

Questions? Contact the BBBS Program Director,
Kerri Robe at (740) 369-2447, e-mail:
krrobe@bbbscentralohio.org.

Or, contact one of the OWU Student Team Leaders:
Hunter Moss & Kelsey Kerstetter.

Background Check Required.

T.E.A.M. MENTORING

A Program of The Delaware County Juvenile Court
Together Everyone Achieves More

Do you like to play games, go out to eat, and hang out with kids? Can you spare 2 hours a week to be a mentor? TEAM Mentoring is a service learning program offered by the Delaware County Juvenile Court that matches mentors with Delaware county youth who are court-involved, as well as with kids who are at risk of becoming court-involved.

Want to know more?

Contact Patty Cram at (740) 833-2678
or e-mail pcram@co.delaware.oh.us

for information about becoming a TEAM Mentor.
Your help can make a big difference to a child.

Background Check Required

(WS)² is a collaboration between the William Street United Methodist Church and Willis Intermediate School. The program is facilitated by the Literacy Coalition of Delaware County, and we are looking for energetic volunteers to assist 5th and 6th graders with homework. (WS)² sessions occur every Monday and Thursdays from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the William Street United Methodist Church.



Responsibilities include supervising students through snacks, games, homework and clean up. Educational opportunities such as teaching activities, creating and implementing your own lesson plans can be arranged! We look forward to meeting you!

Interested parties should contact
ws2help@yahoo.com

Background Check Required



Delaware City Schools School Aged Child Care 21st Century After School Learning Centers

OWU Students are sought to serve as after-school tutors for elementary and middle school students at Conger Elementary, (10 Channing St.); Woodward Elementary, (200 S. Washington St.); and Dempsey Middle School, (599 Pennsylvania Ave.).

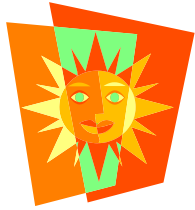
Program Details and Applications are available on the table outside the Community Service Learning Office, (Ham-Will 407) or by contacting Ms. Beth McDaniel, the 21st Century Learning Program Volunteer Coordinator, (740) 833-1852; or via e-mail mcdanibe@dcs.k12.oh.us.

Background Check Required

September 11th - Scioto River Cleanup and Community Unity Festival



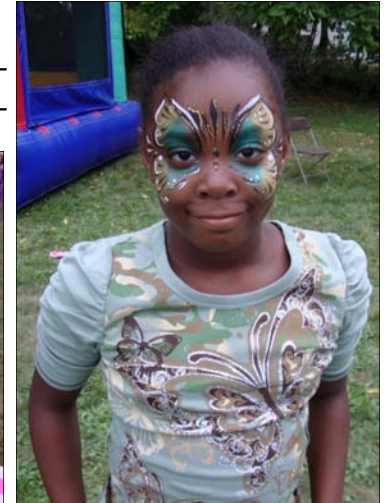
On Saturday, September 11th, 48 Ohio Wesleyan students from Sigma Chi, Environment and Wildlife Club, Circle K and others came out for the Annual Scioto River Sweep event. Volunteers removed twenty four tires and over one ton of trash from a one-mile stretch of river!



On the same day, Ohio Wesleyan students also attended the fourth annual Community Unity Festival at Ross Park and the Woodward Playground. The theme of the Festival was "Finding 'U' in Unity". The festival provides an opportunity for Delaware to connect in the Southside Community venue. Members of OWU Gospel Lyres provided inspirational music for the event, while other OWU students organized a booth with fun activities for children. Many local organizations and some non-profit agencies attended the event, providing vital information and community-building activities.



OWU Student Nigel Nyambuya creates art with his new friend.



Awesome Face Painting!
Photos by Jackie Osei-Bonsu



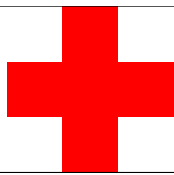
OWU Student Alexa von der Embse on Why You Should Stay "Up Til' Dawn"

Up 'til Dawn is a student-led initiative to raise money for St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee, where children with cancer, sickle cell disease, and other serious illnesses are treated. Because St. Jude is one of the leading research institutions in the world, freely sharing all of its medical discoveries, and because St. Jude never turns a child away because of inability to pay, it relies on donations and programs like Up Til' Dawn!

St. Jude is very near to my heart because my older sister was a patient there. Just weeks before she was supposed to leave for college, she was diagnosed with a life-threatening brain tumor. If it hadn't been for St. Jude, my sister and many other children wouldn't be here today. This is why I'm very excited to have the chance to give back to this amazing hospital.

OWU's first-ever Up 'til Dawn event will take place on Thursday, Oct. 21, from 5p.m.-12 midnight. Students, faculty, staff, and others from the OWU community will come either as teams or as individuals to send letters to friends and family, asking them to support their efforts and help raise money for St. Jude. We'll have lots of fun things going on at the event itself, from Fear Factor to campus bands to all sorts of games and competitions. It will be a really fun and rewarding event! We hope to see a lot of people come out for this great cause.

Our Up 'til Dawn Awareness Week will be September 20-24, and we'll have different things going on each day--including tabling, where people can register their teams. We also have a Facebook page (OWU Up 'til Dawn) if anyone is interested in checking it out for more details on what we'll be doing! If anyone is interested in participating, registering a team, getting involved, or learning more information about Up 'til Dawn or about St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, please contact Alexa von der Embse at arvonder@owu.edu.



**American
Red Cross**

OWU Blood Drive for the American Red Cross

**October 6th, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. in Benes Rooms A & B
Hamilton Williams Campus Center**

~ Sponsored by OWU Circle K ~

Tips for Donating Blood:

1. Get a good night's sleep
2. Eat a good breakfast the morning of the blood drive.
3. Drink plenty of fluids
4. Relax! Remember, you might help save up to three lives. Just sit back and enjoy being a hero
5. In between donations, it is important to eat a diet rich in iron. Good sources of iron include red meat, beans, and fortified cereal.

Every day in America, approximately 38,000 blood donations are needed to help patients continue to live.

For more information, go to **Bloodsaveslives.org**.

Email Stephanie VanVliet (slvanvli@owu.edu) to register.

OWU Service Fair 2010!

On Wednesday, September 1st, thirty Community Agency Partners, four campus service-learning programs and seven student service organizations came together to share information, recruit student volunteers. If you missed the event, don't despair...brochures, flyers and applications are available outside the OWU Community Service Learning Office, Ham-Will Room 407. See you there!



***Congratulations HelpLine!
For Forty Years Of Caring Service.***

***And Thank You
for welcoming Ohio Wesleyan
students to serve and learn in
partnership with you!***



1970-2010
A GENERATIONAL GEM
HelpLine



DATES TO REMEMBER

September 22nd– Applications for Spring Break Mission Trips due.

September 25th– Harvest Fair at Stratford Ecological Center

October 3rd– Delaware Crop Walk to benefit Church World Service & PIN

October 6th –Red Cross Blood Drive in the Benes Rooms

October 13-17th—OWU Mid-Semester Break

October 21st—Up Til' Dawn fundraiser to benefit St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

November 20-28th—OWU Thanksgiving Break

December 10th—OWU Fall Semester Last Day of Classes

Hey Y'all!

I'm Martha Park, the new editor of *Opportunity Knocks* for the 2010-2011 academic year. I am a senior from Memphis, Tennessee, and I'm double majoring in Fine Arts and English with a concentration in Creative Writing. I live in the Peace and Justice House, and I'm a preacher's kid. These two experiences especially have shaped my understanding of the importance of compassionate, sustainable, community service. I'm really excited to work in the Community Service Office this year and get to know Ohio Wesleyan students and the Delaware community better. I met many of you at the Community Service Fair at the beginning of the year. It was great seeing so many enthusiastic organizations and volunteers. I'm looking forward to getting to know all of you more over the next year.



Martha Park

Opportunity Knocks

Please recycle



If you would like to advertise a service opportunity or provide a story about a project, email Martha Park at opknocks@owu.edu.