



2021-2022  
ANNUAL REPORT

# Center for Service Learning

[csl.ku.edu](https://csl.ku.edu)

Through community and campus partnerships, the Center for Service Learning advances service-learning, community-engaged scholarship, and civic engagement that fosters a commitment to participation for a diverse, just, and global society.

KU Academic Success  
[academicsuccess.ku.edu](https://academicsuccess.ku.edu)



“I loved how applicable this course was to other areas of my life. I felt like I gained important lessons that I can apply to society that I have never learned in any other course. I think everyone should be required to take this course. There are so many valuable lessons that I will be able to take with me past college.”

UNIV 492 Student

# WHAT WE OFFER

## UNIV 492 & 299

The CSL offered UNIV 492 three times during this academic year—once over the Winter Break, once over spring break, and once at the beginning of the summer holiday.

## Service Learning Certificates

Students can earn a service learning certificate by completing service-learning classes, engaging in volunteer work, and reflecting on service learning experiences.

## Center for Service Learning Awards

CSL provides five annual awards that recognize KU faculty, staff, students, and community partners who are doing important work in service-learning and community

## Pathways to Service

Pathways to Service and the Community Engagement Toolkit provides students with resources on the variety of ways people can use their knowledge, skills, and talents to improve their communities.

## Student Service Organization Support

The CSL advises five student organizations that provide community service opportunities for students including Alternative Break, Center for Community Outreach, Heal KU, LEAD UP, and Student United Way.

## Service-Learning Designated Courses

The CSL oversees designation of service-learning courses that provide opportunities for students to volunteer and serve our greater community as part of their educational experience.

## GOALS & METRICS

**Priority #6:** Proactively connect students with career and experiential learning through curricular and co-curricular activities throughout their academic career.

- Broker and maintain strong reciprocal community partnerships and multidisciplinary campus collaborations to address issues of community and societal importance, including for local, state, national, and global impact.
- Facilitate and promote community-engagement that fosters engaged scholarship, provides rich learning opportunities, and is of value to community and campus partners.
- Foster opportunities to enhance student learning and application through service-learning experiences, with communities both domestic and international.
- Promote a campus community that fosters civic and social responsibility through both ethical service and an appreciation for diverse populations and communities.
- Develop, evaluate, and promote innovative approaches that advance service-learning, civic engagement, and community-engaged scholarship through meaningful reciprocal relationships with communities and faculty, staff, and students.

9,758  
Student Interactions

148  
Service-Learning  
Designated Courses

57  
Service-Learning  
Certificates Awarded

29K  
Website Views

“[I most enjoyed in this course] learning about ethical service and the true impact of my volunteer time was uplifting and eye-opening all at once.”

UNIV 492 Student



# INITIATIVES AND PROGRAMS

## Student Interaction

- There was a total of 9,758 student interactions through the CSL including both direct contacts and indirect engagement (e.g., social media). There were direct contact supports provided to 3,704 students through student organization engagement (35%), face-to-face contacts (49%), class visits (16%), and CSL course or student worker support (<1%).

## Community Service Capacity Program

- The CSL launched the Community Service Capacity Program for KU students to address barriers and challenges to service participation and engagement with and in communities. Students who experienced barriers (e.g., transportation, childcare) or hardships (e.g., finances to purchase service project materials, missed days of work for service) in supporting community engagement and service-learning activities were able to participate in the Student Community Service Capacity Program through the Center for Service Learning. There were seven recipients of the award and participants of the program in the pilot year.

## Community Engagement Toolkit

- The CSL developed a Community Engagement Toolkit as an online resource for students and other key stakeholders who want to address social change. The Community Engagement Toolkit serves as a guide to support collaborative work using the CSL Strategic Action Framework for Community Engagement. The toolkit is available online at <https://servicelearning.ctb.ku.edu>.

## Community Engagement Consortium

- Members of the KU Community Engagement Consortium, including Emily Rountree, Jomella Watson-Thompson, Mindie Paget, and Sarah Goodwin-Thiel presented at the Campus Compact National Conference, Compact22 and shared about the efforts of the KU Community Engagement Consortium to document and collect stories of engagement. The full presentation video can be viewed on the KU Service Learning YouTube channel.



### Community Partnerships

- The Center for Service Learning participated with 65 campus partners across the KU-Lawrence, KU Medical Center and KU Edwards campuses to advance community and civic engagement, including with 38 collaborators participating in the Community Engagement Consortium and 24 campus partners involved in either the service learning and civic engagement ambassador programs.

### KU Summit on Community-Engaged Learning and Scholarship

- The Center for Service Learning hosted the second annual KU Summit on Community-Engaged Learning and Scholarship. A total of 150 individuals across campuses and including community members participated in this half-day virtual program.

"The [Summit] sessions have been great; thoughtful, inspiring, and informative. Leaves one wanting to do more for the community and figure out ways to engage more faculty, students, and staff."

Associate Dean

### Center for Service Learning Certificates

- 57 Center for Service Learning Certificates awarded in the 2021-22 academic year.

### Website and Digital Outreach

- 28,868 views on the website in the past academic year, which was a 93% increase from the prior year.
- 9,987 website visitors, an increase of 59.5% from last year.
- Accessed by individuals in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and 112 countries.

### Civic Engagement

- The University of Kansas' 2014, 2018 and 2020 consolidated report from the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE) indicates an upward trend in student voter registration and turnout for midterm years 2014 and 2018.
- The report showed voter registration among KU students was 65% in 2014, 77% in 2016 and then 79% in 2018 and 87% in 2020. It also showed overall voter turnout among KU students was 21% in 2014, 51% in 2016, then 45% in 2018 and 71% in 2020, for which KU was recognized.

# PRIORITIES AND OBJECTIVES

## Healthy and Vibrant Communities

### Objective 1: Strengthening Service to Local and Global Communities

**Proactively connect students with career and experiential learning through curricular and co-curricular activities throughout their academic career.**

- Establish and promote a campus-wide definition of experiential learning to increase awareness of opportunities and resources available to expand offerings (e.g., Community Engagement Consortium, Research-Intensive Course Mini-Grants).
- Reduce barriers to participation for first-generation, Pell-eligible, and students of color in career and experiential learning activities (e.g., Rising Scholars, Emerging Scholars).

**Foster student sense of belonging through coordinated peer and community-based support programs.**

- Implement a coordinated strategy to improve student awareness of and engagement with academic support programming designed for incoming first-generation, Pell-eligible, and students of color.



**“I really enjoyed seeing and hearing from students on their work and students leading the conversation.”**

KU Faculty Member

# OUTCOMES AND METRICS

**Students will complete one or more courses at KU that includes a community-based (i.e., service learning) project.**

Metrics:

- 1,894 students engaged in 148 service-learning designated classes in the 2021-2022 academic year (SIS).
- 48% of first-year and 53% of senior students reported completing a course with service-learning (NSSE 2018)

Data Source:

- Number of students engaged in service-learning courses;
- NSSE Question: About how many of your courses at this institution have included a community-based project (service learning)?

**Students will participate in an experience that addresses a social issue or community need.**

Metrics:

- Number of students reporting completing service through volunteer.ku.edu, service learning certificate designated courses, CSL student engagements.
- Number of hours service hours completed by students.

Data Source:

- Volunteer.ku.edu; EL Cert, Service Learning Designated Courses (Registrar)

**Students will demonstrate civic engagement participation.**

Metric:

- Voter registration among KU students was 65% in 2014, 77% in 2016 and then 79% in 2018 and 87% in 2020. It also showed overall voter turnout among KU students was 21% in 2014, 51% in 2016, then 45% in 2018 and 71% in 2020, for which KU was recognized.

Data Source:

- National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE)

**Students will be able to demonstrate the use of at least one principle of ethical service after completing the Service 101 module and/or the Certificate in Service Learning.**

Metric:

- Identification of at least one principle of ethical service from the Service 101 module.

Data Source:

- Service 101 Canvas Module Exam, Certificate for Service Learning application





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