



COMMUNITY REPORT 2017

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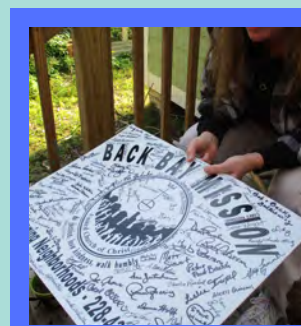


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Mission and Brief History of Livingston CARES

Mission

The mission of Livingston County CARES is to help communities and individuals locally, regionally, statewide, nationwide, and globally in humanitarian projects, including disaster relief and recovery efforts. Livingston County CARES provides a central repository for resources and information for individuals and organizations wishing to contribute to disaster relief efforts.

A Brief History of Livingston CARES

Livingston County CARES, Inc. is a collaborative effort among groups and organizations at SUNY Geneseo and in the Geneseo and Livingston County community that started in September 2005 to focus on relief and recovery efforts by helping people in Harrison County, Mississippi. The initial groups were members of SUNY Geneseo students, faculty, and staff, the Livingston County Administrator, the Livingston County Chamber of Commerce, the Town of Geneseo, the Village of Geneseo, and the Livingston County Coalition of Churches. Individuals, organizations, schools, local municipalities, and interested citizens were invited to participate in Livingston County CARES' projects and programs. Livingston County CARES, Inc. was incorporated and registered as a New York State non-profit organization in 2006. In March 2007, the IRS granted CARES tax exempt status under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code. Gifts and donations to CARES are tax deductible. Donations may be given as restricted gifts for specific projects or the general fund. Livingston CARES board members are volunteers and there are no employees and very minimal administrative overhead. The headquarters for Livingston CARES is in the Center for Community and the Division of Student & Campus Life at SUNY Geneseo. The Center for Community supports CARES through its commitment to volunteer work, leadership development, civic engagement of students, and outreach to community organizations. Organizations and individuals interested in volunteering or making contributions should contact Tom Matthews at 585-245-5857 or by email at matthews@geneseo.edu or Samantha Hebel at 585-245-5893 or email hebel@geneseo.edu.

Volunteer Work Trips to Harrison County, Mississippi

Livingston CARES has recruited volunteers to work on the rehabilitation and reconstruction of homes for the victims of Hurricane Katrina in Mississippi. Livingston County CARES will have sent 939 volunteers on thirty-seven service trips beginning with the first trip in January 2006 and ending with the upcoming May 2016 trip. Future service trips to Biloxi are scheduled in January, March and May of 2017. The National Corporation for Public Service 2015 guidelines estimates the total value of our volunteer efforts at

\$1,202,946.00. This is calculated through estimating a wage of \$26.45 per hour for 1,137 volunteers on 56 Livingston CARES week-long service trips to Biloxi, Long Island/Staten Island/Brooklyn and Orlando (Give Kids the World). In addition to their time, volunteers paid trip fees of \$409,317.00 to participate in the 56 service trips. Livingston CARES has also received gifts and donations to assist volunteers with travel expenses and for projects in Harrison County and the New York metropolitan area. Since CARES was established in 2005, Livingston CARES has received \$50,805.00 in gifts and donations from individuals and organizations. In 2006, the Division of Student & Campus Life contributed \$12,250.00 to help pay for transportation and to assist students with expenses on the January and March trips. We also received \$20,000.00 in grants from the New York State Legislature (Senator Dale Volker) to assist with funding trips to Mississippi. More recently, the Student Association has been contributing funds to assist students with travel expenses. In 2013, the SUNY Geneseo Student Association allocated \$2,900.00 and Phi Eta Sigma Honorary donated \$2,500.00 to assist students with travel expenses and help provide scholarships for the 2014 trips. In 2014 and 2015, the Student Association allocated \$3,000.00 each year to assist students with travel expenses and help provide scholarships for the 2015 and 2016 trips. The Center for Community also provides in-kind support and supplies to assist student volunteer and service activities. CARES funds have been used to assist student volunteers with travel expenses. Funds have also been donated to support various projects in Harrison County, Mississippi. CARES supported the six projects described below.

Livingston County Coalition of Churches Tools for Katrina Project

In the spring of 2006, the Livingston County Coalition of Churches, as a Livingston CARES project, organized the Tools for Katrina Project. Tools were collected at local churches and donated by local contractors and delivered to two recovery centers in Biloxi: Hands on Gulf Coast and Volunteers on Gulf Coast. Some church related items were delivered to the Biloxi Methodist Church.

Woolmarket Youth Football League

Harrison County Board of Supervisors President, Connie Rockco, identified the Woolmarket Youth Football League as an organization that needed assistance. CARES donated \$660.00 to purchase uniforms for five students in the program whose equipment had been destroyed by the hurricane.

ARC Connections to the Gulf Coast

Livingston CARES board member Lyle Lehman made connections between the Livingston-Wyoming ARC and the ARC in Harrison County. Lehman met with board members of the ARC of the Gulf Coast on two trips to Mississippi and was instrumental in securing a \$4,000.00 donation from the local ARC Foundation to Livingston CARES to forward to the ARC of the Gulf Coast to assist the Harrison County

ARC programs and projects.

Woolmarket Youth Recreation Complex Project

Supervisor Connie Rockco requested our assistance with the restoration of the youth recreation complex in her district north of Biloxi. CARES donated \$2,000.00 for the purchase and installation of a flagpole. A plaque on the pole recognizes the gift from the people of Livingston County, New York. A flag raising ceremony held on January 7, 2009 included the presentation of New York State and Livingston County flags to Harrison County. Nick Mazza, Livingston County Administrator, and Cynthia Oswald, President of Livingston County Chamber of Commerce, participated in this ceremony.

Moore Community House

Prior to Katrina, Moore Community House in East Biloxi was the only center serving low-income families with day care and other preschool programs such as Head Start. Katrina destroyed all but one of the buildings in the complex. After hearing the history from the director, Carol Burnett, and learning about the critical services provided by Moore Community House, the CARES Board approved the donation of funds contributed by the Geneseo Central Presbyterian Church to CARES. A donation of \$2,000.00 was made and the funds were used to purchase equipment for the classrooms in the renovated facilities.

Garden Clubs Donations

The Geneseo Garden Club and Livonia Garden Club contributed funds to help with the recovery efforts. On the May 2009 trip visit to the Katrina Memorial Park in Biloxi, volunteers noticed a southern live oak died and inquired about replacing the tree. The city and county officials agreed to accept a new tree as a gift to the City of Biloxi. In January 2010, we helped plant a new live oak and dedicated a permanent plaque in the park honoring our volunteers and the friendships that have developed between Livingston County and Harrison County over the last nine years.

Katrina Story Fades But Recovery Work Continues

Livingston CARES made a commitment to continue working in Harrison County, Mississippi long after the stories faded from the media. Participants in all the service trips have learned about the destruction caused by Katrina and how important volunteer assistance to families and communities has been since the hurricane in 2005. Livingston CARES feels it is very important for contributors and volunteers to know that help is still needed and we intend to continue our work on the Gulf Coast of Mississippi for years to come. Our initial commitment made in the fall of 2005 was to continue our work for ten years. Our 2016 trips will celebrate the ten years of work on the Gulf Coast of Mississippi. Since many of our future volunteers will not

remember watching Hurricane Katrina in August of 2005, the Livingston CARES board has decided to continue our work in Mississippi and to refocus our efforts on making a difference to low income families and communities in the state with the lowest income per capita in the United States. Please help CARES with the service work and continuing the friendships we have established with the homeowners and leaders in Harrison County, Mississippi.

Focus on Projects in Livingston County

In 2009, the Livingston CARES Board agreed to look for ways to focus some of our volunteer efforts on Livingston County. A new volunteer effort was initiated in the spring of 2010, which involved seven groups of SUNY Geneseo students, who worked on seven projects in various locations throughout Livingston County, as a part of the new “Geneseo Goes to Town” volunteer day. This project was developed through the civic engagement initiatives of the GOLD leadership program. In 2011, the program was expanded and included 17 student groups that worked on different projects in almost every town in the county. In 2013, 20 teams worked on projects in 18 towns and villages. In 2014, 17 teams including 84 students worked on projects in 17 towns. In 2015, 18 teams including 78 students worked on projects in 18 villages and towns on April 18. Connecting students to people and organizations throughout the county will expand opportunities for volunteer work and service. We will continue our efforts to develop collaborative programs with other local agencies to help people within the county.

Haiti Relief and Recovery

In January 2010, the CARES board established a Haiti Relief Fund to assist in recovery efforts. Numerous college organizations and individuals from the campus and community donated monies to this fund. In November 2010, the CARES board also approved a special appeal for more contributions to purchase water purification kits to help stop the cholera epidemic. Donations totaling \$8,255.30 were received and most of the funds have been given to the HOPE Foundation headed by Emeriti Professor Rose-Marie Chierici for targeted projects in Borgne, Haiti. The projects included resettlement of two families in Port au Prince, the purchase of three teacher boxes for use in Haiti, the establishment of a nursery to grow trees for reforestation, and the purchase of over forty water purification kits.

Project Holding Accounts

In May 2009, the CARES board approved policies and procedures to permit student civic engagement projects to deposit funds with Livingston CARES. One major project, the Ghana Project, was approved to help with education projects in Ghana. The Ghana Project later became recognized as a student organization.

In the spring of 2013 \$1500.00 was sent to assist in the building of a school in Besease, Ghana. In March 2013, \$1500.00 was donated from the Ghana fund to build a kindergarten classroom that is attached to a new grade 1-6 building. The new classroom is being built for the teacher who originally donated his time to start the school in the village. The Ghana Project students also purchased school supplies to donate to the new classroom. This summer, \$156.37 worth of school supplies were sent with two group members traveling to Ghana. The remaining balance in the Ghana Project fund was donated in April 2014 to assist the AGOGO Presbyterian Hospital in Accra, Ghana with a classroom to educate area families on disease prevention. Several academic departments and the Study Abroad Office at SUNY Geneseo are involved in the Ghana project. In 2011, the second project was established to assist with the El Sauce, Nicaragua programs that include building schools and microfinance projects. The Las Minita School was built in January of 2012 and the La Flor School was built in 2013. A microfinance project was also created to help women and businesses with loans to establish business projects in the El Sauce area. A current status report on the latest school projects is included in this Annual Report to the Community. The third project was established in April of 2010 to provide students in the HEROS mentoring program with a depository for fundraising income and expenses associated with the program that is currently operating in three area schools – Geneseo, Livonia, and Perry. Funds raised by the HEROS volunteers are used to support social mixers and parties for the mentees and for gas reimbursements to volunteers for the weekly trips to the schools.

Tornado Relief Fund

In the winter and spring of 2011, the United States experienced a series of violent storms and tornados that destroyed entire towns and villages including Joplin, Missouri. Although we made a fundraising appeal to the campus community, only a few contributors responded with donations totaling \$533.00. The CARES board voted to transfer the funds to the Hurricane Sandy Relief fund.

Flood Relief Fund

In early September of 2011, Tropical Storms Irene and Lee devastates several area of New York State. We established a fund to help student groups with travel expenses on two Saturday trips to the Binghamton and Owego areas. We worked with Sean Phillips (Inter Varsity Christian Fellowship), Denice Szafran (Anthropology), Amy Sheldon (Geology), and Brian Sheldon (Livonia Central School) to sponsor a bus work trip on October 15. Twenty-six students and two faculty members participated in the trip. The expenses for the trip were \$643.79.

Hurricane Sandy Relief Fund

In November 2012, the CARES board established a Hurricane Sandy Relief Fund in response to the devastation of the superstorm in the New York metropolitan area. The college collected \$1675.00 through the Geneseo Foundation to assist with the Livingston CARES Hurricane Sandy Relief efforts. To date, CARES has deposited a total of \$10,282.25 in the fund. Monies have been used to support the volunteer work trips and to assist agencies that support the recovery efforts. Livingston CARES has donated \$1,700.00 to the Bethel United Methodist Church on Staten Island to purchase cots and supplies for housing volunteers, \$1,850.00 to Community United Methodist Church Disaster Relief Center in Massapequa for supplies to assist with housing of volunteers, and \$2,500.00 to the New York Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church for the purchase of construction equipment and supplies for the recovery efforts on the south shore of Long Island. In January 2013, nineteen volunteers worked on Staten Island and in March 2013, sixteen volunteers worked on the south shore of Long Island. The following May, a third work trip with fourteen volunteers worked on Staten Island. In January 2014, seven volunteers worked on Staten Island and in March 2014 fourteen volunteers worked at two locations on Long Island. Seven volunteers also worked on houses on Staten Island in May. In 2015, seven volunteers worked on Staten Island in January, seven volunteers worked on Long Island in March and seven volunteers worked on Staten Island in May. CARES has been collaborating with the New York Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church on the nine work trips to Staten Island/Long Island. In 2016, seven volunteers worked on a home in Brooklyn in January and seven volunteers worked on the same house in March. Both were under the supervision of Rebuilding Together NYC. The May Brooklyn group will do similar work. CARES has been collaborating with the New York Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church on the nine work trips to Staten Island/Long Island.

Livingston CARES Chronology Highlights

September 7, 2005

Semi-annual Volunteer Fair at the College provided opportunities for students to join committees to help with hurricane relief efforts.

September 8, 2005

The Center for Community at SUNY Geneseo hosted a meeting of 32 representatives from college and community organizations to discuss a collaborative response to the horrendous devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina. The participants unanimously agreed to create a countywide effort to respond with a long-term commitment to help the Gulf Coast recover from the hurricane. A set of assumptions was approved that formed the basis of a plan to conduct fundraising for relief efforts while the hurricane remained front-page news and explore possibilities for developing a relationship with communities on the Gulf Coast for long-term recovery assistance. Participants agreed that Livingston CARES would become a college and community program directed by a steering committee with representatives from students, faculty and administrators at SUNY Geneseo, Livingston County government, the Livingston County Chamber of Commerce, the Livingston County Coalition of Churches, the Village and Town of Geneseo, and other interested organizations. The College agreed to coordinate the Livingston CARES efforts through its GOLD leadership and volunteer center programs. Tom Matthews, director of leadership education, development and training, agreed to serve as chair with assistance from Kay Fly, Coordinator of Volunteerism and Service Learning.

September 11, 2005

Article by Matthew Daneman in *Democrat and Chronicle* on “Beyond Katrina: Livingston wants Gulf to know it cares” reports on Livingston County CARES activities.

September 12, 2005

Livingston County CARES logo approved and website created at <http://communitycare.geneseo.edu> to serve as a location for sharing information on hurricane relief efforts. Numerous student organizations announced fundraising activities on the website. A Student Action Committee of Livingston CARES begins meeting weekly to coordinate SUNY Geneseo student involvement in the relief efforts.

September 20, 2005

Livingston County CARES steering committee met to coordinate efforts and investigate communities on the

Gulf Coast that would be willing to partner with Livingston County. Based on the news reports that Mississippi coastal areas were not getting attention or much assistance, members of the steering committee agreed that Livingston CARES should focus its concerns on Harrison County, Mississippi. Cynthia Oswald, President of the Livingston County Chamber of Commerce, agreed to contact government and business leaders in Harrison County. Oswald initiated conversations by phone and email with Berinda Logan from Mississippi Gulf Chamber of Commerce whose offices and records had been totally destroyed in the hurricane. Logan connected Oswald with Connie M. Rockco from the Harrison County Board of Supervisors. Conversations between Oswald and Rockco led to the agreement between Livingston and Harrison Counties to work together on the relief and recovery efforts. President Christopher Dahl sent an email to the campus community about the hurricane and the SUNY Geneseo response including information on the community forum and Teach-In on the Hurricane on October 30, the student fundraising activities, and the Livingston County CARES initiatives.

September 27, 2005

Livingston CARES steering committee met and approved a resolution-identifying Harrison County, Mississippi as the location to focus relief efforts. Brad Lowell, a Red Cross volunteer who had just returned from two weeks doing damage assessment in Harrison County briefed the committee on his experiences and observations about the need for long-term assistance in Harrison County.

September 28, 2005

A resolution was submitted by Geneseo Town Supervisor, Wes Kennison, to the Livingston County Board of Supervisors to support Livingston County CARES and to formally offer assistance to Harrison County, Mississippi. Cynthia Oswald, Tom Matthews, and Kay Fly participated in the meeting and addressed the Board of Supervisors on the initiative. The resolution was presented but not acted upon in order to provide time for officials in Harrison County to accept the offer of assistance from Livingston County.

October 6, 2005

Article on Livingston County CARES appeared in *The Clarion* on the developing relationship with Harrison County. The same issue featured Gail Orr and her work in Harrison County and the Humanity Outreach Partners Enterprise (HOPE) Unites Foundation. Orr led a team of 18 volunteers from western New York to work in a “tent city” in D’Iverville, Mississippi immediately after Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast.

November 21, 2005

Cynthia Oswald, Livingston County Chamber of Commerce President, was interviewed on WYSL about the Livingston CARES initiatives.

November 23, 2005

A feature story in *Livingston County News* reports on “From Nunda to Gulfport” efforts by Carolyn Lowell, a teacher in the Dalton School District and Paul Kreuzer, an active member of the community to involve teachers, students, and community groups in Dalton, Nunda, Hunt, and Portage to collect school supplies and funds for the Gulfport School District. Gerald Hotchkiss delivered the school supplies to the children in Gulfport on a trip to visit his son in Mississippi.

November 30, 2005

The Livingston CARES steering committee met and approved a K-12 initiative created by Glenn McClure to connect schools in Livingston County and Harrison County. The “Cosmic Gumbo Café” project will involve teachers and students in various arts integration activities over an extended period of time. Dr. Jon Hunter, Geneseo Superintendent of Schools, agreed to work with Glenn McClure on this project.

December 4, 2005

Pennysaver features Livingston County CARES in its column devoted to “Hometown Spotlight.”

December 5, 2005

Thirty-five volunteers including nine SUNY Geneseo students registered and paid deposits for the trip to Biloxi. SUNY Geneseo, through Bob Bonfiglio, Vice President of Student and Campus Life, subsidized each student with grants to assist with travel expenses. Livingston CARES did not provide any funds to assist the volunteers with the \$500 cost of the trip; all volunteers self-funded their expenses.

HOPE Unites provided a three-hour training session for participants in the January work trip to Biloxi. The Iota Lambda chapter of Sigma Tau Delta English Honor Society announced that Casey Carrigan won an essay for his writing about the hurricane and was sponsored by the chapter to participate in the January work trip to Harrison County.

December 20, 2005

Livingston CARES submitted a proposal to the Bush-Clinton Katrina Fund to support students and faculty participating in relief and recovery projects during spring break and for summer directed studies and

internships in Harrison County. The proposal also requested funds to support the “Cosmic Gumbo Café” project with the K-12 links to Harrison County.

December 21, 2005

Livingston CARES steering committee added its support for the grant proposal submitted to the Bush-Clinton Hurricane Katrina Fund by the College. The committee also agreed to sponsor a community dinner on Wednesday, February 1 at the Geneseo United Methodist Church. The Geneseo Philanthropic Chefs will cater the Share and Care dinner with assistance and entertainment provided by the “Strong As Steel Corporation” 8th grade career studies project students at Mt. Morris Central School. Participants in the January work trip will tell their stories and the event will be a fundraiser with proceeds to go to Livingston CARES. Kay Fly reported that eighteen college organizations participated in a wide variety of fundraising activities during the fall semester with proceeds going to the American Red Cross, Habitat for Humanity, the Humane Society of America, and Livingston CARES. Events included programs such as a Residence Life competition to raise funds, the Japanese Culture Club 1,000 cranes project folding origami cranes in the library, a Beta Fish sale by the Pre-Veterinary Club for animals displaced by the hurricane, a Alpha Phi Omega sale of Halloween Goodie Bags, the women’s athletic teams Kids Knight Out recreation program, a yard sale sponsored by the Royal Lady Knights and Livingston Residence Hall, and numerous collections for hurricane relief. A list of events registered with Livingston CARES was posted on the CARES website.

December 23, 2005

Letters from Glenn McClure, arts consultant, and Jon Hunter, Geneseo school superintendent, were sent to the five school district superintendents in Harrison County introducing the “Cosmic Gumbo Café” project and inviting the school districts to collaborate in long-term partnerships with the schools in Livingston County.

December 29, 2005

A news story on “County helps Hurricane Katrina victims” appeared in *The Clarion* describing the efforts of Livingston County CARES and the upcoming trip to Biloxi. *Livingston County News* featured the Top stories of 2005 and listed the disaster response as one of the major stories of the year.

January 2006

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce *US Chamber* news magazine in its January edition included a feature article “Communities Aid Storm Recovery” that focused on the Livingston CARES initiatives as a “best practices”

activity for other chambers of commerce to use in working on the hurricane relief efforts.

January 3, 2006

Kyle Clark, WHAM Channel 13 reporter, interviewed eight members of the Livingston County CARES volunteers on January 2 for a video report that aired on the local news after the Monday Night Football game on Tuesday morning.

January 4-10, 2006

Thirty-three Livingston County CARES volunteers traveled from New York to Biloxi, Mississippi and spent five days working on recovery projects in conjunction with the Urban Life Ministries. The volunteers stayed at the Urban Life Ministries Relief and Recovery Center on the grounds of a former V.F.W. site in East Biloxi. The Livingston CARES volunteers made a presentation to the Harrison County Board of Supervisors in Biloxi on January 9th. The work trip volunteers included nine students, one faculty member, who is also Town Supervisor of Geneseo and a member of the Livingston County Board of Supervisors, and two administrators from SUNY Geneseo; five students and one administrator from the Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, Canada; nine individuals representing the Central Presbyterian Church in Geneseo; three individual citizens dedicated to service; and three team leaders from HOPE Unites.

January 5, 2006

The Livingston County News carried an editorial on the Livingston County CARES January work trip to Biloxi praising the efforts of the volunteers working in Mississippi and welcoming the group returning as heroes.

January 12, 2006

A full-page feature story on "Biloxi Blues" by Editor Mark Gillespie appeared in the *Livingston County News* reported on the January Work-Trip activities in Biloxi. Gillespie interviewed Matthews and Kennison and Harrison County Supervisor Connie Rockco while the team was still working in Biloxi.

January 17-18, 2006

Cynthia Oswald from Livingston County Chamber of Commerce made a presentation on the Livingston CARES initiatives as part of a panel discussion at the Chamber Alliance of New York State (CANYS) conference in Albany.

January 18, 2006

An article by Dolores Orman on “Group to Explain Post-Katrina Work” appeared in the *Democrat & Chronicle* highlighting the January Livingston County CARES work trip to Biloxi and the February 1st Share and Care dinner. Livingston County CARES steering committee met and heard brief reports on the January work trip to Biloxi. The committee also approved HOPE Unites as the designated agency to arrange future Livingston County CARES work trips to Harrison County.

January 19, 2006

The Clarion featured a group photo on the front page of the Livingston County CARES work team orientation after arrival in Biloxi on January 4, an article by Sally Fox on “Our Clarion Correspondent Reports on Hurricane Victims,” and an article by Harrison County employee Welton Babuchna on “Harrison County, Mississippi worker says, Good Morning America.”

January 26, 2006

Livingston County News editorial cartoonist Tom Fox depicts a bus with seats available on a work trip to Biloxi with a banner saying “Livingston Cares.”

February 1, 2006

Livingston CARES sponsored the First Annual Share and Care Dinner from 6:00 – 8:00 PM at the Geneseo United Methodist Church. The Share and Care dinner was catered by the Geneseo Philanthropic Chefs with assistance and entertainment provided by the “Strong As Steel Corporation” 8th grade career studies project students at Mt. Morris Central School. Participants in the January work trip shared their stories and experiences working on the hurricane recovery in Harrison County. The program included commentary from the Wilfrid Laurier University staff and students, SUNY Geneseo students, Central Presbyterian Church in Geneseo participants, and stories about each of the worksites in Biloxi and Gulfport. Over 120 students and community members attended the fundraiser dinner and donated over \$1500.00 to Livingston CARES to assist with the Hurricane Katrina recovery efforts in Harrison County.

February 5, 2006

The Sunday edition of the *Democrat & Chronicle* carried a story and photos of four of the January work trip volunteers: Roger and Kathy Collins, Kristy Sirianni, and George Sullivan. The article “2nd Group to Aid Mississippi Cleanup” publicized the March spring break trip and focused on stories from the four January trip volunteers.

March 10-18, 2006

The Student Action Committee of Livingston CARES led a second work trip to Harrison County, Mississippi. Fifty-five volunteers including 51 students, 1 faculty member, and 3 Division of Student & Campus Life staff worked on 5 houses in Gulfport. Charlie Elliot-Bearce served as the trip leader.

March 22, 2006

Livingston CARES steering committee approved a revised mission statement to be used in applications for state and federal government recognition as a non-profit organization. The expanded mission covers future activities related to humanitarian projects at the local, state, national, and international levels.

April 6, 2006

The Lamron reporter Mike Peek reported “Students Help Mississippi Hurricane Victims Recover from Katrina.” Charlie Elliott-Bearce and other students on the March trip reflected on their experiences in Mississippi. The same issue also featured an Invasion of Privacy column by Kathryn Adams on “Charlie Elliot-Bearce’s philanthropy brings Geneseo students to Mississippi.”

April 14, 2006

The Navy *Seabee Courier* carried a story by JO1 (SW) Dennis J. Herring “NMCB 1 Seabees assist New York college students.” The article interviewed the five Seabees from the Naval Mobile Construction Battalion OBE (NMCB, 1) who assisted the March CARES trip volunteers on the reconstruction of five houses in Gulfport. Tom Hurlburt was the Seabee that arranged for the Seabees to help with the projects.

May 15, 2006

Five students, one retired SUNY Geneseo staff member, and one retired electrician community volunteer traveled from New York to Harrison County, Mississippi and spent the week rehabilitating a house in Gulfport. Connie Hurlburt served as trip leader and her son, Tom Hurlburt, from the Navy Seabees assisted with the reconstruction work.

June 28, 2006

Livingston CARES steering committee approved the filing of papers with the Secretary of State to become a registered New York State non-profit corporation. The initial volunteer directors signed the papers: Tom Matthews, Kay Fly, Kurt Christiansen, Cynthia Oswald, and Lyle Lehman. Doug Wilson reported on the Tools for Katrina project coordinated for CARES by the Livingston County Coalition of Churches.

July 6, 2006

Livingston County News briefly noted column reported on the Tools for Katrina collections spearheaded by the Livingston County Coalition of Churches for Harrison County, Mississippi. Dave and Erin Bills from the Livonia Community Church delivered the tools and supplies to the Hands On Gulf Coast and Volunteers on the Gulf Coast recovery centers in Biloxi and church related items to the Biloxi Methodist Church.

August 2, 2006

Livingston County CARES, Inc. registered as a New York State non-profit corporation with the Secretary of State. The stated purpose is to help communities and individuals locally, regionally, statewide, nationwide, and globally in humanitarian projects, including disaster relief and recovery efforts. Additionally, it is to provide a central repository for resources and information for individuals and organizations wishing to contribute to disaster relief efforts.

August 30, 2006

Livingston CARES steering committee approved four trips for 2007: a January trip, a February trip hosted by Central Presbyterian Church, a March spring break trip, and a May trip. Doug Wilson and Charlie Becker reported on the Tools for Katrina project that included \$1,146.59 in cash donations and 630 items for the recovery centers in Mississippi. Dave and Erin Bills from the Livonia Community Church delivered the tools to the Hands ON Gulf Coast and Volunteers on Gulf Coast recovery centers in Biloxi. The committee also approved \$660.00 to purchase equipment for five students in the Woolmarket Youth Football Leagues that had lost their all their uniforms in the hurricane. The committee also voted to support the possible restoration of a greenhouse in Gulfport.

September 28, 2006

The Lamron at SUNY Geneseo featured an editorial in its Lunatic's Fringe column on the "Aftermath of Katrina Should be More of a Priority" by Taryn Thompson. Thompson reviews the lack of attention by the press and the government on helping with Katrina recovery efforts in Mississippi. The feature included a photo of the remains of a front step for a home in Biloxi.

October 3, 2006

The Livingston Chamber of Commerce and SUNY Geneseo annual joint luncheon at the Campus House included a presentation on Livingston CARES from Charlie Elliott, student chair of the March 2006 Spring Break Trip and Tom Matthews. The program also included a slide presentation and the narrative PowerPoint written by Maureen Gillard reflecting on her experience as a student participant on the CARES spring trip.

October 12, 2006

Michelle Plyem and Tom Matthews made presentations at the Campus House to the Geneseo Torch Club on Livingston CARES trips to Mississippi. Maureen Gillard's narrative PowerPoint was used to illustrate the student reactions and reflections on work trip experiences.

October 17, 2006

SUNY Geneseo was one of nine colleges and universities in the nation to receive a Katrina Compassion Award during the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll Awards Ceremony in Chicago. The Katrina award recognized the efforts spearheaded by Livingston CARES to engage students in relief and recovery work on the Gulf Coast in Harrison County, Mississippi. Geneseo was one of 141 institutions of higher education recognized for distinguished service in the first President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll.

October 25, 2006

Letter from Suzanne Martel, President of Woolmarket Youth Football League thanking Livingston CARES for the donation of \$660.00 used to purchase equipment and uniforms for the participants. Martel enclosed a CD on the league activities and fall games.

November 1, 2006

The Democrat & Chronicle carried a brief on the "Service Roll Lists Area Colleges" that reported on the first President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll that included SUNY Geneseo. The article also noted that SUNY Geneseo was a recipient of the Katrina Compassion Award.

November 15, 2006

The Livingston CARES steering committee met to review the progress on the upcoming spring trips and the greenhouse, Woolmarket Youth Recreation area, and the Moore Community House projects.

December 4, 2006

Tom Matthews made a presentation to the Geneseo Rotary on Livingston CARES and showed the slide PowerPoint presentation written by student Maureen Gillard, reflecting on her experience on the CARES March trip to Mississippi.

December 28, 2006

Livingston County News editor Mark Gillespie added his “Also Noteworthy” editorial to his top stories of the year praising the volunteers and Livingston CARES for the “tremendous up swelling of generosity and labor for the residents of Biloxi, Mississippi.” The same issue also included a headline on David W. Parish’s column noting that “Livingston CARES Awarded National Honors” with reference to the presentation on Livingston CARES by Tom Matthews to the Geneseo Rotary.

January 6, 2007

Twenty volunteers traveled to Biloxi, Mississippi to work on three houses in Biloxi and Gulfport. Camp Biloxi run by the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepard hosted the group. Team members met with Harrison County officials, visited the Moore Community House in East Biloxi, met with The ARC of the Gulf Coast, and took gift packages to the owners of homes worked on by previous Livingston CARES volunteers.

January 26, 2007

Channel 13 reporter Kyle Clark interviewed volunteers from the January Livingston CARES trip to Biloxi. Clark interviewed Marie Ostrander, student co-chair, and Tom Matthews on their reactions to visiting the Gulf Coast for a second time.

February 7, 2007

Livingston CARES steering committee heard a report on the January trip to Biloxi and discussed the February, March, and May trips. The committee approved the greenhouse project in Gulfport and volunteers on the March trip will begin the initial clearing of the area for restoration. The committee also approved the 2nd annual Share and Care dinner for April 18 with Connie Rockco from Biloxi as our guest speaker.

February 15, 2007

The Lamron reporter Sean Kaplan’s headline story “Despite Less Media Coverage, Mississippi Trips Continue” featured commentary from Kay Fly and Marie Ostrander on their thoughts about the upcoming March spring break trip to Mississippi.

February 18, 2007

Twenty-three volunteers from Livingston CARES traveled to Biloxi for President’s Week to work on recovery efforts. God’s Katrina Kitchen hosted the volunteers at their site in Biloxi. Participants worked at the recovery center that feeds over 1,000 volunteers and needy families on a daily basis and on three houses in Biloxi. Beth Godfrey, pastor of the Central Presbyterian Church served as the team leader of the February

group.

March 1, 2007

Internal Revenue Service approved Livingston County CARES, Inc. as a tax-exempt organization and public charity under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

March 9, 2007

Forty-four students, three staff members, one faculty, and one retiree from SUNY Geneseo and one community volunteer traveled by bus to Gulfport, Mississippi to spend spring break working on the restoration of homes. The teams also cleaned up a greenhouse area for Harrison County and worked on five homes throughout the week.

March 28, 2007

Livingston CARES approved a \$2,000.00 contribution to purchase a flagpole for the Harrison County Woolmarket Youth Recreation Complex. The committee also approved granting the \$2,000.00 gift from the Central Presbyterian Church to the Moore Community House pending agreement on a specific use of the funds. The Livingston-Wyoming ARC grant of \$4,000.00 was also approved for gifting to The ARC of the Gulf Coast.

March 29, 2007

The Knight's Life section of *The Lamron* featured stories on "Fixing Up on Spring Break" that reported on two groups of volunteers and their reflections on the spring break trips. Dan Skahen reported on the trip of thirty-one members of the Outing Club at SUNY Geneseo to Louisville, Kentucky to work on cleaning up the Ohio River in conjunction with Chad Pregracke's Living Lands and Waters Foundation. The second story by volunteer Sean Roche included a daily "Biloxi, Mississippi: A Journal from Devastation" review of the Livingston CARES trip and work on the greenhouse and five homes in Gulfport, Mississippi.

April 4, 2007

Press release on "SUNY Geneseo Professors to Cater Livingston CARES Dinner on April 18; Mississippi Leader to Speak" circulated to media.

April 5, 2007

Livingston County News brief on "Mississippi for Mother's Day" announced the CARES May 13th trip to

Biloxi with contact information on the trip.

April 11, 2007

Letter from Senator Dale Volker indicating that a Legislative Initiative in the amount of \$10,000.00 has been approved for support of students and recovery work in disasters and other humanitarian efforts.

April 12, 2007

Mark Gillespie reported in a front page article “Gulf Coast County Leader to Speak” in the *Livingston County News* about Connie Rocko’s visit to Livingston County on April 18 and upcoming speech at the 2nd Annual Livingston CARES dinner.

April 18, 2007

The 2nd Annual Livingston CARES Share and Care Dinner was held at the Geneseo United Methodist Church. The Geneseo Philanthropic Chefs catered the dinner and the guest speaker was Connie Rockco, Harrison County District 5 Supervisor.

May 16-23, 2007

The May 2007 work trip to Biloxi included ten SUNY Geneseo students and six community representatives. Dan Dimpfl was the trip leader. During the week the group worked on three Habitat for Humanity houses. The group also worked with Chip Carter, son of President Jimmy Carter.

May/June 2007

Genesee Valley *BOCES News in Brief*, profiled Tom Wilson, a BOCES teacher who participated in the February 2007 work trip with Livingston CARES. The article reported on the volunteer work during the February trip group on Jewel’s house in Gulfport and their stay at God’s Katrina Kitchen in Biloxi.

Summer 2007

Livingston County Coalition of Churches published an article in their quarterly Newsletter by Reverend Dr. Doug Wilson on Livingston County CARES projects and trips to Mississippi.

June 29, 2007

Livingston CARES formally established a board to manage the 501(c)(3) not-for-profit public charity corporation. The meeting of the original incorporators (Kurt Christiansen, Kay Fly, Lyle Lehman, Cynthia Oswald, Kay Fly and Tom Matthews) was scheduled to create Livingston CARES as a formal organization,

approve by-laws under Sections 602 and 702 of the Not-For-Profit Law, establish officers, and elect members to serve on the first Board of Directors. Fourteen of the possible 19 members of the Board of Directors were elected to serve as the first board. Board members elected included: Jerry Alonzo, Niels Christiansen, Joan Ellison, Kay Fly, Richard Hatheway, Connie Hurlburt, Kathleen Jones, Wes Kennison, Lyle Lehman, Tom Matthews, Cynthia Oswald, Doug Wilson, Dan Dimpfl, and Jennifer Delcourt.

July 10, 2007

The first annual meeting of Livingston County CARES was held. The board elected Tom Matthews to serve as chair, Kay Fly to serve as Secretary and Lyle Lehman to serve as Treasurer. In addition to establishing organizational policies and procedures to guide decision making, the board approved four trips for 2008 in January, February, March, and May. The board also authorized the Chair and the Treasurer to establish a bank account at a local bank and move the holding account funds from the college accounts to the new bank account. Tom Matthews announced that Senator Dale M. Volker provided a member item in the New York State budget of \$10,000.00 to assist students for CARES volunteer work.

July 27, 2007

Livingston County News published a story on the “Return to Biloxi” that featured work by Livingston CARES in Mississippi and announced the 2008 work trips to the Gulf Coast.

September 26, 2007

The Livingston CARES Board of Directors held its second meeting. The board approved the purchase of two insurance policies from the Chanler Insurance Agency to protect the organization in the event of claims or lawsuits, Directors and Officers Liability and Employment Practices Liability. CARES has no employees but the insurance includes coverage for actions by volunteers. The board approved a donation of \$2,500.00 to Moore Community House for purchase of classroom furniture and \$500.00 to the Harrison County Greenhouse Project, and approved a Livingston/Harrison County Cookbook project. The board also approved policies relating to processing checks, established the annual meeting of the board in November, authorized July 1 to June 30 as the CARES fiscal year, created a financial assistance committee to approve assistance to volunteers, established a policy requiring evaluations and reflections from all trip participants, approved trip coordinators for 2008, accepted the Salvation Army Volunteer Village in Biloxi for the four 2008 work trips, set the fees for students and non-students for the 2008 work trips, set aside \$1,000.00 of the Volker member item to be used for grants to student organizations for humanitarian projects, and established the fourth Wednesday for monthly meetings. BJ Scanlon, the AmeriCorps VISTA in the Center for

Community, was elected to the Board of Directors for a one-year term ending in July 2008.

October 24, 2007

The Livingston CARES Board of Directors held its third meeting. The board approved chartering a bus with Kemp's Bus Service for the March trip to Biloxi, approved an allocation of \$3,000.00 for financial assistance to volunteers and a policy of a minimum payment of \$150.00 for all trip participants with exceptions made by the Financial Assistance Committee, established a policy permitting gifts honoring individuals or groups, authorized four levels of giving, and established an audit committee consisting of board members Hatheway, Christiansen and Oswald. The board also approved an account with www.goodsearch.com that supports non-profit agencies by donating one cent for every internet done under its name. BJ Scanlon reported on Students CARE, a group of SUNY Geneseo students who have been active with Livingston CARES, was established at the College. The group will raise funds for students participating in Livingston CARES trips to Mississippi as well as serving in an advocacy role for the recovery of the Gulf Coast region.

November 28, 2007

The Livingston CARES Board of Directors held its fourth meeting. Amanda Flannery, a SUNY Geneseo student was elected for a two year term to fill the second student seat on the Board of Directors. The board approved registration and insurance offered through HOPE Unites for all 2008 trips to Biloxi, and reviewed plans for all four 2008 trips to Mississippi. The board also approved soliciting contributions in December as an alternative form of gift giving during the holiday season and established giving levels: CARES giver from \$1.00-\$249.00, CARES Donor from \$250.00-\$499.00, CARES Good Samaritan from \$500.00-\$999.00 and CARES Humanitarian \$1,000.00 plus.

January 5-12, 2008

The first work trip of the 2008 included 24 volunteers. The group flew to Gulfport and rented cars to drive along the Gulf Coast to Biloxi. Highlights included lunch at Sonic, a pizza party, and a greeting by Connie Rockco, Harrison County Supervisor. Work projects included assisting the Salvation Army with work on the Volunteer Village and a satellite facility and work on seven houses under the supervision of the Beaverton Four-Square Church from Oregon.

January 5, 2008

The local Biloxi television station, WLOX, highlighted the 8th visit by Livingston CARES volunteers to the region by putting together a news piece that included interviews with work participants. The story ran on the

late evening news.

January 24, 2008

Livingston County CARES was featured in the *Livingston County News* with a story “Livingston CARES Back From Biloxi” with almost a full page spread showing pictures of the flagpole donated by CARES to Harrison County, work on a house in Biloxi, a visit with Daisy Guyton from a previous work trip, and a group photo at Yankee Stadium of the 24 volunteers on the January 2008 to Biloxi.

January 30, 2008

The Livingston CARES board held its fifth meeting. The January trip participants reported on the experiences of the 24 volunteers at Yankee Stadium working with the Salvation Army and the Four Square Church, reviewed plans for the upcoming February trip coordinated by Chris Lynch with 10 college and community volunteers, reviewed plans for the March alternative spring break trip with 55 participants, approved the third CARES fundraising dinner for April 23 with Kathleen Jones serving as coordinator, and authorized Dimpfl and Matthews to set fees for the May trip depending on the cost of airfares.

February 16-23, 2008

The second trip to Mississippi scheduled during President’s Week included ten volunteers with one from the college and nine community members including two high school students. The group traveled on Sunday and returned on Friday night in order to save money on airfare. Chris Lynch served as the trip leader. The group worked on the final stages of reconstruction of one house in Biloxi.

March 12, 2008

The Livingston CARES board held its sixth meeting. The board reviewed plans for the Annual Share and Care Dinner and agreed to a free will offering instead of charging for tickets, confirmed an agreement by Dimpfl and Matthews to reserve up to 20 plane tickets for the May trip with unused deposits to be credited to final list of participants, heard a report from BJ Scanlon on outreach initiatives to Livonia and Avon, and continued discussion on contributions to work sites in Biloxi. The SUNY Geneseo Outing Club requested assistance from Livingston CARES for a spring break trip to Louisville to continue its work with the Living Lands and Living Waters Foundation project cleaning up the Ohio River. The board approved designating funds from the Senator Volker grant to assist the students with travel expenses.

March 14-22, 2008

On the third trip of 2008, 55 individuals including 4 staff members from the college traveled by Kemps Bus

to and from Biloxi, Mississippi for the alternative spring break work trip. Volunteers worked with the Salvation Army and at Popp's Ferry elementary school, doing an overhaul of their grounds, and sprucing up their playground. Volunteers also worked on three other homes during their week in Biloxi.

April 3, 2008

The Lamron reported on the alternative spring break trips to the Gulf Coast and the Ohio River in a Knights' Life piece entitled "Fixing up on Spring Break."

April 15-17, 2008

Students CARE sponsored a Jail Break fundraiser on the College Green during late morning and afternoon class break times. Several faculty, staff and student leaders were recruited to serve jail time and to ask passers-by to help them get out of jail with donations while Students CARE solicited donations to keep the volunteers in jail. The weather cooperated and faculty, staff and students contributed over \$500.00 to help fund Livingston CARES trips to Mississippi.

April 17, 2008

The Lamron reported on "Fundraiser Puts Students, Staff in Slammer" describing the Jailbreak fundraising activities organized by Livingston CARES board member Amanda Flannery.

April 23, 2008

The Livingston CARES board met prior to the annual thank you dinner. Amanda Flannery reported that students raised \$800.00 from the Jailbreak fundraising. Board members approved a \$1,000.00 donation to the Salvation Army for the Volunteer Village in Biloxi in honor of Edwin and Susan Britt for their work in operating the Volunteer Village at Yankee Stadium.

April 23, 2008

The Third Annual Livingston CARES Share and Care fundraising dinner was held at the Geneseo United Methodist Church. Celebrity Chefs, Gary Towsley, Lynn Kennison and Glenn McClure provided southern hospitality with a gumbo and pasta dinner. KC Bailey presented a multimedia collection of photos and videos spanning the three years of the rebuilding efforts in Harrison County. Volunteers from the May 2007, January 2008, February 2008 and March 2008 shared brief reflections on the work trips to Biloxi. Jennifer Delcourt received a special award for participating in four trips and for serving as the trip leader for the March 2008 Alternative Spring Break trip.

May 2008

Fifteen volunteers participated in the May trip to Biloxi. Dan Dimpfl served as the trip leader. Hope Force director Craig Snow reported that the May group was the best group he had ever worked with in his volunteer career.

June 18, 2008

The Livingston CARES Board met and elected Elise Arneson, the AmeriCorps VISTA staff member from the Center for Community to the board of directors. Matthews reported that the annual dinner raised \$842.50. The board agreed to change the focus from fundraising to a thank you event for volunteers and contributors.

July 23, 2008

The Livingston CARES Board met to review and approve estimated costs and participant fees for the 2009 trips. Matthews reported that volunteers for all four trips will be accommodated at Camp Victor in Ocean Springs and work will be under the supervision of the East Biloxi Coordination, Relief & Redevelopment Agency. The EBCRRA is a non-profit agency dedicated to helping people rebuild homes in East Biloxi. Plane reservations have been made for 25 volunteers for January and a bus for March has been reserved.

September 23, 2008

The Livingston CARES board met and re-elected Lyle Lehman, Wes Kennison and Richard Hatheway for three-year terms. Student representative, Marissa Evarts was elected to a two-year term. The three officers were reelected for another one-year term. The board approved Tom Matthews to head the January trip, Tom Wilson to lead the February trip, and Elise Arneson, Amanda Flannery and Marissa Evarts to lead the March trip.

October 8, 2008

The Livingston CARES Board met to review plans for the 2009 work trips. Julie Matthews reviewed IRS regulations and presented documents that she prepared for submission to IRS from Livingston CARES.

November 5, 2008

The Livingston CARES Board elected Lori McEvoy, Program Coordinator, Livingston County Coalition of Churches to a three-year term. The board also started a conversation about expanding our volunteer work beyond our current efforts in Mississippi to provide other service options for students.

December 3, 2008

The Livingston CARES Board received reports that the January, February and March trips were filled to

capacity and that scholarship assistance has been provided to eight students for the January and March trips. Karen Bailey was elected to a three-year term on the Board of Directors.

January 3-10, 2009

Twenty-five volunteers including 14 students participated in the January trip to Biloxi. The volunteers worked on two houses in East Biloxi. The group also participated in a ceremony and presentation of the Livingston County and New York State flags by Nick Mazza, Livingston County Administrator and Cynthia Oswald, President of the Livingston County Chamber of Commerce.

January 8, 2009

Volunteers on the January trip were featured in the South Mississippi's Newspaper, the *Sun Herald* with a story "Flagpole Honors Katrina Volunteers" and photo of the flag raising ceremony at the Woolmarket Little League ball fields.

January 15, 2009

The *Livingston County News* ran a front-page feature story by Sally Fox on "Livingston Cares and Cares and Cares and Cares," with a group photo of the twenty-five volunteers in front of one of the house projects. An editorial on "Foul Weather Friends," by General Manager and Editor Mark Gillespie praised the work of Livingston CARES and urged the public to continue to support the recovery work in Mississippi.

January 15, 2009

The *Biloxi D' Iberville Press* ran a story about the Livingston County flag pole dedication entitled "New York Volunteers Claim Harrison County." The story reported on the relationship between the two counties and features the flag being flown.

January 22, 2009

The *Livingston County News* featured a photo and "More From Biloxi, Mississippi" on the reported that the volunteers accomplished two weeks of scheduled work in the five workdays.

February 4, 2009

The Livingston CARES Board met to review February, March and May trips. President Matthews reported that CARES has been registered with the New York State Charities Bureau. The board approved joining the Network for Good that will allow online contributions to the organization. Discussion continued on expansion of CARES work with other agencies and possible involvement in the El Sauce Project in

Nicaragua.

February 15-21, 2009

Eleven community volunteers from the Central Presbyterian Church and the Philanthropic Chef led by Gary Towsley prepared a jambalaya special for the event. Dominic Mazza, retiring Livingston County Executive was recognized as our Outstanding Community Partner and *Livingston County News* Editor Mark Gillespie and Reporter Howard Appell were recognized with the CARES Building Community Awards. Humanitarian Awards were also presented to trip leaders Dan Dimpfl (May 2008), Tom Wilson (February 2009), Amanda Flannery (March 2009) and Marissa Evarts (March 2009). Elise Arneson was recognized for her service supporting Livingston CARES trips and programs during 2008-2009. Geneseo United Methodist Church participated in the President's Week Livingston CARES work trip to Mississippi. The group worked on reconstructing two homes in East Biloxi.

March 11, 2009

The Livingston CARES board met and reviewed plans for the March and May trips, approved a layman's version of by-laws for the operation of the organization, heard a presentation from Zach Monahan at Catholic Charities on local work projects, and continued discussion of expanding work opportunities for volunteers.

March 14-21, 2009

Fifty-five volunteers including three professional staff members and 52 SUNY Geneseo Students traveled by bus to Biloxi.

April 6, 2009

Seventy volunteers and donors attended the Livingston CARES Annual Thank You Dinner at the InterFaith Center.

April 14-17, 2009

Student trip leaders, Amanda Flannery and Marisa Evarts, coordinated the Jailbreak fundraiser on the College Green and raised \$900.00 to support the volunteer work trips.

May 6, 2009

The CARES board approved the Guidelines for Project Holding Accounts permitting Livingston CARES to accept funds for humanitarian purposes from groups that have approved projects at SUNY Geneseo. The

board also approved the first holding account for the Ghana Project.

May 17-23, 2009

Twenty-eight volunteers spent the week in Mississippi working on houses and projects. The trip leader was Trevor Ramsey-Macomber, a SUNY Geneseo senior on his fourth trip to Biloxi. Two retired local teachers, two professors and one administrator joined the 23 students. Volunteers worked on eight different homes on a variety of projects.

June 17, 2009

The CARES board approved the addition of the Give Kids the World winter break service project sponsored by Dave Parfitt, Director of the Teaching and Learning Center at SUNY Geneseo. The project will be self-sustaining and not require funding from Livingston CARES. Katie Rogers, the 2009-2010 VISTA was elected for a one-year term on the Board of Directors. The *Livingston News* featured a story on “Livingston Cares Volunteer Group Makes 15th Trip to Mississippi” by Howard Appell.

September 23, 2009

The board elected Joan Ellison, Connie Hurlburt, Dan Dimpfl, and Dave Parfitt for three year terms, Elise Arneson for a one-year term and Dan Hart for a two-year term on the board of directors. Kurt Christiansen decided to step down as a board member and was thanked for his service as one of founding directors of Livingston CARES.

November 5, 2009

The *Livingston News* featured a story by Howard Appell on “Livingston Cares Hurricane Relief Still Needed” with information about the 2010 work trips and the fundraising efforts including the haunted house by Alpha Kappa Phi Sorority on Halloween, the Gumbo to Go on November 12 and the December 5 holiday college a cappella concert.

November 12, 2009

The Geneseo Philanthropic Chefs led by Glenn McClure prepared a take-out Gumbo to Go dinner at St. Mary’s Parish Hall. Over 200 dinners were sold raising \$2,000.00 for Livingston CARES.

January 3-10, 2010

Twenty-eight volunteers traveled to Mississippi on the 16th Livingston CARES work trip. Volunteers planted a southern live oak tree and dedicated a permanent plaque. The group worked on three different houses on

the fifth year of CARES trips to Mississippi.

January 5, 2010

The *Sun Herald* newspaper in Biloxi ran a story by Mary Perez announcing that “Live Oak will Honor New York Volunteers” ceremony on Tuesday and a box telling the readers where and when to attend the event.

January 6, 2010

The *Sun Herald* featured two group photos of the dedication ceremony and a story by Mary Perez titled “Honoring Volunteers on Their 16th Trip to Coast.”

January 10-16, 2010

Twelve SUNY Geneseo students volunteered at Give Kids the World Village which houses kids and families who visit Disney World and other attractions through Make a Wish Foundation. Dave Parfitt served as the trip coordinator and leader in Orlando.

January 20, 2010

The CARES board confirmed an earlier unanimous email and voice vote establishing a Haiti Relief fund to assist in the relief and recovery effort from the earthquake.

January 20, 2010

The *Livingston News* Letters to the Editor included a letter from Christopher Dahl, SUNY Geneseo President, addressing the Haitian earthquake relief and encouraging donations to the CARES Haiti Relief Fund.

February 11, 2010

The *Livingston News* editorial “After Quakes and Storms” by Mark Gillespie connected the Haiti earthquake and Hurricane Katrina work of volunteers and mentioned the CARES trips and the Haiti Relief Fund.

February 12-26, 2010

Eight local community volunteers traveled to Mississippi on the 17th CARES work trip. Dan Young served as the trip coordinator.

March 13, 2010

The Democrat and Chronicle’s Good News columnist Jim Memmott reported on his conversations with six January trip volunteers in a story “*Livingston CARES Keeps Promise.*”

March 13-20, 2010

Fifty-four volunteers, including five college administrators and 49 students, traveled to Mississippi by bus on the 18th CARES work trip. During the week, the volunteers split their efforts between the Hope Community development Agency and Camp Victor. Twenty of the volunteers worked at an animal shelter assisting the county caring for abused animals. Several participants have adopted dogs from the facility and Mississippi residents have named a dog “Geneseo.” The Harrison County Sheriff presented the volunteers with Honorary Deputy Sheriff Certificates to thank the students and staff for their work. Marissa Evarts, Dan Hart and Katie Rogers served as the trip leaders.

April 15, 2010

Philanthropic Chef Glenn McClure and crew prepared the second Gumbo to Go Take home dinner at St. Mary’s Parish Hall as a fundraiser for Livingston CARES. Over 200 tickets were sold and generated over \$2,000.00 income to CARES.

April 26, 2010

The Livingston CARES Board of Directors held its April meeting at the Interfaith Center prior to the Volunteer and Donor Recognition Dinner. Students from Women’s Action Coalition and GSTV requested and the board approved an El Sauce Fund to assist volunteers with projects in Nicaragua. The board also approved \$1575.00 from the Haiti Relief Fund to assist two families to resettle from Port au Prince to Borgne, Haiti. Kevin Felter was elected to serve as a student seat on the board of directors. Fly reported that the first Geneseo Goes to Town volunteer day involved seven student groups who worked on projects in seven Livingston County towns. The Volunteer and Donor Recognition Dinner included over 100 participants from work trip volunteers, donors, and board members. Representatives from each of the four Mississippi trips and Give Kids the World shared stories about their experiences. Humanitarian Awards were presented to the trip leaders: Marissa Evarts, Dan Young, Dave Parfitt, Dan Hart, Katie Rogers, and Trevor Ramsey-Macomber. Participants in the dinner contributed \$691.00 to Livingston CARES.

April 27-29, 2010

Livingston CARES student volunteers canvassed faculty, staff, and students to get friends out of jail by contributing to the Jailbreak fundraiser on the College Green.

May 16-22, 2010

Twenty-one volunteers participated in the 19th CARES work trip to Mississippi. Ken Kallio served as trip

leader and Amanda Leonard was the student coordinator. During the week, volunteers were split up into three teams. Team one helped to renovate a stucco-sided home located on Division Street. Teams two and three spent the week working on a new build on Roy Street.

June 23, 2010

Board members approved budgets for 2011 Mississippi trips and established per person rates of \$225.00 plus airfare for all participants. All future trips to Mississippi will utilize plane travel; March trips will no longer use a bus. The board also approved the creation of a HEROS project account to serve as a custodial account for donations and expenses associated with the mentoring program coordinated through the Center for Community. The board approved donations from the Haiti Relief Fund for two projects supported by the H.O.P.E. Foundation and Dr. Rose-Marie Chierici. The funds will go help establish a nursery for reforestation and to purchase three teacher boxes to assist teachers who move from village to village educating students in the rural Borgne area of Haiti.

September 15, 2010

The board elected Matt Jordan for a one-year term and Philip Natoli and Lisa Burns to three-year terms on the Board of Directors.

October 15, 2010

Livingston CARES sponsored the third Gumbo to Go Dinner at Central Presbyterian Church and sold 201 tickets and raised \$2,100.00. Chef Glenn McClure supervised the volunteer kitchen staff.

November 17, 2010

Andrew Demonsthenous reported on the Nunda trailer insulation project he supervised under our agreement with Catholic Charities. Board members agreed that all future projects must include waivers and supervision from Catholic Charities. The board approved a special appeal for additional funds to combat the cholera epidemic in Haiti and voted to contribute all remaining funds to purchase water purification kits for the Borgne area of Haiti.

January 9-15, 2011

Twenty-one volunteers participated in the 20th CARES work trip to Mississippi. Tom Matthews served as trip leader. The volunteers were split into four groups. Two groups worked on lead abatement (scrapping and painting in white suits) on one house. The other two groups painted the exterior of a house and another worked on interior demolition of a house and removal of removal. One group also did outside cleanup and

two groups worked for two days at a new house painting the entire interior with two coats of paint and installing flooring in the kitchen and two bathrooms.

January 10, 2011

The *SUNY Geneseo* website featured a news brief by David Irwin entitled “Livingston CARES Group on 20th Trip to Gulf Coast for Hurricane Relief Work.”

January 10-16, 2011

Twelve volunteers participated in the Give Kids the World trip in Orlando, Florida. Dave Parfitt served as trip leader. Students worked two shifts a day at the Give Kids the World Village with families staying there. During the day, students served meals to families in the Gingerbread House, made banana splits and milkshakes in the Ice Cream Palace, and delivered continental breakfast, sandwiches for lunch, and pizza dinners on a special cart. In addition to serving food, the students participated in all sorts of entertainment activities in the Village including: providing train rides, taking photos with Disney, Universal, and SeaWorld characters, giving makeovers to children in the spa, and playing with kids and locating stars in the Castle of Miracles. In the evening, students helped in the Kids’ Night Out Program. Wish Families drop their children off who are then paired with a volunteer for the evening.

January 27, 2011

The *Lamron* published a news brief by Susan Kaczmarczyk titled “Livingston C.A.R.E.S. sends Volunteers to Gulf Coast for 20th Trip since Katrina.” The SUNY.edu website featured the news brief published on SUNY Geneseo’s website on January 10th with the title “SUNY Geneseo Group Continues Hurricane Katrina Relief Effort.”

February 1, 2011

The *ENCOMPASS* published a news brief entitled “Twenty Volunteer Trips- and Still Going.” It includes a photo by Kris Dreessen of Samantha Hatz ‘12 and Bill Gurtowski ‘12 helping to build and access ramp for a couple in Biloxi, Mississippi.

February 15, 2011

The *Democrat and Chronicle* gave SUNY Geneseo and Livingston CARES a “Thumbs Up” for completing its 20th trip to the Biloxi/Gulfport, Mississippi area to continue Hurricane Katrina relief work.

February 16, 2011

Updated Livingston CARES governance by-laws and policy statements on whistle blowers, conflicts of interest, annual audit review, and acknowledgement of contribution were approved.

February 24, 2011

The *Lamron* featured an article on a panel discussion hosted by Geneseo's Ghana Project. The discussion featured faculty fellow for international studies Wes Kennison and education professor Glenn McClure. The discussion examined the political and social realities of modern-day Ghana.

March 13-19, 2011

Twenty-eight Livingston CARES volunteers, including 24 students and four staff members participated in the 21st CARES work trip to Mississippi. Matthew Jordan (staff) and Dan Hart (student) served as trip leaders. Team leaders included Theresa Montenarello, Larry Bellamo, Loryn Royer, and Lizzy Johnson. Two groups worked on lead abatement on a house in Moss Point and two groups constructed a backyard fence at a home in D'Iberville.

March 30, 2011

The CARES board approved tax documents prepared by volunteer Julie Matthews for January to June 2010. This was an interim step in the change to a new July 1-June 30 fiscal year. The board also agreed to establish a Japan Relief Fund pending agreement with students from the Japanese Cultural Club at SUNY Geneseo. The fund was established and announced to the faculty, staff and students at the College.

March 31, 2011

The *Lamron* featured a news brief on the Third Annual Ghana Gala that was held March 21, 2011. The event included actors and dancers who brought to life the traditions of Ghanaian culture. This year the Gala raised over \$600.00 dollars.

April 7, 2011

The *Lamron* featured an article by Rebecca Smarcz titled "Livingston CARES to Raise Money with Gumbo Dinner".

April 10, 2011

The *Livingston County News* and the *Genesee Valley Penny Saver* (Livingston Edition) featured advertisements related to the Gumbo to Go dinner on April 15, 2011.

April 14, 2011

The *Lamron* printed a news brief about the Gumbo to Go dinner in their “Goings-On” section. It included information on the purpose of the event and where you can purchase tickets and pick-up your meal.

April 15, 2011

CARES sponsored the fourth Gumbo to Go Dinner and a special a capella concert featuring the Southside Boys at the Central Presbyterian Church. The Gumbo dinner sold 207 tickets and raised \$2,073.00 and the concert raised \$106.50. Chef Glenn McClure prepared the meal and supervised the kitchen staff.

April 26-28, 2011

Student volunteers headed by Dan Hart organized the Jailbreak fundraiser at the College to raise money for Livingston CARES.

May 2, 2011

The annual Livingston CARES Volunteer Thank You Dinner was held at the Interfaith Center. The program included a few stories from each of the last four trips and recognition of volunteers. Gary Towsley and the Geneseo Philanthropic Chefs prepared the meal.

May 15-21, 2011

Twenty-eight volunteers participated in the 22nd work trip to Biloxi. Ken Kallio was the trip leader assisted by students Amanda Leonard and Bennett Marano.

July 8-9, 2011

Livingston CARES participated in the Geneseo Summer Festival with an information table on Main Street.

July 27, 2011

CARES Board voted to expand the board seats from 17 to 19 directors. Erin Bills was elected for a three-year term to represent the Livingston County Coalition of Churches and Brenda Donahue was elected for a three-year term to represent the Livingston County Board of Supervisors.

July 2011

Student Association approved a grant of \$2100.00 to assist students with financial grants for CARES trips to Biloxi.

September 21, 2011

CARES Board approved Flood Relief Fund to assist recovery efforts in the Southern Tier. Twenty-two students in a Saturday work trip to Owego to assist in the cleanup efforts from Tropical Storm Lee. Amy Sheldon from the Geology department and Sean Phillips from InterVarsity Christian Fellowship organized the bus trip in conjunction with Livonia Central School.

November 3, 2011

The Gumbo to Go Dinner at Central Presbyterian Church raised \$2200.00.

November 16, 2011

Board received report on the Gumbo to Go Dinner and the October trips to Owego for Flood Relief. Twenty-two students participated in the bus trip held in conjunction with Livonia Central School.

January 8-15, 2012

Twenty-eight volunteers participated in the 23rd work trip to Mississippi. Tom Matthews and Kevin Felter were the trip leaders. The volunteers worked on two houses in Biloxi, one in Ocean Springs and a fourth in Gulfport.

January 21, 2012

CARES Board approved an application to be an approved non-profit agency for the State Employees Federated Appeal.

March 11-17, 2012

Twenty-eight volunteers participated in the 24th work trip to Mississippi. Luke Haumesser and Lizzy Johnson were the trip leaders. The teams worked on two houses in Biloxi and one team worked at a soup kitchen during a down day with construction.

March 11-17, 2012

Fourteen volunteers from Geneseo and one from Alfred State spent a week working with families at Give Kids the World Village in Orlando. Dave Parfitt and Mindy Benamati were the trip leaders. This was the third Livingston CARES trip to Give Kids the World.

March 22, 2012

The Gumbo to Go Dinner at Central Presbyterian Church raised approximately \$2,000.00.

March 29, 2012

Lamron reporter Chelsea Butkowski reviewed the March spring break trip to Biloxi and shared reflections from students on their volunteer work.

April 16, 2012

The Livingston CARES Annual Corporate Meeting was held in conjunction with the April Meeting of the Board of Directors and the Annual Volunteer Thank You Dinner at the Interfaith Center. Philanthropic Chef Gary Towsley served the traditional Jambalaya Dinner. Dave Parfitt, Joan Ellison and Dan Dimpfl were re-elected for 3-year terms and Chris Crocker was elected for a one-year term on the Livingston CARES Board of Directors. At the dinner, Humanitarian Awards were presented to Larry Bellomo, Mindy Benamati, Kevin Felter, Amanda Leonard, Kellan Morgan and Sean Phillips for their work on trips and projects supported by Livingston CARES.

May 13-19, 2012

Twenty-eight Livingston CARES volunteers on the 25th workweek to Biloxi, Mississippi worked on four houses and projects. Board member Ken Kallio served as the trip leader.

September 12, 2012

The SUNY Geneseo college race team in the JP Morgan Chase Corporate Challenge at RIT won first place in t-shirt design and donated their \$1,000.00 prize to Livingston CARES.

November 2, 2012

By electronic vote, the board approved the establishment of a Hurricane Sandy Relief and Recovery Fund, working with the Geneseo Foundation and the Chamber of Commerce to assist in the Red Hook area and authorized the board president to negotiate projects and work trips to help in recovery efforts in the New York City area.

November 3, 2012

President Christopher Dahl announced the Hurricane Sandy Fund and invited students, alumni and parents to support the relief and recovery efforts.

November 8, 2012

Gumbo to Go Dinner prepared by Philanthropic Chef Glenn McClure at Central Presbyterian Church raised approximately \$2,000.00.

November 9, 2012

CARES hosted two interest meetings for students interested in volunteering for work trips. Over thirty students expressed interest at the meetings.

November 14, 2012

The board accepted, with regret, the resignations of Cynthia Oswald and Dan Dimpfl from seats on the board of directors. The CARES Board confirmed the electronic vote to establish Hurricane Sandy Relief Fund and authorized the president to move forward with planning of Hurricane Sandy work trips in January and March of 2013.

December 2012

A CARES work trip for the week of January 13-19, 2013 on Staten Island was negotiated with the Jewish Community Center and the Bethel United Methodist Church on Staten Island. Alyssa Stefanese, student GOLD Leader Mentor whose family home on Staten Island was severely damaged, helped organize the trip that was announced in early December. Volunteers were recruited during the last week of classes and finals week.

January 3, 2013

Tools for Red Hook collected at the December retirement party for Chamber of Commerce President Cynthia Oswald were delivered to Greg O'Connell for use in the recovery work in the Red Hook area of Brooklyn. Due to the lack of accommodations and work site supervision in the Red Hook area, the tools were one way that CARES could provide some assistance in lieu of an actual volunteer work week.

January 11, 2013

Board President Matthews and student Alyssa Stefanese met Pastor Matt Schaeffer at the Bethel United Methodist Church and Glenn Wechsler and Hiam Kay at the Jewish Community Center on Staten Island to finalize arrangements for upcoming volunteer work week.

January 13-19, 2013

Nineteen volunteers worked on eight homes devastated by Hurricane Sandy in the New Dorp Beach and Oak Beach area of Staten Island. CARES student board members Matt Bower and Chris Crocker and Alyssa Stefanese assisted Chuck Reyes, trip coordinator. A cover story on the trip appeared in *The Scene* alumni magazine published in late January 2013.

January 13-19, 2013

Twenty-one Livingston CARES volunteers on the 26th work week in Biloxi worked on three houses and assisted HOPE CDA with moving a warehouse and building a float for the Biloxi Mardi Gras parade. Tom Matthews and Zach Bodenweber served as trip coordinators.

January 30, 2013

The board of directors allocated an additional \$1,000.00 to supplement the Student Association Financial grants to be used to assist volunteers with travel expenses and approved a request from Kellan Morgan in El Sauce to fund the building of the La For school from donations received from local contributors during the last several months. The board also approved moving the tornado relief funds to the new Hurricane Sandy Relief Fund.

March 13, 2013

The board of directors approved granting \$1500.00 from the Ghana Project fund to assist in the building a school in Besease, Ghana. The school is a project supported by Dr. Jennifer Rogalsky from the Geography Department at SUNY Geneseo. The board also approved forwarding the \$1440.00 balance in the Nicaragua Microfinance Loan Fund to assist with small business loans in El Sauce. Funds were collected from the sale of baskets made in El Sauce and sold on campus. The board continued a discussion on appropriate projects or agencies for the Hurricane Sandy Relief funds.

March 17-23, 2013

Twenty-eight volunteers traveled to Biloxi on the 27th Livingston CARES work trip. Luke Haumesser served as the returning veteran trip leader and student board member Matt Andrews served as the student trip coordinator.

March 17-23, 2013

Sixteen volunteers participated in the 2nd Livingston CARES Hurricane Sandy Recovery trip. The volunteers traveled in three vans from Geneseo to Long Island. The teams stayed at the Hicksville United Methodist Church.

April 18, 2013

Gumbo to Go Dinner prepared by Geneseo Philanthropic Chef Glenn McClure was held at Central Presbyterian Church. All proceeds went to Livingston CARES.

April 22, 2013

Livingston CARES Annual Corporate Meeting and April Board of Directors Meeting at the Geneseo Interfaith Center followed by the Annual Spring Volunteer Thank You Dinner. President Dahl was elected as an Honorary Member of the Livingston CARES Board of Directors to honor his strong support and advocacy for CARES programs. Humanitarian Awards for service were approved by the board and presented to Matthew Andrews, Matthew Bower, Josephine Champlin and Lizzy Johnson for their strong commitment and leadership on Livingston CARES trips. Livingston CARES board approved Karen Bailey, Kathleen Jones, Tom Matthews, and Tamara Kenney for three-year terms. Livingston CARES board also approved Phil Natoli for a two year term and one year terms for students: Alyssa Stefanese, Diana Castro, Dan Martin, Christopher Crocker, Zachary Bodenweber, and Kyle Kelschenbach.

April 22, 2013

A Resolution to honor Christopher Dahl was presented to college's president by Livingston CARES board members present at the 2013 Annual Leadership Awards and Recognition Ceremony.

May 19-25, 2013

Fourteen volunteers traveled to Biloxi on the 28th Livingston CARES work trip. Ken Kallio served as the returning veteran trip leader. David Baker and Kelsey Romanowski served as student trip leaders.

May 19-25, 2013

Seven volunteers traveled to Staten Island on the 3rd Livingston CARES Hurricane Sandy Recovery trip. Tim Lowmaster served as the trip leader. The team stayed at Bethel United Methodist Church and worked on the interior reconstruction of a family's home.

June 13, 2013

Livingston County News reporter Howard W. Appell featured Livingston County CARES in an editorial.

September 18, 2013

CARES Board voted to offset the costs for volunteers of the January, March, and May work trips to Biloxi and the January work trip to Staten Island with funds from Livingston CARES' Gumbo to Go and donations from Kiwanis and Student Association. The Board also approved the liability insurance premium payment.

September 25, 2013

Student Association approved Livingston CARES' request and donated \$2100.00 for financial grants and an

additional \$90.00 to help reduce the cost of the March work trip to Biloxi. Dave Parfitt hosted a Give Kids the World informational meeting for students interested in the March 2014 trip to Orlando.

October 2, 2013

Livingston CARES Board approved the following policy statement; the officers are authorized to create restricted Livingston CARES charitable gift accounts to accept donations from College departments and make donations to non-profit public charities. All transactions from each specific charitable gift account will be reported to the board of directors on a regular basis and reviewed at each meeting of the board of directors.

October 23, 2013

CARES Board voted to change the volunteer fees for all three Biloxi trips to \$551.60 to help volunteers with travel expenses. Livingston CARES offset these costs with the additional donation from Student Association and a donation of \$2100.00 from Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society. CARES Board approved a motion to donate \$1500.00 for cots and housing supplies to the Hicksville Church on Long Island, which houses our March work trip volunteers, and \$2500.00 to the Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church to be used for purchasing tools and other supplies to be used by volunteers working on Sandy recovery efforts. The CARES Board approved the filing of the 2012-2013 tax forms.

November 7, 2013

Philanthropic Chef, Glenn McClure, and a dozen other volunteers worked all day at the Central Presbyterian kitchen making Gumbo to Go as a fundraiser for Livingston CARES.

January 12-18, 2014

Twenty volunteers traveled to Biloxi on the 29th Livingston CARES Hurricane Katrina work trip. Tom Matthews served as the returning veteran trip leader and board member Zach Bodenweber served as the student trip leader. The volunteers stayed at Camp SUMA and worked with the HOPE Community Development Agency in Biloxi.

January 12-18, 2014

Seven volunteers traveled to Staten Island on the 4th Livingston CARES Hurricane Sandy Recovery trip. Holly Harvey served as the trip leader and board member Alyssa Stefanese served as the student trip leader. The team stayed at Bethel United Methodist Church and worked with Tunnel to Towers Foundation to renovate three different homes that were severely damaged by Hurricane Sandy.

January 22, 2014

CARES Board voted to donate \$1000.00 to the United Methodist Annual Conference for the Bethel United Methodist Church on Staten Island for the purchase of cots to be used by Hurricane Sandy work trip volunteers on future work trips. CARES voted to support the March 2014 Weekend of Service in Rochester Project proposed by Lynn Horowitz. CARES allocated up to \$25.00 per student participant to assist with housing and other expenses.

January 30, 2014

Lamron reporter Maya Lucyshyn interviewed student board member Alyssa Stefanese about Livingston CARES' volunteer work on Staten Island.

March 16-22, 2014

Twenty-one volunteers traveled to Biloxi on the thirtieth Livingston CARES Hurricane Katrina work trip. Neal Brooks served as the trip leader and student board member Chris Crocker served as the student trip leader.

March 16-22, 2014

Seven volunteers traveled to Long Island on the fifth Livingston CARES Hurricane Sandy Recovery trip. Board member Eddie Lee served as the returning veteran trip leader. Seven volunteers from Logom Landing, a local alternative vocational program, also participated in the trip. Laurel Nelson assisted Eddie Lee in managing the trip.

April 10, 2014

Gumbo to Go Dinner prepared by Geneseo Philanthropic Chef Glenn McClure held at Central Presbyterian Church with proceeds to Livingston CARES.

April 28, 2014

Livingston CARES Annual Corporate Meeting and April Board of Directors Meeting at the Geneseo Interfaith Center followed by the Annual Spring Volunteer Thank You Dinner. Humanitarian Awards for service were approved by the board and presented to Zach Bodenweber, Diana Castro, Chris Crocker, and Kyle Kelschenbach for their strong commitment and leadership on Livingston CARES trips. Livingston CARES board approved Erin Bills, Brenda Donohue, Ken Kallio, Wes Kennison, and Lyle Lehman for three-year terms. Livingston CARES board also approved Holly Harvey for a two year term and one year terms for Eddie Lee and students: Katie Baum, Diana Castro, Dan Martin, Alyssa Stefanese, and Austin

Stone. Livingston CARES board also approved 1-year terms for officers: President Tom Matthews Treasurer Lyle Lehman and Secretary Kay Fly. The board accepted Ben Gajewski's letter of resignation with regret and thanks for his service.

May 18-24, 2014

Thirteen volunteers traveled to Biloxi on the 31st Livingston CARES Hurricane Katrina work trip. Board member, Ken Kallio, served as the trip leader.

May 18-24, 2014

Seven volunteers traveled to Staten Island on the 6th Livingston CARES Hurricane Sandy Recovery trip. Peggy Wirth served as the trip leader.

September 9, 2014

The CARES board elected Jon Macko as a new member and the new Secretary of the Board. The CARES Board voted to establish the volunteer fees for the January and May Biloxi trip at \$550.00 and the March Biloxi trip at \$600.00 and to help volunteers on a need basis with travel expenses. The Board also voted to establish the fees for the February Weekend of Service in Rochester at \$20.00 per volunteer. The CARES board also authorized payment of liability insurance.

September 17, 2014

President of the CARES Board, Tom Matthews, and student board member Alyssa Stefanese, presented a reading requesting a \$3000.00 donation from Student Association to offset the cost to Livingston CARES' student volunteers. The first of two readings passed.

September 24, 2014

Student Association approved Livingston CARES' request and donated \$3000.00 for financial grants to help students needing assistance with travel expenses on the Biloxi service trips.

October 21, 2014

The CARES Board approved and appointed trip leaders for the 2015 work trips. The Board also voted to confirm an electronic vote on the October financial report.

November 6, 2014

Philanthropic Chef, Glenn McClure, prepared the semi-annual Gumbo to Go Dinner at Central Presbyterian Church.

January 11-17, 2015

Twenty-one volunteers traveled to Biloxi on the 32nd Livingston CARES Hurricane Katrina work trip. Board President, Tom Matthews, served as trip leader and student board member Austin Stone served as student trip leader.

January 11-17, 2015

Seven volunteers traveled to Staten Island on the 7th Livingston CARES Hurricane Sandy work trip. Tim Lowmaster served as the trip leader.

January 20, 2015

The board appointed Diana Castro as supervising accountant. The Board confirmed an electronic vote approving a proposal from Lagom Landing to collaborate with CARES on a service trip to the Stony Point Conference Center on the Hudson River as another option for students during March spring break and set the fee at \$100.00 per person. The Board also approved the 2014 tax documents for filing with the IRS. Standing and Ad Hoc Committee appointments were reviewed and approved. Standing Committee Members are as follows. Compliance included Lyle Lehman, Wes Kennison, Joan Ellison and Eddie Lee; Finance and Audit included Lyle Lehman, Jon Macko, and Diana Castro. Scholarship included Tom Matthews and Jon Macko. Nominating included Tamara Kenney, Phil Natoli, Austin Stone, Karen Bailey, and Holly Harvey. Strategic Planning included Ken Kallio, Kathy Jones, Eddie Lee, Dave Parfitt, Brenda Donohue, Dan Martin, Tom Matthews, Tamara Kenney and Holly Harvey; Gumbo to Go included Brenda Donohue and Katie Baum. Annual Dinner included Alyssa Stefanese, Dan Martin, and Erin Bills.

February 20-22, 2015

Seven volunteers participated in the 2nd annual Livingston CARES Weekend of Service in Rochester. Victoria Morales served as student trip coordinator.

March 10, 2015

The CARES Board reviewed the strategic planning committee verbal report on the future of service trips to Mississippi and concurred that CARES should continue our work on the Gulf Coast helping families and communities in the state with the lowest per capita income. Recovery from Katrina will not be the focus of future trips to Biloxi. The fall 2014 SUNY Geneseo SEFA campaign was successful and Livingston CARES will be receiving donations from 22 donors from employees during 2015. Eleven donors were anonymous and eleven were a combination of previous and new donors. The total gift amount of \$1952.00 minus 15% overhead to United Way will be \$1659.20. The Board approved an allocation of \$400.00 to provide CARES

t-shirts for the Geneseo Goes to Town service day in April.

March 15-20, 2015

Lagom Landing and five Livingston CARES volunteers teamed up for the first five-day volunteer trip to the Stony Point retreat center. Laurel Nelson served as trip leader.

March 15-21, 2015

Twenty-one volunteers traveled to Biloxi on the 33rd Livingston CARES Hurricane Katrina work trip. Neal Brooks served as the veteran trip leader and student board members Dan Martin and Katie Baum served as the student trip leaders. Seven volunteers traveled to Long Island on the 8th Livingston CARES Hurricane Sandy work trip. Board member Eddie Lee served as the staff trip leader and Brandon Gaylord served as student coordinator.

April 2, 2015

Livingston County News carried a story under their Fundraiser Column, “Gumbo to Go Inspired by Gulf Coast Outreach.”

April 9, 2015

Philanthropic Chef, Glenn McClure and fifteen volunteers prepared the twelfth annual Gumbo to Go Dinner. They worked all day at the Central Presbyterian Church. They wore new CARES Gumbo to Go t-shirts. The sell-out dinner raised over \$2,400.00 for Livingston CARES.

April 10, 2015

College photographer, Keith Walters, did an all-day photo shoot at the Gumbo-To-Go dinner and created a photo-essay and YouTube video that was posted as “Gumbo To Go Supports Livingston CARES” on the College website.

April 27, 2015

Livingston CARES Annual Corporate Meeting and April Board of Directors Meeting scheduled at the Geneseo Interfaith Center to be followed by the Annual Spring Volunteer Thank You Dinner.

May 17-23, 2015

Fourteen volunteers travelled to Mississippi for a weeklong service trip after the spring semester had ended. Sam Cardamone served as the leader of the group. Peggy Wirth led a team of six students on a weeklong

work trip to Staten Island. Volunteers worked on numerous homes in the borough throughout the week.

July 2015

Student Association approved a grant of \$3,000.00 to offer financial assistance to students participating in service trips with Livingston CARES.

September 2015

Samantha Hebel, Coordinator of Student Leadership, Volunteerism and Service, was appointed as the board's new secretary.

November 12, 2015

Livingston CARES held its annual Gumbo to Go fundraiser at Central Presbyterian Church. Roughly \$2,000.00 was raised and all funds went to supporting CARES.

January 2016

The board approved an account for the Home Away from Home Respite Center project started up by VISTA Alyssa Penn. The board also approved an account for the Bike and Build program that Aiden Cropsey will be participating in this coming summer.

January 10-16, 2016

Livingston CARES celebrated ten years of service in its thirty-fifth trip to Biloxi in January. Tom Matthews and Samantha Hebel led a group of twenty-one volunteers to Mississippi. Connie Rocko and the Harrison County Board of Supervisors presented CARES with a plaque and a resolution congratulating and honoring CARES on its tenth anniversary. Lisa Burns led six students on a work trip to Brooklyn over winter break. The group worked closely with Rebuilding Together NYC.

February 19-21, 2016

Student trip leader Rachel Campbell led seven students on the third annual Weekend of Service in Rochester.

March 13-19, 2016

Samantha Hebel led six student volunteers on a service trip to Brooklyn over spring break. Neal Brooks led a group of twenty volunteers on a weeklong service trip to Biloxi and Sarah Yo served as the student trip coordinator.

April 7, 2016

Livingston CARES hosted its yearly Gumbo to Go fundraiser at Central Presbyterian Church. Over 200 dinners were sold at the event.

April 19, 2016

Livingston CARES board members hosted Connie Rockco for a special appreciation dinner at the Big Tree Inn. We presented her with a plaque celebrating the ten years of partnership with Harrison County, Mississippi.

April 25, 2016

The Livingston CARES Annual Corporate Meeting, the April Board of Directors Meeting and the Annual Volunteer Thank You Dinner was held at the Interfaith Center. Philanthropic Chef Gary Towsley prepared the meal for the attendees.

May 15-21, 2016

Fourteen volunteers travelled to Mississippi for a weeklong service trip after the spring semester had ended with Craig Bolesky serving as leader. Barry Chow led a team of six students on a weeklong work trip to Brooklyn.

July 2016

Student Association approved a grant of \$3,000.00 to offer financial assistance to students participating in service trips with Livingston CARES.

September 2016

Tom Matthews and Samantha Hebel implemented a required GOLD workshop for all week-long service trip participations to provide additional background information and pre-trip education.

September 29, 2016

Livingston CARES held its annual Gumbo to Go fundraiser at Central Presbyterian Church. Nearly \$2,500.00 was raised and all funds went to supporting CARES.

October 2016

The board approved an updated list of bylaws for the organization. The board also approved a motion to match donations up to \$700 to build water cisterns in Haiti and to forward funds collected from the campus

and community for the 2016 hurricane devastation in Haiti to the H.O.P.E. Foundation.

November 17, 2016

Livingston CARES Board of Directors approved forwarding funds collected from a pasta dinner to Armatrice, Italy to assist in the rebuilding of the historic community after the recent earthquake. The board also approved establishing the Fr. Bill Gordiner Community Service Award Fund to recognize and honor individuals for community service. The contributors intend to award \$500.00 each year for 10 years, or until such time as the \$5,000.00 contribution is depleted.

January 8-14, 2017

Tom Matthews, Ted Canning, and Tom Lowmaster led a group of eighteen other volunteers to Biloxi, MS where they continue to work on rebuilding from Hurricane Katrina while also focusing on homelessness and poverty.

February 24-26, 2017

Student leaders Torrie Morales and Rachel Campbell led seven students on the fourth annual Weekend of Service in Rochester.

March 3, 2017

Livingston CARES Board of Directors approved establishing a two-tiered dues structure of annual membership dues of \$10.00 for students and \$25.00 for faculty/staff/alumni/community, effective for July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018. The student dues will be deducted from week-long service trip fees.

March 11-18, 2017

Courtney Owen and Taylor Gale, led a group of 12 students to complete service at the Back Bay Mission in Biloxi, MS. where they continue to work on rebuilding from Hurricane Katrina while also focusing on homelessness and poverty.

March 12-18, 2017

Eddie Lee led five student volunteers on a service trip to Brooklyn, NY.

April 6, 2017

Livingston CARES hosted its yearly Gumbo to Go fundraiser at Central Presbyterian Church. More than 200

dinners were sold for the event.

April 10, 2017

The Livingston CARES Annual Corporate Meeting, the April Board of Directors Meeting and the Annual Volunteer Thank You Dinner are scheduled to occur at the Interfaith Center. Philanthropic Chef Gary Towsley prepared the meal for the attendees.

Ten Years of Service

As a recognition and celebration of Livingston CARES' continued service and commitment to Biloxi, Mississippi, the Harrison County Board of Supervisors presented a resolution of thanks to volunteers of Livingston CARES on January 11, 2016.

A RESOLUTION OF THE HARRISON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CONGRATULATING AND HONORING LIVINGSTON COUNTY CARES, INC. ON ITS TENTH ANNIVERSARY

WHEREAS, on September 28, 2005, the Livingston County, New York Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution No. 2005 endorsing the formation of Livingston County Cares, Inc. to assist the citizens of Harrison County in recovery and relief efforts in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina; and

WHEREAS, Livingston County CARES, Inc. is a collaborative effort of groups and organizations throughout the State University of New York at Geneseo, the City of Geneseo and Livingston County, New York; and

WHEREAS, Livingston County CARES is comprised 100% by volunteers; and

WHEREAS, the mission of Livingston County CARES is to help communities and individuals locally, regionally, nationally and globally in humanitarian projects either directly or as a central repository for resources and information for others wishing to contribute to disaster relief; and

WHEREAS, since January 2006, Livingston County CARES has sent approximately 882 volunteers on thirty-four (34) service trips to work on the rehabilitation and reconstruction of homes within the area; and

WHEREAS, the total estimated value of Livingston County CARES volunteer efforts in the community is \$1,115,132.00; and

WHEREAS, in addition to helping residents reestablish their homes, Livingston County Cares has provided immeasurable assistance to the citizens of Harrison County through its participation and assistance in the Livingston County Coalition of Churches Tools for Katrina Project, the Woolmarket Youth Football League, ARC Connection to the Gulf Coast, the Woolmarket Youth Recreation Complex Project, and the Moore Community House; and

WHEREAS, while the stories of Hurricane Katrina have faded, Livingston County CARES continues to provide assistance to those less fortunate in Harrison County; and

WHEREAS, on the tenth anniversary of Livingston County CARES, it is fitting and appropriate that Harrison County and its citizens express their sincere congratulations and grateful appreciation for

Livingston County CARES' unwavering support and continued friendship.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF HARRISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION I. Upon adoption of this Resolution, the Harrison County Board of Supervisors, on behalf of the citizens of Harrison County, expresses its sincere congratulations and grateful appreciation to Livingston County CARES, Inc., on its tenth anniversary for its unwavering support and assistance in recovery efforts in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

SECTION II. A certified copy of this Resolution shall be spread upon the official minutes of Harrison County there to remain as a testament to the many outstanding achievements of Livingston County CARES, Inc.

This all ordered and done this the 11thth day of January, 2016.



Update for El Sauce, Nicaragua

Project | *Prepared by Robert Lupisella*

With the support of *Livingston County Cares*, the non-profit organization *Linking Hands for Learning* returned to Nicaragua to construct another school. Seventeen volunteers traveled to Nicaragua this past February 2017 to begin the construction effort. The group and its numerous volunteers raised just over \$14,000 to build a one-room schoolhouse in the remote mountain community of Taquezal. All the money donated to *Linking Hands for Learning* was used to hire masons, purchase building materials, school equipment, and supplies for the children. The benefitting community of Taquezal is located fifteen miles outside of El Sauce, Nicaragua. When completed, the new school will serve twenty elementary grade students. Previously, the children attended school in a dilapidated structure which was made of adobe. The teacher at the school said, “The adobe walls are a concern as they are not strong enough to resist a strong tremor or an earthquake.” This project, like the previous projects, was a collaborative effort with the Nicaraguan Ministry of Education (MINED.) They will pay the salary of the teacher and for the construction and installation of the roof. MINED representative Johana Gámez thanked the organization for its continued support. The community members of Taquezal worked side-by-side with the volunteers during the construction, including the children who will be studying at the school.

Trip Participants

Christine Fortune*

Marcie Williams*

Tania Giorgis*

Marne Brady*

Colleen Callahan*

DJ Kitzel*

Jennifer Walker*

Tom Vonglis*

Stephanie Kuhn*

Jaden Kuhn

Dominic Giorgis

Rob Lupisella*

Jeanine Lupisella*

Elise Lupisella*

Caroline Lupisella*

Sophia Walker

*Denotes a faculty member/staff member/alumni/community member

Report on Livingston CARES May 2016

Service Trip to Brooklyn | *Prepared by Barry Chow*

Pre-trip planning was very extensive for this trip with having to coordinate with about a dozen various individuals associated with the NYAC-United Methodist Church, Friends of Rockaway, Rebuilding Together: NYC, and Geneseo in Red Hook.

The trip was divided into two parts based on which group was coordinating the service work for us. Monday through Wednesday, Rebuilding Together: NYC planned service for the group that included sanding and painting as well as hanging smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. Friends of Rockaway planned service for Thursday and Friday which included hanging drywall and sanding. The group felt positive about the work, and there was just enough work for everyone to try something new without anyone feeling like a burden on the project. The service was a mix of simple and skilled labor which allowed participants to learn new skills including use of power tools.

Housing was provided by NYAC-United Methodist Church and was a great space for the week. We had a house to ourselves with its own kitchen and spacious bathroom. The house was located near the work sites, had a supermarket across the street, easy and close parking, and about an eight minute walk to the subway.

During the work days, we had enough time to go back to the house after service and clean-up then make dinner and head out to do some sightseeing. Throughout the week, the group was able to visit lower Manhattan, the Brooklyn Bridge, the Brooklyn Museum, and Times Square. All in all, it was a positive experience to me, and I believe everyone had a great time.

Trip Participants

Jenny Benitez

Barry Chow*

Justin Donaldson

Xavier Bodensieck

Christina Constas

Callen Gross

Nanako Ikemoto

*Denotes a faculty member/staff member/alumni/community member

Report on Livingston CARES May 2016

Service Trip to Biloxi | *Prepared by Craig Bolesky*

After a very early 4AM student pick up in Geneseo, we arrived in New Orleans late morning and spent a few hours taking in the sights, sounds, and culture of NOLA. We arrived at Back Bay Mission in early evening, did some meal planning, food shopping, and had dinner. As we are accustomed to now, the Back Bay facilities are top notch, and it was easy to get ourselves comfortable there. Again this year we shared the facility with the United Church of Christ group from Arlington Heights (we had actually pre-arranged the timing with them in 2015), and had some great times with them sharing dinners, games, and our workload.

On Monday we had the orientation meeting with Craig and Benji and after that we were on our way to work for the week. We were assigned to finish a house that had been worked on for some time...actually the January Cares trip worked on the same house...with the goal of finishing it before we headed back. There was painting, trim work, grounds work, and all those typical finishing details that come with completing a project. It also included completely emptying out the attic, which was a hot and dusty job, but truly took a lot of stress off the owner. She said she had been worrying about it for years and was elated that the attic was finally clean. We did meet our goal of finishing that house before we left.

Students signed up for volunteering at the Micah Day Center and felt that they were fulfilled by the experience. Our social time was spent eating at The Shed (of course), and experiencing the hurricane memorials, as well as the museums in Biloxi. A real social highlight of the trip was being hosted on Thursday evening by Connie Rockco and family and staff at Connie's beautiful home on the Biloxi River (I think it was the Biloxi). We feasted on Crawfish, Shrimp, Po' Boys, as well as salads and desserts. We were also treated to boat rides on the Biloxi River. We very much enjoyed and appreciated Connie's hospitality.

Everyone enjoyed many wonderful experiences that will remain with them for many years.

Trip Participants

Craig Bolesky*

Rachel Campbell

Sarah Comerford

Tynasia Hammond

Alexis Irwin

Todd Lee

Seung Whyan Lee

Olivia MacDonald

Jamie McCormick

Caroline O'Brien

Elizabeth Spizuoco

David Stall*

Meagan Sullivan

Xavier Vargas-Villarreal

*Denotes a faculty member/staff member/alumni/community member

Report on Livingston CARES January 2017

Service Trip to Biloxi | *Prepared by Tom Matthews and Torrie Morales*

Livingston Cares hosted the 38th service week trip to Biloxi, Mississippi on January 8-14, 2017. Seventeen students, two community residents and one administrator flew from Rochester to New Orleans and traveled by vans to Biloxi. The volunteers stayed at the Back Bay Mission in Biloxi with a group from Heidelberg University. Volunteers cleaned and painted two houses in Gulfport and worked in the Micah Homeless Day Shelter, the Back Bay Mission food pantry and the Loaves and Fishes Soup Kitchen. Highlights of the week included cooking and eating meals together, a hilarious bowling competition, a night at the most famous The Shed Barbeque restaurant, a Wednesday Baptist Church service, and a closing night bonfire on the Biloxi beach. Volunteers also got to meet and talk with Connie Rockco, member of the Harrison County Board of Supervisors who helped establish the long-term relationship between Livingston County and Harrison County, Mississippi.

Torrie Morales reflected on her experience. "The service trip to Biloxi, Mississippi was both humbling and rewarding. When you take the time to immerse yourself in a new community and offer your talents so much can come of it! We met families who are struggling under a low income and are filled with gratitude for the home repair Back Bay Mission provides. We put our hands and hearts to work; painting, drywalling, serving meals, organizing donations, and talking with the local community members. It was eye opening hearing the stories of families who have had their house under repair for two or more years but continue to wait patiently for the final result! They work hard to provide for themselves and their children. The homeless community is quite large in Biloxi, but the Back Bay Mission services alleviate the struggles individuals face every day. No matter how "little" these people may have in terms of a home, clothes, food, etc they are so happy and alive! Thank you Back Bay Mission and Geneseo for this opportunity! "

Trip Participants

William Blasland	Tom Matthews*	Aaron Paratore
Madeline Brilling	Victoria Morales	Andrew Pawenski
Ted Canning*	Alexander Mrozek	Michael Perrino
Tyler Carrick	Kathleen O'Brien	Daniel Rehac
Jonathan Cohen	Andrew O'Connor	Druzell Smith
Ryan Colosimo	Michaela Omecinsky	Sofia Villalon
Timothy Lowmaster*	Amanda Paratore	Thomas White

*Denotes a faculty member/staff member/alumni/community member

Report on February 2017 Weekend of Service in Rochester | *Prepared by Rachel Campbell*

The 2017 Weekend Service Retreat was very successful! Eleven Geneseo students filled up three cars that headed over to the Sisters' of St. Joseph's retreat home located in Rochester, New York. On Friday evening we enjoyed a cozy pasta dinner with the Sisters which was a wonderful opportunity for everyone to get to know each other, and there was team building time in the chapel and living room later in the evening. Catch Phrase was a hit and got us all laughing! Saturday we divided into two groups. One group went to Bethany House to provide service to women and their children who have become homeless and who are in need of shelter after experiencing domestic abuse, who have just gotten out of prison, or who have experienced drastic financial hardship. It was not only fulfilling to be able to help with chores around the home that needed to be done to make the women's lives easier, but it was also eye-opening to hear the heartfelt stories from the women themselves and learn how they ended up at Bethany House. The second group went to Morning Star where they cleaned the house and interacted with the three foster children there. The three girls are severely disabled and are under 24/7 care by a nurse and two Sisters of St. Joseph. Saturday evening we gathered to reflect on our day's service and to talk about what service means to each of us. We also had some spare time in the evening to socialize and to make fleece tie-blankets and greeting cards that we will be distributing to a local hospital and nursing home. On Sunday morning, the trip was concluded with an interactive presentation on Social Justice Teachings and a trip to the local ice cream parlor! Overall, this trip provided an opportunity for students to not only perform hands-on service in a local community, but it was also a wonderful time for self-reflection and to dwell on why we engage in volunteerism in the first place. One of the students actually filmed and composed a documentary of the trip with the main goal to reveal why people participate in service and what volunteering means to them. Thank you to Livingston CARES, student participants, and the Sisters of St. Joseph for such a fruitful weekend!

Trip Participants

Jonathan Brennan
Rachel Campbell
Cecilia Campos
Scott Cassidy

Maryn Chmielewski
Sarah Hashmi
Thomas Magnus
Victoria Morales

Maria Mott
Nami Nishimura
Ruben Perez
Amanda Sika

Report on Give Kids the World March 2017

Alternative Break Trip | *Prepared by Dave Parfitt*

For the eighth consecutive year, 13 college students and I trekked from upstate New York for our annual Give Kids The World Alternative Break. At Give Kids The World (GKTW), families with children with life-threatening illnesses get a week-long, cost-free vacation to Florida, and volunteers (like my group) work hard to bring a smile or two to their faces. Alternative Break ran from March 11 – 18, 2017 and during the week I discovered Geneseo's ties to GKTW run even deeper than I thought.

Sunday morning, March 12 was our first official shift in the Village, and the 7:30 am report time was especially early due to daylight savings time (spring forward). However, that didn't dampen the energy and enthusiasm for this group of college students, not typically known for early morning energy. Our morning was spent serving breakfast and staffing Village venues, and there was plenty of time for napping back in the house later in the afternoon. After everyone rested and freshened up, it was back to GKTW for our evening shifts playing with kids on the life-size Candyland Playground, delivering cookies, and more.

Monday, March 13, the schedule called for a detailed tour and history of Give Kids The World. Emily Wagner, from their Communications team, led us throughout the Village. Emily was not only a knowledgeable GKTW employee, she also happened to be a Geneseo grad who's first volunteer experience was meeting up with one of my previous groups of students (2013). That initial volunteer experience with us led to a passion and now career in the Village. Every Monday night is Halloween at GKTW, and my students packed their costumes for an evening of Trick-or-Treating with the families.

Tuesday morning began with a special treat for the group, as we were hosted by SeaWorld's Discovery Cove for a swim with dolphins and to learn about SeaWorld's conservation programs. This experience was organized by Susie Storey, Director of Communications for SeaWorld and also a Geneseo alum. It was Susie Storey, during her time as PR Director for GKTW, that made the original connection with me that started these alternative break trips.

Of course you can't visit the theme park capital of the world without taking some time to play. Wednesday, March 15 was our day off from the Village, and the majority of the group made a pilgrimage to visit a certain boy wizard at Universal Orlando Resort.

After a full day at the theme park from opening to close, and multiple days waking up early to serve families at Give Kids The World, the group earned a day to sleep in. Each Thursday it's a Winter Wonderland in the Village, holiday decorations go up, carols are in the air, and Santa visits to give every child a special gift. I even stepped outside my comfort zone, and dressed as Rudolph for the Winter Wonderland parade.

On Friday, March 17, we were invited to participate in a new Village Vision session. During the morning we discussed ways we could spread the message and awareness for Give Kids The World long after our week of volunteering. This was a fantastic way to conclude our week of service prior to our final volunteer shift with the families.

I'm privileged to travel as much as I do, but this one week each year I'm "double-privileged." I get the opportunity to give-back to families at Give Kids The World Village dealing with life-threatening illnesses who may only get one vacation ever. I also get to travel with a great group of 13 college students from Geneseo who unselfishly devote themselves to these families and this cause.

Trip Participants

David Parfitt*	Abigail Bobbette	Shea Kinsella
Mary Panzetta	Chris Cummins	Samantha Norway
Stephanie Resila	Samantha Cytryn	Grace Rowan
Cara Behrens	Brianna Foss	Cassandria Sanche
Briannah Birch	Sheamus Kavanaugh	

*Denotes a faculty member/staff member/alumni/community member

Report on Livingston CARES March 2017

Service Trip to Brooklyn | *Prepared by Eddie Lee*

A group of six went on the Spring Break 2017 service trip to New York City. This was the first weeklong Livingston CARES service outing for all five students on the trip. We left Sunday morning for a six-hour long van ride through Pennsylvania and New Jersey to reach Rockaway Park - a beachfront community on the southern peninsula of Brooklyn and Queens that took a devastating hit from Superstorm Sandy in October 2012. Shortly after arriving, we walked 10 blocks from our residence to dinner at a local Italian restaurant, Elegante.

Because other housing plans did not materialize, we stayed at an Airbnb rental house in Rockaway Park for the week. This was the first Airbnb experience for Livingston CARES. Overall, the housing experience was positive. We were within two miles of our work location, making the daily commute very reasonable. We were three blocks from the beach but weather did not allow us to take advantage. The neighborhood had mass transit and was safe for walking with caution. Like many other buildings nearby, our house showed exterior signs of repair from storm damage but was renovated on the inside. The surrounding area was rebuilding with newly constructed high-rise and single-family residences and businesses while many other structures were still not fully repaired from the 2012 storm - a picture of re-birth amid ongoing struggle.

Our house on Beach 101st Street was comfortable, allowing everyone to have their own beds. We occupied the second story with a kitchen, bath, and private bedrooms below an attic loft with multiple beds. Heat and air flow in this configuration did not always keep everyone at the same temperature, but everybody managed. The kitchen was adequate, but we purchased some new cookware because the ones on hand were not usable. During the week, we cooked four communal meals - each with different themes and alternating teams of head cook and sous-chef. The group leaned vegetarian - so eating was pleasantly healthy.

The trip also started Livingston CARES' affiliation with St. Bernard's Project (SBP) - Friends of Rockaway. SBP started its mission in 2006 with Hurricane Katrina in St. Bernard's Parish, a totally devastated area just outside New Orleans. In ensuing years, as other natural disasters occurred throughout the country, they set up shop in other places such as Texas, Missouri, South Carolina, West Virginia, and New York City/New Jersey after Superstorm Sandy. From a three-person volunteer team, it has grown to a national disaster recovery organization with an annual budget of \$20 million.

Friends of Rockaway (the local affiliate of SBP) is the only remaining relief agency in NYC still working full-time on Superstorm Sandy. Uniquely, the agency relies primarily on AmeriCorps to staff its projects. AmeriCorps staff are the client case managers, volunteer coordinators, and construction site

supervisors who run all local recovery projects - supported by in-house trades people and volunteers such as those from Geneseo. This model minimizes using subcontractors and lowers project costs. Friends works only with low to moderate income homeowners. The Rockaway Peninsula represents more than one-third of the ongoing applications for Sandy relief aid in NYC.

On Monday, we went to the nearby Friends of Rockaway warehouse for orientation. We were joined by 21 students from Marquette University and two from North Carolina - all coming to NYC for their Spring break. We met Zach Cheney, the agency's Volunteer Coordinator who joined AmeriCorp and SBP after working five years in a technology company. Friends still has a waitlist of 60 families waiting for home repair. SBP adopted management systems from Toyota (one of their corporate sponsors) to track the construction and rehab of its projects with the philosophy of not leaving homes until work is complete. Many families have come to SBP after NYC's federally-funded "Build It Back" program or insurance proceeds could not support their home repair projects.

After orientation, we traveled to the home of Mr. and Mrs. St. Hilaire where we would work for the week. The St. Hilaire's are an elderly couple we saw sparingly but they were hospitable and appreciated our work. Under the direction of Site Supervisors Mariah and Gamal, our task was to sheetrock a garage/utility room where the mold-infested walls and ceiling had been taken down. Mariah is a recent graduate of UC-Irvine and is spending a gap year with AmeriCorps and SBP. She plans to pursue graduate school next year. Gamal is originally from NYC and went to college at CUNY, Virginia State and Buffalo State. He joined AmeriCorps to fulfill his passion to give back to his community.

We went food shopping Monday night - knowing Nor'easter Stella would hit the East Coast on Tuesday, closing NYC schools and shutting down our work for one day. Everyone else in town went shopping too - and we endured the gridlock of jammed aisles and crawling check-out lines. Shut in for the day, everyone relaxed and did a lot of schoolwork. The next morning we used a plastic garden shovel to dig out from the snow to rain to ice event after the plows walled our van in.

Returning to the job site, the team worked the next three days in tight quarters cutting wood to frame boxes for lighting, utilities and wiring; measuring, cutting and attaching sheetrock; and mudding all finished areas. Mariah and Gamal patiently guided everyone through phases of the job, and taught us skills that included the use of tools like power saws and nail guns. Everyone learned some basic construction skills, the value of planning and coordinating in a job site, and the essence of teamwork and working with others. The simple accomplishment of seeing a small bare room with uneven spaces get finished with sheetrock was an unexpected pleasure. The joy of sandpapering and dust would be left in the hands of others.

Work days were always 9 to 5, and we got to know Mariah and Gamal better as time passed. They have a passion to give back, and both took a year off with meager financial benefit to live in NYC and do

good work. We only had the pleasure of their company for a week. As new friends, we wish the time could have been extended - to know them and ourselves better.

During the week, play time was limited due to work and weather. But small pleasures matter. Our field hockey duo, Maddi and Gabby, discovered the local YMCA gym for exercise and went everyday except Tuesday. We all went to the gym on Friday. Mariah joined Chelsea taking the bus and subway to Brooklyn to meet a friend from Chelsea's freshman year. We know the reunion was great and learning NYC mass transit at night was exceptional. Gabe introduced us to a card game that taught us our strengths and weaknesses for word association. And we ended our week with a nice Italian dinner at the Plum Tomato.

We successfully avoided the NYC traffic by leaving Rockaway Park early Saturday morning for the return trip to Geneseo. As with many trips back after a good work week, napping and small talk was the theme - interrupted by a highway sign game provoked by Chelsea. We arrived back in Geneseo by 3 PM.

Kudos to all who came on this trip for the first time, stepping out of natural comfort zones and helping strangers in need. All the little lessons learned in a short week are yet to be realized.

Trip Participants

Madison Albrecht

Eddie Lee*

Gabe Ponce

Gabriella Clare

Mariah McCarron

Chelsea Soder

*Denotes a faculty member/staff member/alumni/community member

Report on Livingston CARES March 2017

Service Trip to Biloxi | *Prepared by Courtney Owen*

During the March 2017 Spring Break, 12 SUNY Geneseo students (all girls) gave up their Spring Break to selflessly serve the community of Biloxi, Mississippi. Led by 2 Geneseo staff members, the group stayed with the working camp, Back Bay Mission. Back Bay Mission is a community ministry of the United Church of Christ built to strengthen neighborhoods, seek justice, and transform lives through a variety of ministries that meet the immediate needs of the poor and marginalized and help people become self-sustaining. Geneseo has maintained a relationship with Biloxi and Back Bay for the last 12 years, since Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf coast in 2005, and has sent a group of Geneseo students down every year.

While down there, the Geneseo group worked alongside a group from River Falls, Wisconsin, to provide volunteer work and hours for Back Bay's many programs. They assisted in painting, priming, caulking, and baffling a house in Gulfport, MS (pictures of 27th Street). They even assisted a family moving into their new home, a home that the family of 7 had waited 4 years to move into, while they stayed in a 2-bedroom rental (Pictures of Roberts Ave).

When not on the worksite, the girls volunteered at Loaves & Fishes, the Food Pantry, and the Micah Center. At Loaves & Fishes, the local soup kitchen, our Geneseo students offered to work with other volunteers and lead the kitchen in cooking tamales for the homeless clientele- giving the head cook and staff a break and the clients a taste of some amazing cuisine! At the Food Pantry, students helped stock inventory and assist clients in shopping for their own food in the aisles. At the Micah center, students assisted the clients in doing laundry, allowing them to take showers, pick out new clothes, and use facilities and technology at the center. At these places, the students were able to connect with the clients and build a better understanding of the interests and needs of the population.

While down in Biloxi, the students took the opportunity to learn about the community and the rich history of the town. From their booming fishing industry to the devastation caused by Hurricane Camille '69 and Hurricane Katrina '05 to the resiliency and rebuilding of the coast counties. These girls took the time to get to know the people and the community they were helping to rebuild. They learned how to give a "hand up" as opposed to the usual "hand out."

Trip Participants

Courtney Owen*

Taylor Gale*

Brynn Davie

Hannah Fabiny

Megan Petty

Alex Nealis

Marie Henning

Chandra LaBonte

Caroline Gill

Jenna Bunce

Sofia Kostrinsky

Sofia Villalon

Michelle Perez

Rebecca M

*Denotes a faculty member/staff member/alumni/community member

Report on Livingston CARES March 2017

Service Trip to Detroit | *Prepared by Samantha Hebel*

The inaugural Detroit service trip left from Geneseo at 8:00 am on Sunday, March 12, 2017. Six students and one staff leader drove from Geneseo through Canada to Detroit, MI. This trip was both a service trip and an interfaith service trip. Samantha Hebel, the staff leader, is a native of Detroit and was intentional about integrating information about the city and its history, the service, and the interfaith component. On Sunday, the group arrived early to spend some time exploring Belle Isle before heading to the housing site. Belle Isle is a famous island off the city of Detroit, and the participants were able to explore the oldest continuously running aquarium as well as a growing conservancy, both of which are located on Belle Isle. After some basic exploring of Detroit, the group went to the Cass Community Social Services Activity Center where they would be staying for the week. The lodging situation was not ideal but doable for a week. Sam was accustomed to less ideal situations, but the students were a little surprised. After being told sleeping on the main floor was an option but they would have to move all of their stuff up to the attic before 7am, the group decided to sleep in the attic which was cold but did not seem miserable. The students were excited about making the space their own and moved around abandoned furniture to make a “parlor” to hang out and play games and arranged their air mattresses. However, after the first night, the group realized what it really means to stay in an unheated attic, and the evenings got extremely cold. Luckily, Sam’s sister was able to bring some extra blankets and Sam and one student braved the attic for the week while the rest of the group slept downstairs with four other groups who were volunteering for the same week.

There was a disappointing lack of communication between the staff leader and the site itself which manifested itself periodically throughout the week. Sunday, the group did not have the correct address of where to drive, and the group was unsure who they were supposed to be meeting after breakfast the first morning. However, the group was able to get connected and found their way around all of the buildings owned by Cass Community Social Services. Over breakfast each morning, a pair from the group taught the rest of the group about the faith of the day. For Monday, the faith was Judaism so a pair of students shared the basic tenants of that belief and dispelled some common misconceptions.

On Monday morning, the group volunteered in the Activity Center. Cass offers a full day program Monday through Friday for adults with developmental disabilities. The volunteers helped these adults work on their tasks for the day. The program is intended to help adults gain life and work skills with the hope that all adults will be able to move out of the program and into jobs in the “real world.” Some of the adults already run small businesses like owning vending machines and making jewelry while others are still learning how to count money and understand what the different coins are. Overall, this was one of the

group's favorite volunteer activities of the week as they were able to see how much of a difference Cass was trying to make within the community.

After the morning of service, the group had lunch in Cass's food kitchen. Each meal is served to volunteers as well as individuals receiving services from Cass so the volunteers had opportunities at every meal to learn from individuals living in poverty in Detroit and what their experiences have been. The afternoon's service project was to serve in Cass's kitchen which included organizing the food pantry and helping to uphold food safety requirements within the kitchen and food storage areas. Many of the service projects were completed in conjunction with other service groups, including two other groups from New York, which allowed the college students to meet other students with similar ideologies.

Following the first day of service, the group was able to clean up and have dinner then headed to nearby Farmington Hills to spend two and a half hours at the Detroit Holocaust Memorial Center. This museum is unique in that a large portion, approximately $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$, of the museum focuses on understanding the Jewish faith and sharing history of terrorism against the faith and Jewish population. The second half of the museum provides information on and representations of the Holocaust and how that impacted a variety of individuals, including those of the Jewish faith. Finally, the museum provides a space to reflect on current issues of genocide and how individuals can speak up and stand against genocide and how individuals can make the difference in preventing these attacks from happening in the future. Overall, the group felt that this was one of the best Holocaust museums they have ever experienced and was able to learn a lot from the time they were able to spend exploring and learning. On the way back to the activity center for bedtime, Fabian led group reflection on the museum and first day of service. Each day, Fabian, as the student leader, was able to facilitate group reflection which contributed positively to group understanding and awareness of faith, poverty, and Detroit issues.

The second day of service was a morning of volunteering to shred paper. Cass accepts confidential documents from law offices, police and legal departments, churches, and other large and small organizations and shreds those papers for them. Cass then binds the shredded paper and sells it to a company in Minnesota that recycles that paper into new products. The money they receive from this shredded paper provides a lot of financial support for the programs sponsored by Cass. At first, the group was unsure how their shredding paper would contribute to alleviating poverty, but Mark, the head of this program really took the time to talk about the importance of this funding and how the group's work is really crucial to helping purchase food for homeless and going toward new programs like building tiny homes for the homeless population in Detroit. In addition, Cass pays a small group of adults from the activity center program to come and spend a couple hours shredding paper meaning that a group of adults is able to earn some small income that would have otherwise been inaccessible to them. Our group really bonded with Mark, and he took the time to take a

couple students driving around the area we were working so they could see the huge disparity between different parts of Detroit and what the people we were trying to help had to deal with on a daily basis.

Our group had the afternoon off of service to be able to explore Detroit and have some experiences at places that close before the end of the work day. For lunch, Samantha took the group to American Coney Island then Lafayette Coney Island. The coney dog is a meal native to Detroit, not Coney Island, NY as is commonly thought, and many native Detroiters are very loyal to either American or Lafayette so it was a fun way to introduce the group to some quirky aspects of Detroit. After having a coney dog and fries at both restaurants (the group decided they liked the atmosphere of Lafayette best), the group walked around the Campus Martius area of Detroit then headed to the Detroit Historical Museum. After learning more about the history, culture, and influences of Detroit, Samantha gave the group a driving tour of Detroit. The tour included a stop at the Heidelberg Project where the group was able to walk around and explore the artist's understanding of the riot times of the city. They were also able to see Hitsville USA where a wide range of famous musicians have recorded. Overall, there was some down time for the group to spend at the activity center to work on homework and a long evening reflection about the city and what they learned from the museum.

Wednesday's faith was Buddhism so the morning pair taught us all about the basics of the faith. Service for the day included shredding in the morning and then kitchen preparation and cleaning in the afternoon. Following a quick dinner at the Cass Community Social Services kitchen, the group headed to Hamtramck to practice Zen Buddhism for the evening at the Detroit Zen Center. The Zen Center has open meditation on Wednesday evenings and the trip participants were able to experience a full Yebel and Sitting with the monks in residence. The three individuals leading the meditation were very welcoming and invited the group to their small kitchen for some tea. We were delighted for the opportunity to learn more about Buddhism and ask any questions of the students of the faith. The center also had a small store, and the participants enjoyed shopping around and buying some vegan and organic food and tea. The students loved the opportunity to fully immerse in one of our religions and spent the week referring back to this evening experience.

On Thursday, the group helped the maintenance staff on upkeep of Cass's various buildings then spent the afternoon shredding. Along with two other groups, we were able to shred a record number of papers which impressed the staff. As part of the week's events, Cass Community Social Services took all of the volunteer groups for dinner in Greektown which was a delicious treat for everyone. Following dinner, the group had a true Detroit peplemover experience and walked along the Riverfront area of Detroit. It was a beautiful evening so we spent some time walking the city then took the Peplemover back to Greektown for some amazing dessert before heading back to the activity center for bed.

Our final day at Cass brought mixed feelings. The group was grateful for their experiences all week but realized how quickly time had passed and wanted to be able to help and explore more. Morning service consisted of making doormats that Cass sells for a profit. They go out and recycle old tires that are littering the streets of Detroit and make them into sturdy mats that individuals and groups are able to purchase. In doing so, Cass helps create an additional revenue stream while also helping to clean the city by removing items that trash the area. The group made several mats, and Samantha even purchased a special made mat that the group signed. After lunch, service was supposed to include traveling around the city to collect abandoned tires. However, the cold and rain made that a less than ideal situation, so we were able to spend another afternoon shredding with Mark. Although the group was not looking forward to shredding at the beginning of the week, it was easily the favorite service project the group completed over the course of the week. After some bittersweet goodbyes to the Cass staff, the group changed and headed to Mount Clemens for pizza dinner and feather bowling, a Detroit tradition. After dinner and play, the group headed back to Detroit and went to the Detroit Institute of Arts to see their incredible collection and enjoy their biweekly jazz concert. Tired but satisfied with a full day, the group headed back to bed to prepare for an early morning of cleaning and exploring before driving back to Geneseo.

On Saturday morning, we were up as a group, cleaned up our areas, packed the van, and drove to Dearborn to experience the Henry Ford Museum. We took the Ford Rouge Factory Tour in the morning which was a great opportunity to learn about the impact of Henry Ford and the car industry on Detroit. It was pretty incredible to see a full-scale, working assembly line while we watched the Ford F150 being built. After that tour, we had Middle Eastern food and took a driving tour of Dearborn, the largest US population of Muslims. The afternoon was spent in the Henry Ford Museum which was said to be one the coolest, most unique museums the group had ever seen. The Henry Ford Museum has treasures such as the chair where Lincoln was shot, original steam trains, the bus Rosa Parks rode, and a whole history of automobiles. Around 3pm, the group headed back to the van for the drive back to Geneseo with a stop on the way for dinner and blizzards. Everyone was dropped off to enjoy a day of rest before getting back to classes and work.

Thanks for reading this long report! The Detroit trip is new so I wanted to include as many details as possible. Additionally, this trip combines issues of alleviating poverty, understanding the history and issues of and within Detroit, and an awareness and understanding of other faith beliefs. It was a quick week that hopefully left a lifelong impact on the group that was able to participate on this trip. The group really appreciated the variety of aspects this trip offered and the ability for them to learn from one another in a small, accepting group. It was a life-changing trip, and I hope more students are able to have this incredible, unique experience!

Trip Participants

Samantha Hebel*

Robina Nagel

Fabian Thompson

Laura Huff

Gina Scandaglia

Merin Varghese

Adam Wegman

*Denotes a faculty member/staff member/alumni/community member

Home Away From Home Respite Center

The purpose of the Home Away from Home Respite Center is to provide respite care for individuals with Alzheimer's, dementia, and memory-related diseases in Livingston County. The program focuses on three components: relieving caregiver stress, enhancing the lives of individuals living with memory-related diseases, and promoting intergenerational contact between local senior citizens and college-aged students to enrich the lives of both generations.

The program operates out of the Interfaith Center, adjacent to the SUNY Geneseo campus, and has had a holding account with Livingston Cares since February 2016. Student volunteers are integral to the success of this community-based program. After receiving training from the Alzheimer's Association, volunteers provide companionship to clients, plan out daily activities, and give caregivers a much needed break. While it may seem small, these breaks reduce caregiver burnout and allow caregivers time to focus on their own needs. As one caregiver says, "I was surprised with the feeling I had the first time I left my mother-in-law at the center. I had peace of mind. I knew she was safe while I took care of some errands. It also made me aware of how much I worry about her when I do leave her alone for short periods."

Since October 2016, sixteen students have served as respite volunteers or interns under AmeriCorps VISTA member, Jessie Gyr. Each student makes a semester-long commitment, but many students end up serving for multiple semesters since they find it to be a meaningful, positive experience. Collectively, these students have dedicated over 1,000 hours of service to Home Away from Home. In addition, Home Away from Home has held 36 respite sessions since October 2016, providing 144 hours of respite care for local families. The program runs on suggested contributions and donations to prevent finances from being a barrier for participation. Home Away from Home hopes to expand respite services into the summer of 2017. Additionally, work is being done to secure funding for program continuation after AmeriCorps VISTA involvement ends in July 2017.

Individual Contributors to Livingston CARES

Deborah & James Allen	Andrea Digiorgio	Linda House
Gerard & Kathleen Alonzo	Susan & Daniel Dimpfl	Connie Hurlburt
Elise Arnerson	Paul Dotterweich	Wayne Irwin
Douglas Baldwin & Marion Blanhopf	Monica Durkee	Walter & Marie Isaac
Susan L. Bartholomew	Celia Easton	Carol Ivsan
Barbara Battaglia	Rita & Peter Elliott	Carol Jackman
Norm Bauer	Mark & Angela Ellis	James Jackson
Catherine & Robert Bonfiglio	Robert & Joan Ellison	Bradley & Catherine Jason
Anita Bowersox	Maryellen Felter	Elizabeth Johnson
Barbara Boyce	Mary Ann Fink	Herbert & Caroll Jones
William & Charlotte Brummett	Emily R. Froome	Kathleen & Phil Jones
Meghan Bucci	Ivan Gabriele	Kenneth & Colleen Kallio
Lisa Burns	Ruth Gibson	Jennifer Katz
Bruce & Rona Byers	Mark & Angela Gillespie	Jim Kennedy
Rachel Campbell	Sandra Glantz	Tamara Kenney
James Carlisle	Beth Godfrey	Thomas Kilcullen
Laurel & Rock Castor	Sheila & William Goodman	Kimberly Kipfer
Susan Chichester	Margaret Goodridge	Marilyn Klotz
Barbara Christiansen	Tom Greenfield	Keith Koch
Niels & Barbara Christiansen	Paul Griffen	Cara Kowalski
Elaine Cleeton	Marlene Hamilton	Paul & Sheri Kreher
Roger & Kathleen Collins	Timothy & Pamela Hammond	Yvonne Krempasky
Gary & Shirley Cox	Marjorie Harding	Dianne Krenzer
Stephanie Crissman	Samantha Hebel	Eddie & Kim Binaghi Lee
Victoria Ann Cunningham	John Helsinki	Tiffany Lee
Christopher Dahl	Jean Hennesey	Lyle & Margaret Lehman
Heidi Davis	Paula M. Henry	Maria Lima
Linda Deats	Ronald & Ellen Herzman	Timothy & Nancy Lowmaster
Ganie DeHart	Brad & Debbie Hill	Sandra Macauley
	Jonathon Hoose	Carolyn MacTurk
	Tony Hoppa	Anthony & Jean Macula

Anthony Macula	Richard Reynolds	Kathleen Trainor
Melissa Masko	Terry & Janet Reynolds	George & Beth Traver
Margaret & Arnold Matlin	Connie Rockco	James & Barbara Walker
Edith Matthews	Fatima Rodriguez Johnson	Edward C. Wallace
Jeffrey & Julie Matthews	Leah Root	R.D. Wayland-Smith
Tom & Betsy Matthews	Dianne Ruigliano	Linda Weaver
Ray McCagg	Leonard Sancilio	Joyce Wechsler
Donald & Ruthmary	John Saugy	Carol Williams
McConnell	Paul & Barbara Schmied	Tom Wilson
Beth McCoy	Gail Serventi	David & Julie Woods
Marilyn & Elliott McDonough	Suzanne Sharp	Wilbur Wright
Susan McKenna	Richard & Cynthia Sheflin	Sarah Yo
Doug McKenzie	Marie & Joseph Shero	
James & Shirley McNally	James & Arleen Somerville	
Myrtle Merritt	Beth Standish	
Barbara Mestler	Lynda Standish	
Gwen Myers	Bill & Joan Stein	
Phil Natoli	Barbara & David Stewart	
Olympia Nicodemi	Margaret Stolee	
Susan & John O'Hearn	George Sullivan	
Robert & Cynthia Oswald	Michael Teres	
Robert Owens	Tom Thompson	
Sue Rabe	Charlotte Torres	
Marcia & Gary Reynolds	Gary Towsley	

Business, Community and Student Organization Contributors to Livingston CARES

Another Time Antiques -	Church	Network for Good
Barbara Boyce	Golden Key Honor Society	Pavilion Central School Ski Club
Center for Community -	Good Search Internet	Club
SUNY Geneseo	Habitat for Humanity - SUNY	Royal Lady Knights - SUNY
Central Presbyterian Church	Geneseo	Geneseo
Class of 2002 - SUNY	Inter-Greek Council - SUNY	Senator Volker Campaign
Geneseo	Geneseo	Committee
Class of 2004 - SUNY	Interfaith Center - SUNY	Sociology Club - SUNY
Geneseo	Geneseo	Geneseo
College Democrats - SUNY	Japanese Culture Club -	St. Michael's Church
Geneseo	SUNY Geneseo	Student & Campus Life -
College Senate - SUNY	Kiwanis Club of Geneseo Inc.	SUNY Geneseo
Geneseo	Lanpher Financial Group	Student Association at SUNY
CSEA - Geneseo Chapter	Livingston County News	Geneseo
Genesee Valley Pennysaver	Livingston Ladies Golf	SUNY Geneseo
Geneseo Central School	Association	United Presbyterian Stone
District	Livingston-Wyoming ARC	Church
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Livingston CARES Trips History

Hurricane Katrina Trips				
Dates	# of Participants	# of Students	# of Community	# of Faculty/ Staff/ Alumni
January 4-10, 2006	33	14	15	4
March 10-18, 2006	55	51	0	4
May 21-27, 2006	8	5	2	1
January 7-13, 2007	20	13	4	3
February 18-24, 2007	23	0	23	0
March 10-17, 2007	49	44	1	4
May 16-23, 2007	16	10	0	6
January 5-12, 2008	25	19	3	3
February 16-23, 2008	10	0	9	1
March 14-22, 2008	55	51	0	4
May 18-24, 2008	15	8	5	2
January 3-10, 2009	25	13	6	6
February 15-21, 2009	11	0	11	0
March 14-21, 2009	55	52	0	3
May 17-23, 2009	28	23	2	3
January 3-10, 2010	29	18	6	5
February 12-16, 2010	8	0	0	8
March 13-20, 2010	59	54	0	5
May 16-22, 2010	20	17	1	2
January 9-15, 2011	27	20	3	4
March 13-19, 2011	28	24	0	4
May 15-21, 2011	27	20	2	5
January 8-15, 2012	28	23	3	2
March 13-19, 2012	28	24	0	4
May 13-19, 2012	27	22	3	2
January 13-19, 2013	21	18	2	1
March 11-17, 2013	28	24	0	4
May 19-25, 2013	14	12	0	2

January 12-18,2014	20	18	0	2
March 16-22, 2014	21	17	0	3
May 19-24, 2014	13	12	1	1
January 11-17,2015	21	16	1	4
March 15-21, 2015	21	18	1	2
May 17-23, 2015	13	11	1	1
January 10-19,2016	21	17	0	3
March 13-19, 2016	21	18	0	3
May 15-21, 2016	13	11	1	1
January 8-14, 2017	20	17	1	2
March 11-18, 2017	14	12	0	2
39 Trips	970	746	107	116

Hurricane Sandy Trips to Staten Island/Long Island				
	# of Participants	# of Students	# of Community	# of Faculty/ Staff/ Alumni
January 13-19, 2013	19	12	2	3
March 12-17, 2013	16	8	6	2
May 19-25, 2013	7	5	1	1
January 12-18, 2014	7	6	1	0
March 16-22, 2014	14	7	6	1
May 18-24, 2014	7	6	0	1
January 11-17,2015	7	6	0	1
March 15-21, 2015	7	6	1	0
May 17-23, 2015	6	5	0	1
January 10-19, 2016	7	6	0	1
March 13-19, 2016	7	6	0	1
May 15-21, 2016	5	4	0	1
March 12-18, 2017	6	5	0	1
13 Trips	115	61	17	10

Give Kids the World				
	# of Participants	# of Students	# of Community	# of Faculty/ Staff/ Alumni
January 10-16, 2010	13	12	1	1
January 10-16, 2011	13	12	1	1
March 11-17, 2012	14	13	0	1
March 11-17, 2013	14	13	0	1
March 16-22, 2014	14	13	0	1
March 14-21, 2015	14	14	0	0
March 13-19, 2016	14	13	0	1
March 12-18, 2017	14	13	0	1
8 Trips	110	103	2	7
Other Trips				
	# of Participants	# of Students	# of Community	# of Faculty/ Staff/ Alumni
2008 March-Ohio River Outing Club Trip	20	20	0	0
2012 Sept 21-Southern Tier Flood Relief	24	22	0	2
2014 Weekend of Service in Rochester	10	10	0	0
2015 Mar 15-21 Stony Point, NY	5	5	0	0
2015 Feb 20-22-Weekend of Service in Rochester	7	7	0	0
2016 Feb 19-21 Weekend of Service in Rochester	8	8	0	0
2017 Feb 24-26 Weekend of Service in Rochester	11	11	0	0
2017 Mar 12-18 Detroit	7	6	0	1
8 Trips	92	89	0	3
Summary of All Livingston Cares Trips January, 2006 - March, 2017				
TOTAL: 54 Trips	1287	999	126	136

Livingston CARES Financial Information

LC Donations (3/31/17)	Individuals and Organizations	\$54,638
LC Government Grants	Government	20,000
LC Trips Fees	Income	447,885
LC Trip Scholarships	Scholarships from CARES	21,362
Fundraising Events	Income from Dinners & Jailbreak	41,851
Membership Fees	Income	25
LC Trip Expenses	Expense	511,861
Program Projects		
Athletic Department Flow-Through	Donations Received	5,368
General Disaster Relief Fund	Donations Received	1,217
Ghana Project	Donations Received	7,434
Haiti Relief Fund	Donations Received	11,543
HEROS Project	Donations Received	1,130
Hurricane Sandy Fund	Donations Received	11,007
Japan Relief Fund	Donations Received	682
MLK Day of Service	Donations Received	5,305
Nicaragua Project	Donations Received	84,665
Respite Program	Donations Received	4,284
Typhoon Haiyan Relief Fund	Donations Received	1,962
Father Gordinier Special Fund	Donations Received	5,000
Italy Earthquake Fund	Donations Received	628
LC Projects		
Athletic Department Flow Through	CARES Donations Paid Out	5,124
Hurricane Katrina Donations and Grants	CARES Donations Paid Out	10,405
Hurricane Sandy Donations and Grants	CARES Donations Paid Out	7,800
River Clean-Up Project	CARES Donations Paid Out	400
LC Special Projects		
General Disaster Relief Fund	CARES Expense	644

Ghana Project	CARES Expense	7,389
Haiti Relief Fund	CARES Expense	11,096
HEROS Project	CARES Expense	1,057
Hurricane Sandy Fund	CARES Expense	2,085
Japan Relief Fund	CARES Expense	1,000
MLK Day of Service	CARES Expense	6,377
Nicaragua Project	CARES Expense	82,508
Typhoon Haiyan Fund	CARES Expense	2,000
Respite Program	CARES Expense	883
Italy Earthquake Fund	CARES Expense	623

Volunteer Contributions	Calculation	Amount
Work Trip Volunteers	1,287 trip fees (\$200-\$600)	\$ 463,317
Donated Volunteer Hours	1,287 x 40 hours = 51,480 hours x \$26.45/hour	\$1,361,646
Total LC Volunteer Contributions		\$1,824,963

Kudos and Thanks

Livingston CARES wishes to thank the following individuals and organizations for their special contributions and assistance with the trips, projects, programs, and the Volunteer Thank You Dinner.

- Barry Chow for leading the May 2016 service week trip to Brooklyn
- Craig Bolesky and David Stall for leading the May 2016 service week trip to Biloxi
- Courtney Owen, Taylor Gale and Hannah Fabiny for leading the March 2017 service week trip to Biloxi
- Samantha Hebel and Fabian Thompson for leading the inaugural Detroit Interfaith Service Trip in March 2017
- Eddie Lee for leading the March 2017 service week to Brooklyn
- Torrie Morales and Rachel Campbell for leading the Weekend of Service in Rochester trip in February 2017
- Dave Parfitt for organizing and leading eight Give Kids the World service trips, including the 2017 trip to Orlando
- Sharyon Dueppengiesser for travel arrangements for our 2011-2017 service trips to Biloxi
- Lyle Lehman for his continuing support and service as the Livingston CARES Treasurer
- Geneseo Philanthropic Chefs (Gary Towsley, Lynn Kennison, Glenn McClure, Paula McClure, Donna Kennison, Brenda Donohue, and Betsy Matthews) and numerous other volunteers for catering the Gumbo-to-Go Dinners and the Volunteer Recognition Dinner
- Wegmans for supporting our volunteer and service programs
- Stephanie Jacobs for her work for the last two years as our financial assistance for Livingston CARES
- Paula McClure for her work on all of our Livingston CARES programs and for organizing and promoting Gumbo-to-Go and other events
- Beth Standish for managing and processing all the required paperwork for our Livingston CARES trips
- Barb Battaglia for helping with our administrative work and for correspondence with donors and other volunteers
- The Geneseo Interfaith Center for hosting our dinners
- President Denise Battles and the College for support of the Livingston CARES programs
- Robert Bonfiglio, Vice President, Student and Campus Life for enabling Livingston CARES to do its work and for the support from the Division of Student and Campus Life

- Leonard Sancilio, Dean of Students and the Center for Community staff members for support and financial resources to help create and sustain Livingston CARES projects and programs
- Julie Matthews for her advice and preparation of our financial statements and tax documents
- Central Presbyterian Church of Geneseo for financial contributions, work-trip volunteers, and the use of the kitchen and social hall for twelve Gumbo-to-Go Dinners
- Samantha Hebel for serving as Livingston CARES Secretary, and for her numerous contributions, fresh ideas, and innovations in the programs and management of the organization
- Connie Rockco, Harrison County Supervisor, for her continued support of Livingston CARES and for always taking time to talk with our service week volunteers
- Back Bay Mission's staff for housing Livingston CARES volunteers and providing amazing and life changing opportunities to our students
- SUNY Geneseo and the surrounding communities for supporting our mission
- Individuals and community organizations for donating funds to support Livingston CARES programs and affiliated public charities
- Robert Lupisella for organizing an annual service trip to build schools in Nicaragua and to Kellan Morgan for his work with the Enlace Project
- Billy Blasland, Rachel Campbell, Hannah Fabiny, Brandon Gaylord, Kathleen O'Brien, Victoria Morales, and Amanda Paratore for their volunteer work on multiple Livingston CARES service trips and for their service on the Board of Directors
- Best wishes to graduating seniors Billy Blasland, Rachel Campbell, Hannah Fabiny, Brandon Gaylord, Kathleen O'Brien, and Torrie Morales
- A special thanks to Student Association for continued support of our volunteers with funding for grants to assist individual students as well as general support for our Biloxi trips
- All of our 1,287 volunteers and the student and faculty/staff/community trip leaders who have participated in 54 Livingston CARES service trips

Reflections and Quotes

“I met a man named Mark, who took another volunteer and I on a trip to deliver bags of shredded paper to another building. On the return route, instead of heading straight back to shredding, he took us on an impromptu drive around some of the worst parts of Detroit. ‘This is Detroit,’ he announced, referring to the entire block of abandoned homes we were passing. It was sad, really, to see all these houses--you could buy them from the city for a few thousand dollars if you wanted--for block after block. And, as Mark explained to us, they weren't likely to be cleaned up soon, as the price tag to demolish an abandoned building was about \$10,000. It went on for block after block and turn after turn.

‘But even here there's hope!’ he called out as he made another left, and we drive down a block of brand new houses--very small ones, part of the tiny homes project that CCSS runs. It was a small but hopeful coda to a sobering tour of the worst blocks of Detroit.” - 2017 Detroit Participant

“Through this trip I gained a better insight into the history of Detroit and it's current plight. While the media tends to depict Detroit in a wholly negative light, I was able to personally observe several positive aspects of the city, including its culture and strong sense of community.” - 2017 Detroit Participant

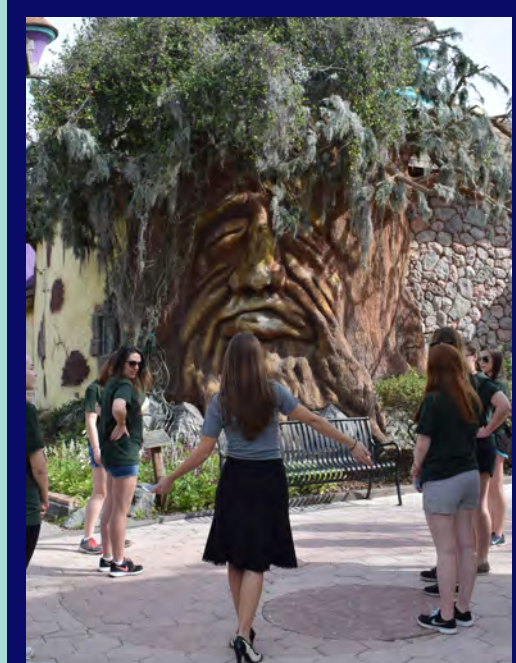
Everyone who participates in this trip and everyone who makes this trip possible are amazing people. Some of the greatest things about this trip are the people you meet from all walks of life. Everyone is so open-minded and welcoming, it is such an amazing experience.” - 2016 May Biloxi Participant

“During our trip, we got to meet the owner of the house we were working on and help her clean out her attic. It was awesome to get to help her finish a job that would have taken her over two years. We also learned that cleaning her attic was a way for her to move on after the storm because the stuff in the attic was all that was left after Katrina flooded the first floor. We even found a photo of her and her deceased husband at their wedding, a photo she cherished.” - 2016 May Biloxi Participant

MISSION

The mission of **Livingston County CARES** is to help communities and individuals locally, regionally, statewide, nationwide, and globally in humanitarian projects, including disaster relief and recovery efforts.

Livingston County CARES provides a central repository for resources and information for individuals and organizations wishing to contribute to disaster relief efforts.



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