

UoFL Engagement

Partnerships for a better community.

December 2010

2010 - An Award Winning Year!

As the 2010 year comes to a close, it is timely to reflect back on the many accomplishments that UofL students, faculty and staff have made on behalf of our community. The university continues to garner local and national recognition for its work in helping to improve the quality of life for residents in our community and around the Commonwealth.

The year began with UofL being named to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll with Distinction. The selection to the Honor Roll is the highest federal recognition a college or university can receive for its commitment to volunteering, service-learning, and civic engagement. UofL was the only university in the state of Kentucky named to the Honor Roll with Distinction.

In this issue, we highlight other awards or recognition the university recently received for community engagement. In September, UofL received Republic Bank's *We CARE Award* in the education and public service category. The university was honored for encouraging students, faculty and staff to become involved in volunteer activities, supporting community-based initiatives, philanthropic efforts, and neighborhood assistance.

In October, UofL President Jim Ramsey and Simmons College President Kevin Cosby received the 2010 Community Service award from *The Louisville Defender* for developing a collaborative partnership between the two institu-

tions of higher education. This collaboration is designed to boost higher education opportunities for local students.

Also in October, UofL was awarded a \$2.6 million i3 Innovation Grant from the U.S. Department of Education and the Council for Opportunity in Education for its outstanding work in preparing high school students to enroll and succeed in college. This five year grant will enable UofL to build on its on-going efforts with students at Moore High School and the Academy at Shawnee.

And finally, we finished the year by recognizing and celebrating the winners of the 2010 Outstanding Community Engagement Awards. Students from the Nursing School received the outstanding student engagement award, the Exploited Children's Help Organization (ECHO) was named community partner of the year, and 30 individuals received special recognition for their work with last year's H1N1 Community Immunization Project.

As we look forward to a new year, the Office of Community Engagement is grateful for the support of President Jim Ramsey, Provost Shirley Willihnganz, other university administrators, students, faculty and staff. We also are grateful to our many community partners who see the value in collaborating to better community and to enhance UofL's teaching, research, and service.



Community Engagement Vice-President Daniel Hall and Dwight Dozier, chair of UofL Cares, accept Republic Bank's We CARE Award



Nursing School student administers H1N1 vaccine to Portland Plaza resident

Signature Partnership

Office of Community Engagement Awarded a \$2.6 Million Grant

The Office of Community Engagement was informed in mid-October that it will serve as a major contract partner in the implementation of a newly funded i3 Innovation Grant Initiative between the Washington, D.C. based Council for Opportunity in Education (COE), the U.S. Department of Education and the General Electric Foundation. Selected from among nearly 1,700 applicants, COE secured a \$20 million grant from the Department of Education under the “Investing in Innovation” i3 program to address one of America’s most pressing educational challenges-increasing college access and success for low-income, first-generation, and minority students. The GE Foundation, a long-standing COE partner, is also matching the federal grant with an additional \$4 million to start a five year initiative that will focus on improving overall student achievement, providing sustained support in rigorous curricula, and increasing college attendance.

University of Louisville will partner with Kentucky State University and Jefferson County Public Schools to address student challenges at three target JCPS secondary schools, Fern Creek and Moore High schools and the Academy at Shawnee. The overarching goal of the program is to positively impact college enrollment and success, as well as student achievement, student growth and related factors.

The Office of Community Engagement will use this \$2.6 million contract award to implement a program that seeks to embed an educational professional, College Coach, and proven TRIO practices into the aforementioned schools so that the College Coaches are considered partners with JCPS school personnel. Services are expected to target low-income, first generation students and, to a large extent, be delivered through learning communities made up of students in the same grade, and enrolled to the extent feasible in the same courses. Each target school also will benefit from additional resources including funds for tutors, mentors, student field trips to educational institutions, overnight college visitations, and math/science summer enrichment activities.

By Ralph Fitzpatrick, Associate Vice President for Community Engagement

UofL Simmons College Partnership Underway

The University of Louisville and Simmons College of Kentucky committed to an agreement designed to boost higher education opportunities for local students. The agreement signed by Presidents Ramsey and Cosby in April 2010 calls for aligning general education requirements.

Students will be eligible to co-register in general education courses that result in credit that can be used for either a Simmons or UofL degree. Associate Degree completers from Simmons College will be encouraged to enroll at UofL in a bachelor’s degree program.

Co-registered students have access to both Simmons College and UofL services, which will include:

- Library access
- Blackboard access
- TARC transportation
- Student services and tutoring

Coordinated advising support is provided by staff at Simmons and UofL. There are two courses underway for fall 2010 (Geosciences and Psychology) with a total enrollment of 22 students. In spring 2011, three courses are tentatively scheduled in history, psychology and pan-african studies.

Simmons College has contacted Jefferson Community and Technical College to discuss additional educational initiatives. A work group with representatives from UofL, Simmons College and Jefferson Community and Technical College are meeting regularly to determine future directions for this historic project.

By Connie Shumake, Assistant Provost



Simmons College President and UofL Trustee, Dr. Kevin Cosby

Community Engagement

2nd Annual Community Engagement Awards Recognize UofL Service Efforts

More than 100 people attended the 2nd Annual Community Engagement Awards Ceremony on October 21 in the Chao Auditorium. Sponsored by the Provost's Office and the Office of Community Engagement, the awards recognize outstanding efforts in community service among UofL faculty, staff, students and community partners. Winners were selected from 28 nominees, all of whom were recognized at the event. Winners received an engraved crystal award plus a monetary award.

WINNER PROFILES

School of Nursing Community Leadership Practicum Students

Under the direction of faculty member Marianne Hutti, eleven students from the School of Nursing Community Leadership Practicum course received the award for their spring 2010 efforts to provide health education and services to about 300 backside workers at Churchill Downs.

In partnership with the Kentucky Racing Health Services Center, the students developed and implemented a program that included researching the health issues that most often affect racetrack workers; developing a communication strategy that gave information - in English and Spanish - on preventing and treating those issues; and obtaining donations of much needed over-the-counter pain medications to be dispensed to the workers.

The students also organized the collection and dissemination of more than 100 backpacks to the "Blessings in a Backpack" program at Semple Elementary School, where many of the children of backside workers attend. The students received a \$2,500 award, which will support future community engagement activities of students in that course. The Kentucky Racing Health Services Center was designated to receive a matching grant of \$2,500.



Provost Shirley Willibnganz, Dr. Marianne Hutti, President James Ramsey, and Vice President Daniel Hall

Exploited Children's Help Organization (ECHO)

UofL recognized the Exploited Children's Help Organization (ECHO), as the outstanding community partner. ECHO is a non-profit, volunteer-based organization that has worked to reduce child abuse and to address the needs of missing and abused children and their families through prevention, education and coping services.

ECHO is a practicum site for Kent School of Social Work students, allowing them to gain specialized knowledge and experience in providing services to child victims as well as developing skills in evaluating service effectiveness. In 2009, ECHO served 37,000 children and families in the Louisville area, with volunteers contributing more than 2,000 hours of service. ECHO received a \$5,000 monetary award from UofL.

Provost Shirley Willibnganz, ECHO Director Ms. Lucy Lee, President James Ramsey and Vice President Daniel Hall



Special Recognition

In fall 2009, UofL, Louisville Metro and communities around the world were bracing for a possible H1N1 influenza pandemic. In partnership with the Louisville Metro Health and Wellness Department, UofL took a leadership role in planning and conducting a massive immunization initiative for the community. More than 400 UofL students, faculty and staff from 11 schools and departments planned and **executed the largest mass immunization event ever held in the United States.**

More than 19,000 immunizations were administered over a two-day period, including more than 13,000 at a drive-thru operation set up at Papa John's Cardinal Stadium.

The \$10,000 award was split three ways: to assist students who suffer personal emergencies; to bolster the SHARE program, which offers assistance to staff members in financial need; and to support faculty who need to pay permission and copyright fees for research and publications.

By Communications and Marketing

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Making a Difference with Youth Service Providers

The YES You Can Grant funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and administered by the UofL's Kent School of Social Work and Office of Community Engagement, Louisville Metro Center for Health Equity and the Anne E. Casey's Network Center officially ended on a "high note of celebration" in November 2010.

The project team provided ten trainings to youth serving organizations on topics including grant writing/proposal development, outcome evaluation, non-profit board development, fundraising, recruitment and retention of youth, risk management, program planning and many others. Over the grant cycle, the team identified over 100 youth serving organizations in the metro Louisville area with varying levels of capacity. From November 2009 through September 2010 eighty-three (83) youth serving organizations attended at least one of the training sessions.

In addition, 12 youth service providers were awarded mini grants ranging from \$13,000-20,000 that provided access to consultants and additional technical assistance to further build their program capacity. Technical assistance workshops focused on revenue development, strategic planning, organizational development, coalition building, fiscal management, marketing and public relations. Overall, the team completed over 1200 hours of technical assistance for the 12 grantees over an eight (8) month period.

By Ralph Fitzpatrick, Associate Vice President for Community Engagement

Community Will Continue to Develop Promise Neighborhood Initiative

Although not awarded a federal planning grant, the Louisville community has vowed to continue to pursue its plans to establish a promise neighborhood initiative in Shawnee, Portland, and Russell neighborhoods. This will be a comprehensive, realistic, and evidence-based pipeline of solutions that builds a seamless network of services and supports around children and families from low-income, predominately minority neighborhoods in West Louisville.

U.S. Department of Education official, Mr. Larkin Tackett, noted that the grant competition was highly competitive and out of the 339 applications submitted only 21 planning grants were funded. Non-federal peer reviewers' comments further revealed that the Louisville's submission was one of a number of quality proposals worthy of funding consideration that simply exceeded the planning grant funds available.

To see the list of funded Promise Neighborhood applications visit the Promise Neighborhood Program Web site at <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/promiseneighborhoods/index.html>. Or if you desire to learn more about the University of Louisville-Metro Louisville submission visit <http://louisville.edu/communityengagement>.