Community Engagement at UofL

2022-23 REPORT

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE
OFFICE OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
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DEFINING COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community engagement describes the collaboration between institutions of higher education and their larger communities (local, regional/state, national, global) for the mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge and resources in a context of partnership and reciprocity (Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching). The purpose of community engagement is the partnership of college and university knowledge and resources with those of the public and private sectors to enrich scholarship, research, and creative activity; enhance curriculum, teaching, and learning; prepare educated, engaged citizens; strengthen democratic values and civic responsibility; and address critical societal issues.

Section 1 of this report looks at community engagement across the institution through the work of students, faculty and staff, collaborating with external community partners. This work is supported internally, through funding opportunities, professional development, advocacy, planning, tracking, and assessment by the Office of Community Engagement, and is described in Section 2 beginning on page 9.

1. OUR MISSION OF ENGAGED SERVICE & OUTREACH

Community partnership and engaged service are core elements of the University of Louisville’s mission. Whether it is working with students in local public schools, helping to provide services in underserved neighborhoods, or building stronger communities internationally, UofL is committed to collaborating with partners to improve quality of life in places both near and far.

The University of Louisville understands that community engagement plays a critical role in enhancing academic quality while providing service to the community, and that public service reflects our mission to share the benefits of its research and knowledge for the public good.

More than 30 new University of Louisville-trained teachers will be assigned to high-needs schools in the Jefferson County Public Schools (JCPS) system after completing a unique, one-year training program.

The teachers received their master’s degrees in May 2023 from UofL after completing the Louisville Teacher Residency (LTR) program, which is designed to increase the pool of diverse, highly skilled teachers in low-performing urban schools.
Community engagement activities are broken down into the categories listed below (individual activities can fall under multiple categories):

1991 community engagement activities were reported by academic & administrative units in 2022-23

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Instances</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Partnership</td>
<td>486</td>
<td>Ongoing collaboration with community partners for the mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge and resources in a context of partnership and reciprocity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outreach</td>
<td>573</td>
<td>Providing direct services, time, or resources to benefit a community or its institutions. This includes instances of public intellectualism such as talks, lectures, presentations, performances, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curricular Engagement</td>
<td>942</td>
<td>Describes the teaching, learning, and scholarship that engages students, and community in mutually beneficial and respectful collaboration through coursework.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engaged Scholarship</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>Faculty scholarly work done in partnership with the community. It consists of research, teaching, and the application of scholarship for the mutual benefit of the institution and community partner.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Student, faculty, and staff engagement

Through the activities taking place during the 2022-23 academic year, faculty, staff and students worked with local, state-wide, national and international communities in engaged teaching, research and service.

16,460 Instances of student engagement with 381,197 hours of service

1,129 Instances of faculty engagement

923 Instances of staff engagement
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EXAMPLES FROM ACROSS THE INSTITUTION

College of Arts & Sciences - Air Justice

Air Justice is a project of the Environmental Health Literacy Coalition, a local group of community leaders, grassroots activists, and researchers who want to make the science of air pollution in Louisville easier to understand. The reason it is easy to ignore air pollution is because toxins are mostly invisible and scientific and legal jargon make it difficult to fight against the issue. That is how Air Justice started-with Councilwoman Keisha Dorsey and members of Rubbertown Emergency Action (REACT) frustrated with the difficult-to-read public notices circulating about air pollution. Residents should not have to sift through jargon to advocate for themselves. Since these foundational ideas, Air Justice has evolved to work with scholars, students, and local communities to research solutions that bring legislative change and decrease toxic emissions.¹

College of Business - Cardinal Bridge Academy

The UofL College of Business’ Cardinal Bridge Academy (CBA) is a partnership with Jefferson County Public Schools (JCPS) which offers students the chance to earn college credit and jump start their future in business while earning up to 12 dual credit college hours at no cost to the student. CBA classes are taught by UofL faculty members asynchronously Online. The program also gives students access to mentoring, professional development, job shadowing, internships, and field trips. The CBA began in 2020 with a handful of students at JCPS’ Central High School. It has since expanded to serve hundreds of students, including participants from other districts and six more JCPS high schools: Ballard, Butler, Eastern, Male, Marion C. Moore, Pleasure Ridge Park, and the Academy @ Shawnee. Twenty-six 2023 JCPS graduates who came through the program will attend UofL this fall, with 16 of those students going to the College of Business.²
School of Dentistry - Rural / Underserved Dental Care across Kentucky

The UofL School of Dentistry maintains clinical sites throughout the Commonwealth to further fulfill its mission of improving the oral health of Kentuckians. The Shelbyville clinical site established in 2022 makes it possible for the UofL to provide access to dental care for underserved populations across the region, providing dental students another community-based site, further building service into the educational experience as a part of the curriculum. In recent years, the school opened a clinical rotation site in Paducah through a collaboration with West Kentucky Community and Technical College. UofL also sends students to Beverly, Kentucky, located in the eastern part of the state, to learn and provide services at the Red Bird Dental Clinic.³

College of Education and Human Development - Art Therapy Curricular Engagement

The art therapy master’s program is unique — not only across UofL’s campus but across Kentucky as well. It is the only program of the discipline in the state and, founded in 1968, one of the first of its kind in the United States. “It’s a form of therapy that really transcends age group and demographics,” Amy Mattingly ‘22 said. “Geriatrics, pediatrics, clients who have experienced trauma or have recently been in an accident … I have seen every population benefit from using art as a form of processing what they have been through.” They partner with over 30 sites throughout Louisville and southern Indiana regions, placing students in settings ranging from women’s prisons to nursing homes, residential facilities to hospitals. Graduates of the program are in high demand, with alumni working in settings across the country and a near 100% employment rate upon degree completion.⁴

Community Dental Clinic is partnering with the University of Louisville School of Dentistry to further expand access to oral health care in Owensboro and surrounding areas. Starting in January 2024, the University of Louisville will assume operational management of the clinic. This is the latest community dental practice under UofL management, with other locations in Elizabethtown, Louisville, Paducah and Shelbyville. Under the partnership, the practice will be known as Community Dental Clinic In Cooperation With UofL Dental Care.
J.B. Speed School of Engineering - GEA Scholars Program for aspiring engineers from underrepresented communities

The J.B. Speed School of Engineering is partnering with GE Appliances in a scholarship program for pre-engineering students to pursue their studies in STEM, involving tuition assistance and mentoring opportunities. The GEA Scholars Program is designed for students whose dreams and aspirations centered on becoming an engineer, but who struggled to make that dream a reality because of a lack of opportunity. The program also strengthens the pipeline of minority engineering professionals.5

Louis D. Brandeis School of Law - Law Clinics

Brandeis School of Law built three robust law clinics in the past 15 years. The Ackerson Law Clinic, Entrepreneurship Clinic, and Trager-Brandeis Elder Law Clinic have become integral parts of the school in the tradition of Brandeis, the Louisville native and former U.S. Supreme Court associate justice for whom the school is named. The three clinics operate throughout the academic year and cater to community residents who need support in areas such as housing and family law, business startup and estate planning, but who do not have the means to hire private law firms.5

School of Medicine - Free Community Clinics

For the past several decades (except for a brief period over the COVID-19 pandemic) UofL medical students have organized free community clinics targeting underserved populations, under the supervision of community physicians in practice. Via course work including IDEP 880, medical students are not only treating patients, but are involved in clinic operations and management. At its peak there were a total of seven clinics, including clinics with Metro Louisville Public Health, at the Healing Place for Women, the Healing Place for Men, and family community clinics. Currently the program is partnering with Family Health Centers. Services provided range from basic primary care to school physicals, up to chronic disease diagnosis and management of older patients through quasi urgent care evaluation and triage. A major impact for students is the peer mentoring aspect where student clinic leaders, recruit and train the next group, ensuring program continuity through a high impact learning practice.

Morgan LaRosa, a third-year law student at UofL, has participated in the Trager-Brandeis Elder Law Clinic since its inception in spring of 2022. “I enjoy the work I have done at the clinic. It has provided me with hands-on, practical experience that I never would have fully acquired from a law school classroom. There is nothing more valuable than real client interaction. I want to continue serving the aging populations of Kentucky.”
**School of Music - UofL Music Therapy Clinic**

The music therapy program was established in 2000 and was the first to offer a music therapy program in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Approved by the American Music Therapy Association, the undergraduate and equivalency music therapy programs prepare students to practice in a variety of clinical settings in the community and to participate in research, program development, leadership, and advocacy opportunities. Students learn from a diverse and experienced faculty in partnership with outstanding and experienced music therapists in the Louisville community.

The UofL Music Therapy Clinic is located within the school of music and is one of the only revenue producing music therapy clinics in the country. The clinic sees nearly 200 clients per week, both individual clients and groups at facilities. This allows students to have a wide variety of choices for practicum and clinical experiences. The clinic operates on a sliding fee scale in order to service a larger client base.7

**School of Nursing - Healthcare Workforce Development in Western KY**

UofL School of Nursing and Owensboro Health Regional Hospital began partnering together in 2009 to address statewide nursing workforce needs by providing opportunities for future nurses to earn a BSN degree in western Kentucky. Students attend class and master nursing skills, in modern, fully equipped classrooms and labs along with unique access to a variety of simulation equipment. Small class sizes provide one-on-one interaction with faculty in an encouraging learning environment while students refine critical thinking and problem-solving skills, developing the confidence needed to begin a career in nursing. Students provide impactful patient care in a range of clinical settings within Owensboro Health Regional Hospital and throughout the community including homeless shelters, community clinics, long-term care facilities and more.8

As defined by the American Music Therapy Association (AMTA), music therapy is: the clinical and evidence-based use of music interventions to accomplish individualized goals within a therapeutic relationship by a credentialed professional who has completed an approved music therapy program.
School of Public Health and Information Science - *The Commonwealth Institute of Kentucky*

The Commonwealth Institute of Kentucky (CIK) serves as a transdisciplinary collaborative for population health improvement, policy and analytics, and has a research infrastructure to support a variety of transdisciplinary projects that engage academic partners, clinical partners, and community partners in improving the health of the Commonwealth. CIK works with Louisville Metro Government, the Center for Health Equity, Metro Department of Public Health and Wellness, the Metro Office of Safe and Healthy Neighborhoods, and LMPD. Other state and local partners include the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, the Kentucky Center for Education & Workforce Statistics, Jefferson County Public Schools, and many community-based, civic, and faith organizations.⁹

Raymond A. Kent School of Social Work and Family Science - *The Center for Family and Community Well-Being*

The Center for Family and Community Well-Being provides an organizational structure at the University allowing for community agency personnel to come together with university faculty and develop joint projects aimed at increasing resources to families and communities in need. The Center has consistently sought to serve our urban community, with particular emphasis on social problems, and vulnerable populations. The Center has had a significant role in initiating, developing, implementing and in some cases maintaining a number of nationally recognized programs. Among the nationally recognized programs or models that got their start in the Center are Neighborhood Place, Families in Transition, Juvenile Sexual Offender Counselor Training, and the Solution Based Casework model adopted by the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Additional projects have included leadership development in the west end of Louisville and other urban areas of the state, also development of - programs and resources for high risk children in under-served areas, training programs for staff in private child care centers that work with high risk children, and a treatment protocol for the Department of Juvenile Justice, Commonwealth of Kentucky.⁶

University Libraries - *Parkland Library Reopening*

University Libraries is partnering with The Friends of Parkland Library (FOPL) to reopen the Parkland Library to serve Chincasaw, California, and Park Hill neighborhoods in west Louisville. The group is surveying residents to determine their interest in having a library and educating them on how to be involved in the library. University librarians are providing their expertise for this project.

The Center for Family and Community Well-Being (CFWCB) advances the well-being of vulnerable populations through the development and dissemination of evidence based practices, technology driven innovations, and research to address complex social problems such as violence and trauma, poverty, injustice, and disparities in health and mental health. The Center utilizes the expertise of faculty from the Kent School of Social Work and partners throughout the University and community to achieve it’s mission.
2. THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IN 2022-23

The Office of Community Engagement coordinates programs and activities to support the university community and to enhance and promote engagement with community stakeholders.

TRIO Programs

The Federal TRIO Programs (TRIO), Upward Bound and Talent Search, are Federal outreach and student services programs designed to identify and provide services for individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds, and targeted to serve and assist low-income and first-generation college students to progress through the academic pipeline from middle school to post-baccalaureate programs.

Upward Bound provides fundamental support to participants in their preparation for college entrance. The program provides opportunities for participants to succeed in their precollege performance and ultimately in their higher education pursuits. Upward Bound serves: high school students from low-income families; and high school students from families in which neither parent holds a bachelor’s degree. The goal of Upward Bound is to increase the rate at which participants complete secondary education and enroll in and graduate from institutions of postsecondary education.

The Talent Search program identifies and assists individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds who have the potential to succeed in higher education. The program provides academic, career, and financial counseling to its participants and encourages them to graduate from high school and continue on to and complete their postsecondary education. The program publicizes the availability of financial aid and assists participants with the postsecondary application process. Talent Search also encourages persons who have not completed education programs at the secondary or postsecondary level to enter or reenter and complete postsecondary education. The goal of Talent Search is to increase the number of youth from disadvantaged backgrounds who complete high school and enroll in and complete their postsecondary education.
Community Engagement Programs

Gheens Mini Grants
In fall 2022 The Office of Community Engagement invited proposals from faculty, staff, and students to apply for mini grants that will directly impact the community. The awarded projects will directly benefit the community through direct service, research, or outreach in collaboration with community partners. Priority was given to projects in collaboration with underrepresented communities such as west and south Louisville, the immigrant and refugee community, rural communities, or the international community. These Mini Grants were made possible through the generous support of the Gheens Foundation. Twenty-three grants of up to $3000 dollars were awarded to faculty, staff and student leaders from Arts & Sciences, the CEHD, the Digital Transformation Center, Engage Lead Serve Board, Libraries, Medicine, SPHIS, and Social Work.

Student Philanthropy Program
Students in the philanthropy program as part of their course requirement work with non-profit organizations in the community to apply knowledge gained in the classroom to real-world situations. Students award a deserving non-profit organization a $1,000 grant to further a cause identified by the students. Students in PSYC 407 Family Risk, Resilience and Mindfulness Class awarded their check to Family & Children’s Place while students in the Psychology Lifespan course awarded their check to Volunteers of America. The program is funded by a donor who wants students to learn the value of philanthropy.

Anchor Mission and Local Purchasing Task Force
This group of interested faculty and staff come together monthly to explore issues of local purchasing. As a large employer, the University of Louisville by its sheer size with approximately 7,000 employees, (excluding UofL Health) and its purchasing power, is an anchor in the community. This group seeks education on the issue of local purchases as they explore how as a University and community we can promote local purchasing by supporting minority-owned businesses.

- Purchasing Priority Plan (P3) Tool: The group develop the P3 tool to help individuals track their purchasing and determine whether or not they are supporting local and minority businesses.
- Co-op Summit: Anchor Mission Task Force planned the first Co-op Summit at the College of Arts and Sciences Campus in Portland on May 17. Participants included those involve in the co-op movement and those who are interested in starting a co-op.

Awards and Recognition
Recognition awards were presented to faculty Dr. Hilaria Cruz for her work documenting an indigenous Mexican language; staff, Jason Beare for his charitable 5K event to raise money for local Veterans; student group, FIAAY Project from the School of Public Health and Information Science, for their work to address HIV testing and prevention barriers among justice-involved African American young adults; and community partner, Rubbertown Emergency Action for their environmental justice work in Rubbertown. The awards were presented at the Engaged Scholarship Symposium.

The Trager Institute for Optimal Aging received the W.K. Kellogg Community Engagement Scholarship Exemplary Award from the Association of Public & Land Grant Universities and the Engagement Scholarship Consortium for their work making Louisville an Age-Friendly City. The Office of Community Engagement provided mentoring and worked closely with the Trager Institute for the award submission. To date, all five submissions from UofL have been awarded partly due to the support from the Office of Community Engagement.
Professional Development

Workshop and Webinars
An estimated 200 faculty and staff representing every school and college participated in workshops related to community engagement. Examples of topics explored include the foundational aspects of community engagement, promotion and tenure, engaged teaching, and types of engaged research. In addition, faculty and staff also participated in a number of webinars conducted by the Engaged Scholarship Consortium and the Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities, two national organizations to which UofL holds membership.

Sparkshop and SparkLab
The Office of Community Engagement partnered with the Center for Engaged Learning and the Delphi Center for Teaching and Learning to offer Sparkshops, brief presentation on engaged learning experiences for students. The Sparkshops were presented to 6 departments in the College of Arts and Sciences. This led to the more in depth SparkLab, where the topic of engaged learning was explored in greater details. 12 faculty members representing 12 different departments participated in the SparkLab.

Engaged Scholarship Symposium
The annual UofL Engaged Scholarship Symposium is an opportunity to network and share current research and teaching activities involving community partners and service to the community. The theme for the 2023 Engaged Scholarship Symposium was Making a Difference through University-Community Collaborations. About 32 faculty, staff, and students presenters led 22 presentations on engaged teaching, research, outreach, and partnerships. For the first time Bellarmine University faculty were invited as presenters. The symposium was attended by over 100 individuals. Dr. Marisol Morales, Executive Director of the Carnegie Elective Classifications for the American Council on Education (ACE) gave the keynote address.

Community-Based Learning Institute
The community-based learning institute is a three day program designed to explore the depth of community-engaged teaching. The goal is that participants will commit to teach a community-based learning course, thus engaging their students in course related activities in the community. 12 faculty members representing 11 academic units participated in this year’s institute.

The Keynote Speaker for the 2023 Engaged Scholarship Symposium was Dr. Marisol Morales, the Executive Director of the Carnegie Elective Classifications for the American Council on Education.

Community Engagement Award categories include Outstanding Faculty, Outstanding Student, and Outstanding Community Partner.
Community Engagement Events

Cards Come Together 2022
In Summer 2022 OCE partnered with District 6 Metro Councilman David James and Brightside for an Old Louisville Neighborhood Clean-up. Starting at 4th and Oak, clean-up of streets and alleyways from 1st street to St. Catherine.

Community Partner Showcase
In October 2022 the first Community Partner Showcase was held at the 2020 Quad on Belknap Campus to explore ways to connect for impact in Louisville, across the Commonwealth and beyond. Representatives from nonprofits, government agencies and other organizations came to discuss ways that UofL faculty, staff and students can collaborate on opportunities for partnership, service and outreach. Visiting community partners included Metro Louisville Center for Health Equity, Metro Louisville Parks and Recreation, Dare to Care, Metro United Way, Urban League, Collaborative for Teaching & Learning, Center for Neighborhoods, CASA, STEAM Exchange, Sowing Seeds of Faith, See Forward Ministry, Peace Corps, Kentucky Derby Festival, and Junior Achievement.

Talk with Eric Thomas and JCPS Students
Motivational speaker Eric Thomas, the “Hop Hop Preacher” spoke with Jefferson County Public Schools students at the Swain Student Activities Center about decision-making and setting yourself to reach your goals in education and in life. Thomas regularly speaks with young people about decision making and learning about opportunities for success.
Assessment and Impact

Community-Based Learning course review
CBL courses involve a community experience or project with an external partner that applies knowledge and integrates theory and practice every time the course is offered. The 2022 review found 553 discrete CBL courses reported by department chairs. This information will be used in UofL’s upcoming Carnegie Community Engagement Reclassification to reports on levels of curricular engagement across the institution.

Annual Activity Reporting
OCE re-established the annual activity reporting with faculty and staff invited to report on their collaboration with community partners. There is still work to be done to re-establish pre-pandemic levels of reporting, but faculty and staff in some units were able to provide information about their partnership and outreach efforts with external partners. The 2022-23 reporting was augmented with information garnered from unit and department web sites and social media accounts.

Grants Related to Community Engagement
University faculty and administrators received grant awards related to community engagement estimated at $30,016,570 during the 2022-23 academic year. The grants addressed a variety of issues in the community including training and education, research, project assessment and direct services to communities. Some of the top units to receive funding include the School of Medicine, College of Education and Human Development, the Speed School of Engineering, the Kent School of Social Work and Family Science, and the School of Dentistry.

Community-Based Learning course evaluation analysis
In summer 2023 a comprehensive analysis of Community-Based Learning course (CBL) evaluations was launched with the help of an intern. Seven years of evaluation data for CBLs from almost every school and college were organized. Analysis of the Likert scale item showed that 72% of students report that involvement with a community improved their learning experience. Results from the open ended item are expected in 2024.

Community Engagement Web Map
OCE developed a mapping application for looking at the location of activities around the world and across Kentucky. The last full year of pre-COVID data was geocoded, and the 2022-23 data is expected to be added by summer 2024.
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