



DETROIT MAYOR'S OFFICE

DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOODS

The Department of Neighborhoods works with the Detroit Land Bank Authority (DLBA) on their mission to return the city's blighted and vacant properties to productive use. Scholars at the Department of Neighborhoods work in partnership with the DLBA to support the implementation of the Building Blocks Program, an initiative focused on supporting Detroit residents in their homeownership and renovation efforts across the city.

"With this being my second year with this community partner, the impact has been substantial. I have learned the value of engaging directly and indirectly within my community."

Deandrea White, Sophomore

The logo is a circular emblem with a white center and a yellow border. Inside the white circle, there is a stylized illustration of three people holding hands in a line, with a cross above them and rays of light emanating from the cross. Below the illustration, the word "ASBURY" is written in a blue, sans-serif font.

ASBURY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

In their own words, the main focus of the Asbury CDC is “Connecting Neighbors.” Their ongoing service project is focused on connecting the residents of the Eastside of Flint by identifying assets within the community. This is accomplished by surveys that gather information about the abilities and assets of residents and their willingness to utilize their talents to build a better community, including further developing the local food system.

“Being a part of this program has allowed me to connect with people from all walks of life and understand how even though we may be different in some respects we share more common things.”

Munzer Elsir, Senior



NEIGHBORHOOD ENGAGEMENT HUB

The Neighborhood Engagement Hub works with the residents and neighborhood organizations of Flint to help improve access to community building resources. Scholars assist the NEH in the ongoing Neighborhood Mapping Project, a collaborative effort of many organizations throughout the city. The primary goals of the project are to increase the ability of agencies to proactively serve community groups and address geographic gaps in community organization.

“Not only have I been able to further engage with the community of my hometown Flint, but other communities as well. ”

Bre Richard, Junior



Capital Area United Way
Clinton | Eaton | Ingham

CAPITAL AREA UNITED WAY

Capital Area United Way is serving as a partner in the Serve Lansing collaborative to provide the volunteer component for community engagement. Their scholar serves as a liaison for this project with a focus on strategic outreach to build volunteerism, as well as developing outreach and engagement plans to support the BeCountedMI2020 effort for the 2020 Census.

“By leading volunteer events, working with Capital Area United Way on the census project, and reflecting with my fellow scholars, my viewpoint of society has completely changed.”

Sean Evers, Sophomore



Andy Schor, Mayor

LANSING MAYOR'S OFFICE

DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOODS AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT (DNCE)

Scholars with the Lansing Mayor's Office work directly with the Director of the Department of Neighborhoods & Citizen Engagement on the 2020 Census. Additionally, their work also includes the SERVE Lansing Service Plan. SERVE Lansing is an effort to coordinate, promote, and facilitate coordinated community volunteer programs with the goals of increasing citizen engagement (including Census 2020), neighborhood beautification, and emergency preparedness and response.

“[Working with the] DNCE has greatly improved my communicative abilities, broadened my understanding of community engagement, and most importantly; strengthened my affirmations that Lansing has some of the best restaurants.”

Claire Marks-Wilt, Junior



MICHIGAN ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL

The MEC has been driving the environmental agenda in Michigan since 1980. Their work with the scholars is focused on disrupting the white racialization of the environmental movement by promoting diversity statewide through reforms in their own organization as well as their 70+ member groups. The scholars have been helping to collect data on the racial make-up of boards and staffs of environmental groups alongside designing and implementing recruiting strategies to draw organizations into the movement, including formalizing a network of student organizations and faculty at Michigan's 15 public universities.

"Because of my time at MEC, I have changed my after-graduation plans to include working at an environmental non-profit organization"

Sydney Burch, Senior



refugee
development center

REFUGEE DEVELOPMENT CENTER

The Refugee Development Center has been providing engagement, education and support for refugees since 2002. Scholars with the RDC help to extend the reach of the center through marketing and resource development. Scholars develop cultural and global perspectives while gaining experience in marketing, including event planning and social media, to develop and maintain community partners and relationships for the RDC.

“Being in the program has allowed me to dedicate more time to community engagement in a way that is supported by the information I am learning in my courses and by my cohort of fellow scholars and colleagues.”

Brooklyn Rue, Senior



YMCA OF METROPOLITAN LANSING

Scholars at the Lansing Y help in their work with Evidence-Based Health Intervention Programs, their Anti-Hunger Initiative, and SPARK—a gym program for Lansing elementary schools aimed at promoting an active lifestyle to children from preschool to third grade. The scholars support the marketing of these program and are actively involved in their implementation.

“This program reminds me that although everyone has different physical abilities, a little enthusiasm and encouragement will go far.”

Audrey Van-Maszewski, Senior