WHAT IS SERVICE-LEARNING?

SERVICE-LEARNING is a teaching method which combines community service with academic instruction as it focuses on critical, reflective thinking and civic responsibility. From the assignment of a project that addresses community needs, students learn from community members and develop leadership skills while practicing theoretical knowledge gained in class.

I’M AN ALUMNUS OF UMKC. WHY SHOULD I PARTICIPATE IN SERVICE-LEARNING?

Many of the reasons that interests a student, a faculty member, or a community partner in SERVICE-LEARNING applies to you as an alumnus. As an alumnus, you understand the interests of the students, support the interests of the faculty, and live the interests of the community partner. You have the following reasons to consider SERVICE-LEARNING:

- You are committed to developing yourself as a life-long learner.
- You are committed to helping your alma mater, UMKC.
- You love the Kansas City area and are committed to helping its families and nonprofit organizations grow stronger.
- You are in a position to give back to students.

I’M AN ALUMNUS. WHAT ELSE DO I NEED TO KNOW?

First of all, congratulations and thank you for your interest. The hyphen in service-learning is not an accident. As an active and contributing member of the community, you understand the service part of SERVICE-LEARNING instinctually. But you might be wondering how the learning side of the equation will apply to you.

We understand alumni to be life-long learners. We also understand that you are a life-long supporter of the learning process. SERVICE-LEARNING gives you the chance to guide and witness students as they take advantage of the opportunity to gain insight into challenges facing Kansas City and cultures outside their own. SERVICE-LEARNING also allows you the same opportunities to learn and grow. Students will be asked by their faculty to reflect upon their SERVICE-LEARNING experience. You will be given a chance to reflect and share your insight with the students and faculty as they reflect and share with you.