



2022

Annual Report

LEOUC CENTER FOR CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

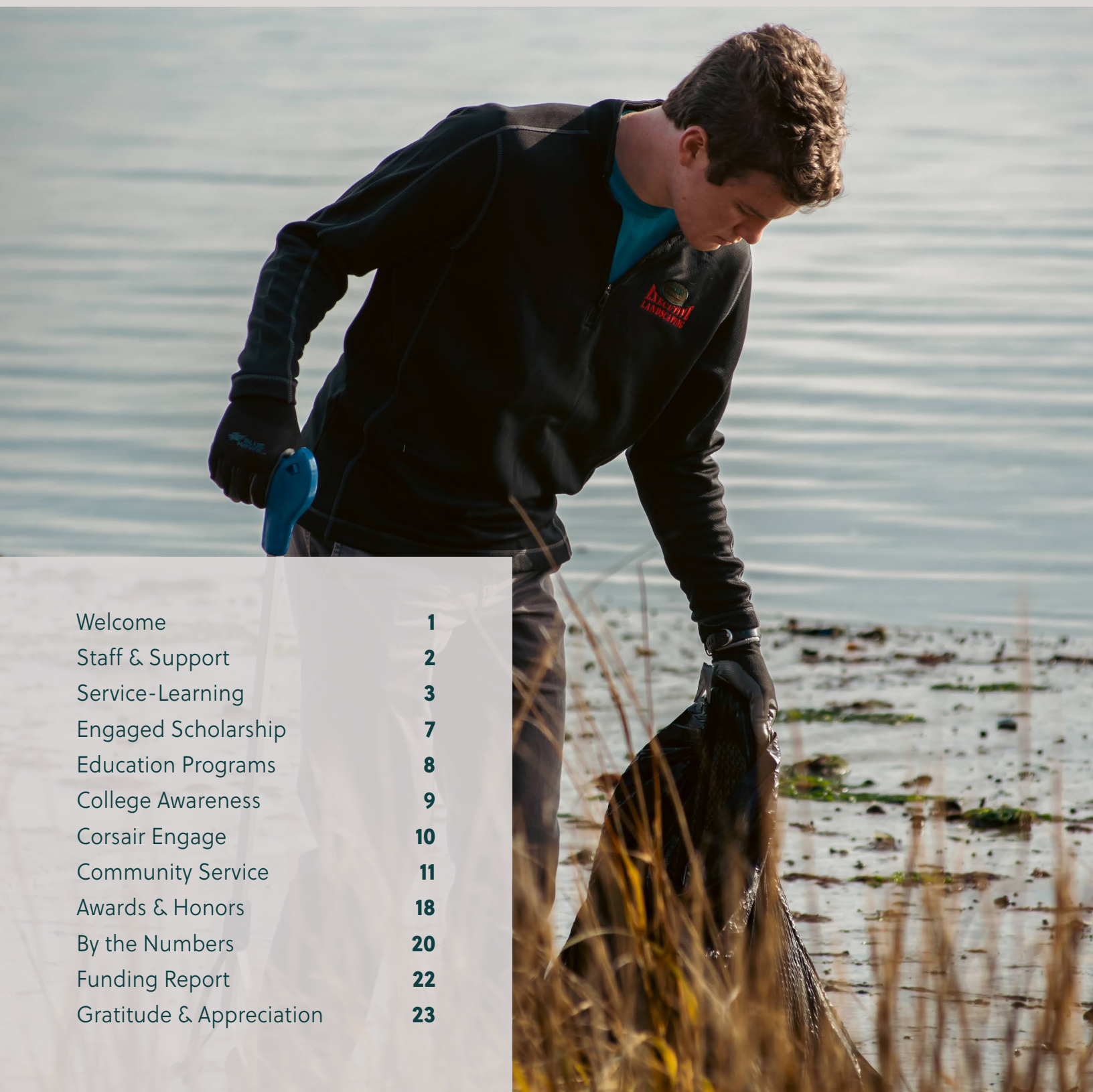


UMass | Dartmouth

Our Mission

To enrich the lives of our faculty, students, staff, and community through service-learning, active citizenship, meaningful community service, engaged scholarship, and mutually-beneficial partnerships.

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"Treat all people with three things: 1. Kindness, 2. Kindness and 3. Kindness."

-Fulton Sheehan

Dear Friends,

The pandemic has caused many of us to become more reflective - to sit back and asks ourselves how can we live a more balanced and meaningful life. Many have decided to leave the workforce or change their daily habits to include meditation, exercise, eating healthier, and community service. We hear words like happiness, gratitude, and kindness much more frequently.

UMass Dartmouth returned to in-person instruction in the 2021-22 academic year, but things were still very different from years past. This year, the Leduc Center saw a drastic reduction in community service activity as many students were more comfortable with isolation and social distancing.

Our focus was on feeding people both physically and intellectually. We know that if one's physiological needs are not met, forget about higher order needs like learning. National studies show that 1/3 of all college students are food insecure. There is no reason to believe that our campus is any different.

Though we witnessed a million acts of kindness, the most significant were performed by our primary benefactors Bob and Jeanne Leduc. First, they donated \$1M to further the work of the Leduc Center and expand the food pantry on campus. Second, Jeanne was recognized for her distinguished career of community service with the Blue & Gold Legacy award from the UMass Dartmouth Alumni Association. The food pantry was also renamed "Jeanne's Cupboard" in honor of her commitment to help eradicate food insecurity. The kindness and generosity of the Leduc's are examples for us all.

This report has been designed to provide a snapshot of our activities for the 2021-22 academic year. It is representative of our ideal - that through service we can brighten our lives and our futures. The data presented shows the impact on our students and our community. However, it may not speak to the most important aspect of our work – having our students understand the true meaning of kindness and gratitude and their link to lifelong happiness. When we serve others, we live happier and more meaningful lives. We are eternally grateful for your willingness to partner with us in this journey of service.



Yours in Service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "M. H. Roy".

Matthew H. Roy, Ph.D.

Assistant Vice Chancellor for Career & Civic Engagement

STAFF & SUPPORT

Matthew H. Roy, Ph.D.
Deirdre Healy
Gary Marden
Medora LaPlante

Assistant Vice Chancellor for Career & Civic Engagement
Director, Community Service & Partnerships
Civic Engagement Program Officer
Administrative Assistant

Advisory Board

COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Carl Alves
Positive Action Against Chemical Abuse (PAACA)

Lee Blake
New Bedford Historical Society

Nicholas Christ
BayCoast Bank

Jack Chopoorian
Mansion Nursing and Rehabilitation Center

Joseph Cordeiro
Retired New Bedford Police Chief

Elizabeth Duffy
Massachusetts Department of Developmental Services

Julie Gagliardi '87
BayCoast Bank

Michelle Hantman
United Way of Greater New Bedford

Jeanne Leduc
Retired ER Nurse

Robert Leduc '78
Retired CEO

Rev. David Lima
Inter-Church Council of Greater New Bedford

Rep. Christopher Markey
Massachusetts House of Representatives

Jim Mathes
Dennison Memorial Community Center

Bill Perkins
People, Inc.

Denise Porche
The Island Foundation

Gina Purtell
Allen's Pond Wildlife Sanctuary, Massachusetts
Audubon Society

Michele Roberts
Bristol County Savings Bank

Sen. Michael Rodrigues
Massachusetts State Senate

Dr. Bruce Rose
Retired Asst. Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Corinn Williams
Community Economic Development Center

Dr. Mary Zahm
Bristol Community College

UNIVERSITY MEMBERS

Dr. Carlos Benavides
Foreign Literature and Languages

Paula Cruz '14
Boston Children's Hospital

Joshua Encarnacion '14
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Dr. Memory Holloway
Professor Emerita

Narcisse Kunda '22
Student Trustee

Dr. Jean MacCormack
Chancellor Emerita

Dr. John Quinn
UMass School of Law

Peter Schock '12
Boston Consulting Group

Dr. Timothy Shea
Decision & Information Sciences

Maggie Sullivan '21
Alumna

Matthew Witzgall '15
Alumnus

SERVICE-LEARNING

Service-Learning

Service-Learning (SL) is defined at UMass Dartmouth as a pedagogical method used in credit-bearing courses that is designed with the dual mission of:

- a) Student attainment of discipline-specific knowledge through creatively designed, active-learning community based projects and
- b) Community benefit through the thoughtful identification and completion of community-based service.

The methodology of Service-Learning requires:

- a) A clear link between academic objectives and service experience that is mutually beneficial to the goals of the course and community need.
- b) Student reflection as a means to gain a greater understanding of course content and a broader sense of civic responsibility.

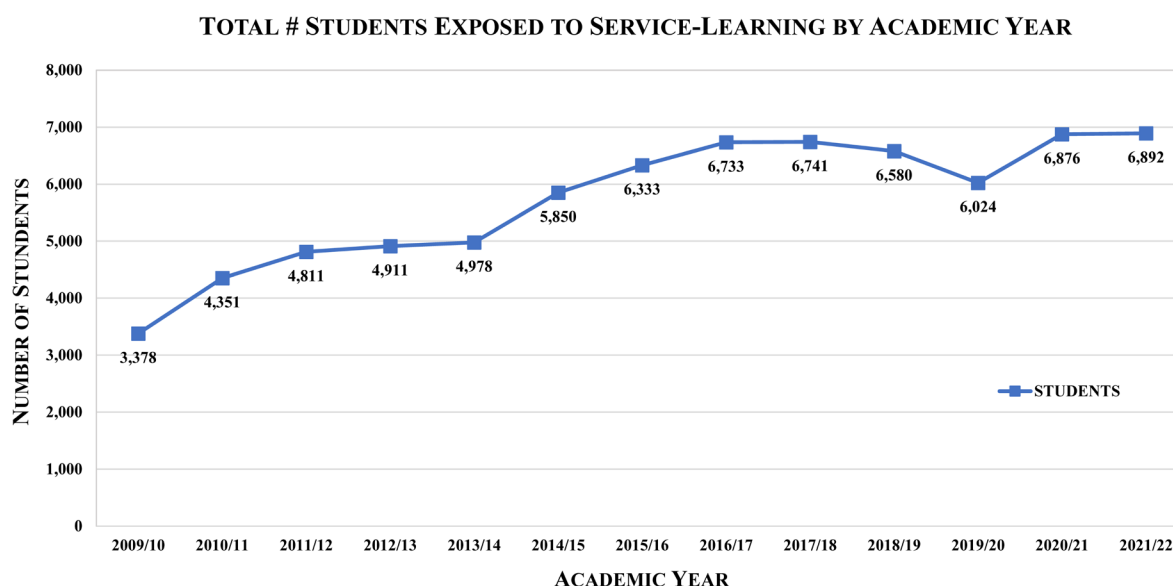


Figure I

AT A GLANCE...

6,892 students were exposed to service-learning in Academic Year 2021-22

SERVICE-LEARNING

According to Figure I, there is a positive trend of increased student exposure to service-learning with a slight decrease a few years ago that was in part due to academic policy changes and declining enrollments. In this academic year, 6,892 students were exposed to service-learning pedagogy. This is a new all-time high. Not all faculty using SL are SL Fellows. Figure II shows the growth of faculty and class sections offered from 2010/11 to this year 2021/22. The trend here also mirrors that of student exposure to service-learning.

**SUMMARY OF SERVICE-LEARNING INVOLVEMENT
(# FACULTY, # CLASS SECTIONS)**

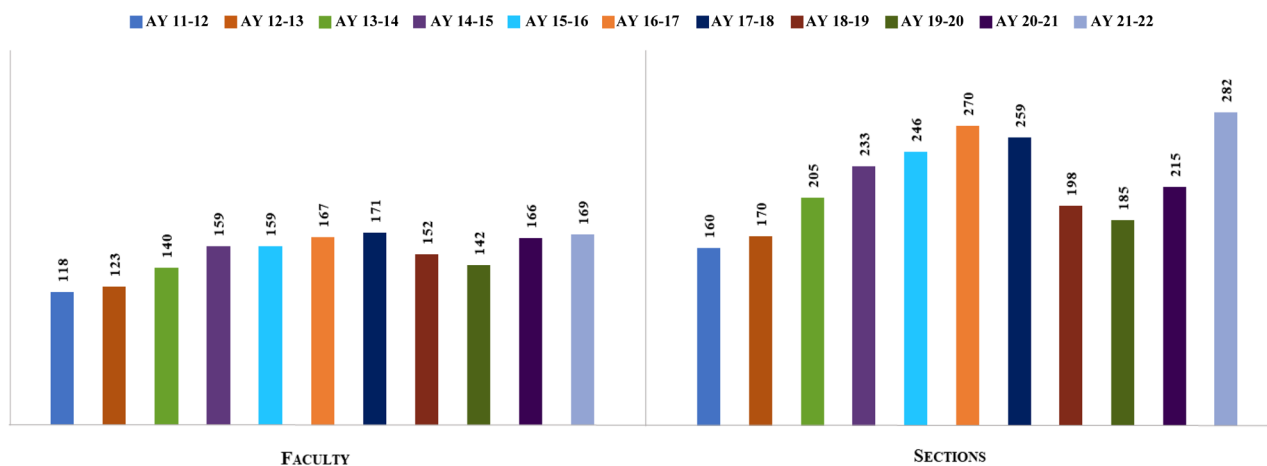


Figure II

Service-Learning Faculty Fellows Program

Students' exposure to SL pedagogy requires faculty understanding of and commitment to this method of teaching. The primary means to develop faculty knowledgeable in SL methods has been through The Service-Learning Faculty Fellows Program, which has grown from 6 faculty members in FY2008/09 to a total of 127 faculty members trained to date.

2021-2022 Faculty Fellows

Adnan El-Nasan, *Computer & Information Science*
Qinguo Fan, *Bioengineering*
Robert Gegear, *Biology*
Uday Jha, *Decision & Information Sciences*
Dustin Marlan, *Law*
Stephanie McGoldrick, *Art & Design*
Jonathan Mellor, *Civil & Environmental Engineering*
Ashley Ruderman-Looff, *Crime & Justice Studies*
Hamed Samandari, *Mechanical Engineering*
Anna Schierberl Scherr, *Psychology*
Mary Beth Sosa, *Adult Nursing*

Assessment of SL

Each year the Leduc Center surveys students across all the colleges to determine the impact of SL classes on civic knowledge, skills, and abilities; class learning objectives; and desire to stay at UMassD. The data has been overwhelmingly positive. This academic year we surveyed 206 students.

College participants reported increases in their civic skills following their participation in service-learning classes. The following table shows the difference in the civic skills of participants before and after program participation. The means below are based on a 5-point scale; with 1 being "I cannot do this at all" to 5 being "I can do this very well." Mean scores of skills before and after program participation were compared using a paired samples t-test. The t-test shows that there is a positive relationship between participation in the service-learning classes and reported gains in civic skills relating to addressing social problems. All the line items below are statistically significant showing the positive impact of service-learning classes on these skills.

Table I

| Civic Skills | Pre-mean Skill Score | Post-mean Skill Score |
|--|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Identify needs and resources of the community.* | 3.39 | 4.13 |
| Apply knowledge and skills gained to real problems/opportunities in my community.* | 3.58 | 4.23 |
| Make connections between learning and issues/needs of the community.* | 3.59 | 4.25 |
| Articulate the value of engagement to other members of the community.* | 3.52 | 4.15 |
| Communicate effectively orally and in writing.* | 3.90 | 4.38 |
| Evaluate and integrate information from multiple sources.* | 3.87 | 4.34 |
| Organize other students to take action on a community problem.* | 3.29 | 3.88 |
| Create a plan to address the issue.* | 3.55 | 3.89 |
| Get people to care about the problem.* | 3.48 | 3.98 |
| Organize and run a meeting.* | 3.48 | 3.93 |
| Find and examine research related to the issue.* | 3.80 | 4.31 |
| Apply what I learned in my service-learning class.* | 3.61 | 4.21 |

*p < .001

AT A GLANCE...

81.5% of the students in the class of 2022 had a service-learning experience

SERVICE-LEARNING

Future of Work

UMass Dartmouth prides itself on designing a curriculum to prepare UMassD graduates for the challenges they will face over the course of their careers and soft skill competencies, such as, resilience, optimism, and sense of humanity that will be critical to lifelong success. In an effort to assess how service-learning helps to meet the future of work competencies and mindsets, we incorporated a series of questions in our annual survey.

Table II

| Future of Work Competencies | Pre-mean Skill Score | Post-mean Skill Score |
|--|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Use different thought processes to generate creative ideas.* | 3.60 | 4.23 |
| Articulate thoughts/ideas in written and oral form.* | 3.86 | 4.35 |
| Value, respect, and learn from individuals different from me.* | 4.35 | 4.74 |
| Demonstrate professionalism, accountability, and effective work habits.* | 4.19 | 4.58 |

*p < .001

Table III

| Future of Work Mindsets | Pre-mean Skill Score | Post-mean Skill Score |
|--|----------------------|-----------------------|
| I felt optimistic - hopeful and confident about the future.* | 3.80 | 4.09 |
| I felt resilient about my ability to recover from and/or adjust to change or misfortune.* | 3.76 | 4.06 |
| I am interested in life-long learning - the ongoing, voluntary pursuit of knowledge.* | 4.08 | 4.43 |
| I am confident in my emotional intelligence - the ability to manage your own emotions and recognize/influence others emotions.* | 3.96 | 4.35 |
| I am confident in my ability to act based on moral principles .* | 4.38 | 4.61 |
| I embrace an entrepreneurial outlook - innovation and continuous improvement.* | 3.87 | 4.28 |
| I have an orientation for community service and engage in ongoing efforts for the betterment of others.* | 3.75 | 4.18 |

*p < .001

All future of work competencies and mindsets are statistically significant. The pandemic may have impacted the survey results with students feeling apprehensive or confused about the future and possibly reducing the impact of the optimism variable given the uncertainty about the future. Moreover, respondents reported that their SL class experience had a strong positive impact on their attitudes regarding the importance of being involved in a program that works on community problems, being concerned about local community issues, and taking responsibility for finding solutions. Students believe service-learning helped them a great deal.

ENGAGED SCHOLARSHIP

The eighth annual Engaged Scholarship Symposium was held on February 25th, and included a keynote address by Andrew J. Hoffman, the Holcim (US) Professor of Sustainable Enterprise at the University of Michigan. Hoffman's research explores how environmental issues emerge and evolve as social, political, and managerial issues. He discussed his new book, *The Engaged Scholar: Expanding the Impact of Academic Research in Today's World*. His keynote addressed the need for higher education to broaden the concept of the classroom, the limitations of the academic reward system, and scholarly use of social media.

The event was held virtually via Zoom, with one hundred and eighty-five people from around the globe registered for the symposium.

The keynote was followed by UMass Dartmouth faculty presentations of engaged scholarship in different fields. Faculty members who made presentations included:



"The Sustainable Fashion Quest: Innovations in Business and Policy"

Nikolay Anguelov, Ph.D., Public Policy



"Creating and Sustaining a Living Nature Lab in Dartmouth Massachusetts"

Robert Gegear, Ph.D., Biology



"Friendship Dynamics during the Pandemic"

Mahzad Hojjat, Ph.D., Psychology



"Facilitating Social Justice and Community Activism through Choral Music"

Ronald Sherwin, Ph.D., Music

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

America Reads & Counts

The America Reads & Counts program resumed in-person tutoring/mentoring this year, but as a result of the pandemic, our sites had limited positions available for UMass Dartmouth students due to health safety concerns. In total, 47 UMass Dartmouth students provided 1,114 hours of tutoring and mentoring at three sites. A new partnership formed this year as UMass Dartmouth America Reads & Counts students participated in New Bedford Parks and Rec's Full STEAM Ahead Program at the Ricketson Nature Center at Brooklawn Park, an afterschool program for students in grades 2-5 with a focus on Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math. Our sites also included: The Boys and Girls Club of Fall River and the Boys and Girls Club of New Bedford.



Leduc Center Spotlight

Megan Lambert Jumpstart Site Manager

Megan joined us this year as the new Site Manager for Jumpstart at UMass Dartmouth. Originally a Storrs, CT resident, Megan moved to Boston to attend school at Emmanuel College for both her undergraduate and graduate degrees from 2014-2021. While in her undergraduate program, Megan served as a Corps Member and Team Leader for Jumpstart. Returning to Jumpstart as a Site Manager at

UMass Dartmouth is something she is very passionate about, as she gets to work both in higher education and early childhood education. Megan now lives in Fall River with her cat Winston.

Jumpstart

After the initial launch of the Jumpstart Program at UMass Dartmouth last year, this academic year 38 students were able to serve both in-person and virtually with People Acting in Community Endeavors (PACE) Head Start program in New Bedford. Students were grouped into four teams, served seven classrooms, and impacted 108 pre-school children. Many members performed over 100 hours of service and received the Segal AmeriCorps Education Award, which can be used to repay qualified student loans and/or pay current educational expenses.

One UMass Dartmouth student serving as the Jumpstart Volunteer Coordinator was able to engage many students on campus in activities and crafts that were later distributed in the preschools as a tool to engage the children in further learning.

COLLEGE AWARENESS

College Positive Campus Tours

The College Positive Campus Tours continue to expose seventh graders to the possibility of attending college by demonstrating that it can be affordable. Sponsored by BayCoast Bank, the program was managed by 26 UMass Dartmouth students trained as tour guides and seven Durfee High School student leaders from the Red and Black Program. 1,926 seventh grade students from both Fall River and New Bedford public schools were hosted at UMass Dartmouth during the Spring semester.

Survey results from the College Positive Campus Tours showed that the overwhelming majority of Fall River and New Bedford public school 7th graders felt well informed about college, got a strong sense of what it would be like to be a college student, and their level of interest in college increased as a result of the tour.



Youth Summit

The Eighth Grade Youth Summit is designed as a follow-up to the College Positive Campus Tours to keep the importance of higher education at the forefront of area youth. On April 27th and April 28th, we hosted our annual Youth Summit for over 1,800 students in Fall River and New Bedford. The Keynote speaker, Carlos Ojeda Jr., from CoolSpeak delivered a message that there will always be obstacles, but none which cannot be overcome and that your voice is your power. The keynote was followed by an Interactive College Quiz Game Show which exposed students to important higher education information.

Survey results from the 8th Grade Youth Summit found that the message that you can overcome obstacles to achieve your dream of higher education was received by almost all. More specifically, the overwhelming majority of students think that getting an education beyond high school is important to their future, that their high school grades are important to get into college, and that they know what they have to do to get into college.

AT A GLANCE...

113 students (6%) who weren't thinking of attending college before the tours are now thinking of attending.

CORSAIR ENGAGE

WWW.UMASSD.EDU/CORSAIRENGAGE



This year, the Leduc Center for Civic Engagement in collaboration with GivePulse, UMass Dartmouth IT, and UMass Dartmouth Marketing launched Corsair Engage - a community engagement and service-learning management platform. The logo was developed by a Graphic Design class and a Management Information Systems class developed training materials and videos. Corsair Engage is used by students to search for local community engagement opportunities, community partners can post volunteer opportunities, and faculty can measure how service impacts learning outcomes. Corsair Engage also allows students to track hours, post reflections, have their service hours verified by community partners, and share their impacts. Currently, 49 campus groups and 73 community partners have joined the Corsair Engage platform.

The most notable collaboration was with First-Year Orientation, which not only introduced first-year students to other students, faculty, and staff, but to the SouthCoast community as a whole. On August 29th, more than 1,000 first-year students engaged in one of 33 events hosted by various community partners and campus groups. Those who hosted include: Active Minds, Battleship Cove, Be the Solution to Pollution, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Buttonwood Park Zoo, Gifts to Give, Habitat for Humanity, Jeanne's Cupboard, Jumpstart, Labor Education Center, MASSPIRG Students, NAACP, New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park, Operation Clean Sweep, Sharing the Harvest Community Farm, UMassD Sustainability, and Viva Fall River. Students completed over 2,000 hours of service valued at approximately \$60,000 by the independent sector. The impact students made varied from training 107 new activists, creating 90 literacy kits and 210 wellness cards for seventh graders. In addition, 4,000 lbs. of food donations were organized and shelved, 500 lbs. of vegetables were harvested for those in need, 15 bags of microplastics were collected from Palmer's Island, and more than 110 lbs. of trash was removed from the coast.



"It was such a cool experience and a very unique thing to do at orientation. I loved it"

-First-year student

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Leduc Center Spotlight Leduc Leaders/Interns

Narcisse Kunda



Leader at Large

Eden McKenna-Bateman



Art Ambassador

Marissa Cairns



College Positive Coordinator

Destin Erickson



Photographer

Pranav Vinod



Corsair Engage Specialist

Community Service Survey

To better understand the impact of community service on student learning outcomes, we surveyed students who have participated in community service in the past year. They answered questions about the impact of service on their skills and abilities.

The survey results indicate that the impact of community service on students' academic development, life skills, and civic responsibility were all positive. The majority of students participated in an educational focus area such as, literacy tutoring and/or mentoring or as college positive tour guides. These results show that we are meeting some of our strategic goals such as providing meaningful community service that enhances student learning while positively impacting community life, early literacy rates, and college awareness.

| Civic Skills "Because of my service experience..." | Totals: Agree & Strongly Agree | % of total |
|---|---|------------|
| My communication skills have improved. | 73 | 89.0 |
| My ability to work as part of team has improved. | 67 | 81.7 |
| I have become more adaptable/flexible. | 66 | 80.5 |
| I have become a better problem solver. | 64 | 78.0 |
| My ability to think or act creatively has increased. | 68 | 82.9 |
| My work ethic has improved. | 70 | 85.4 |
| My interpersonal skills have improved. | 69 | 84.1 |
| My time management skills have improved. | 58 | 70.1 |
| My experience at UMass Dartmouth has been enhanced. | 66 | 80.5 |
| I feel a closer connection to the community. | 67 | 81.7 |

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Special Events

9/11 Day of Service & Remembrance - On September 11th, the Leduc Center hosted a service rally with Sharing the Harvest Community Farm at the Dartmouth YMCA to commemorate the National 9/11 Day of Service and Remembrance. 116 UMass Dartmouth participants served 158 hours and harvested 1,500lbs of vegetables for those in need.

International Day of Peace - The Leduc Center in partnership with the Frederick Douglass Unity House, Center for Women, Gender, and Sexuality, International Student and Scholar Center/ International Programs Office celebrated the International Day of Peace on September 21st. Hymns were sung by the Divine Sacred Word Gospel Choir, and individuals read the words on the UMassD Peace Pole, "May Peace Prevail on Earth", in various languages.

Food Summit - The 2021 Food Summit sponsored by the Leduc Center for Civic Engagement, the Office of Senator Mark Montigny, and the Marion Institute took place on October 13th, via Zoom. The Marion Institute's Southcoast Food Policy Council presented key findings from the 2021 Food System Assessment Report for Southeastern MA, and panelists discussed the role food assessments play in helping support food policy work and improving local food systems.

Buzzards Bay Area Habitat for Humanity Walkathon - During National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week, the Leduc Center in partnership with Buzzards Bay Area Habitat for Humanity and MASSPIRG Students hosted a walkathon to raise funds for the Westport Passive House duplex build. 15 walkers raised over \$1,200 that was later matched by Mayflower Wind.

African America Read-In - On February 17th, the Leduc Center and the Frederick Douglass Unity House celebrated the 33rd Annual National African America Read-In. Participants read aloud their favorite passages from African American authors, writers, poets, and spoken-word artists. Music was provided by the Divine Sword Gospel Choir.

Ukraine Walkathon - The Leduc Center and MASSPIRG Students hosted a walkathon on March 26th, to raise funds for Ukraine relief. 24 walkers raised over \$2,100 for the United Way of Greater Fall River's campaign for Ukrainian refugees.



UMassD VOTES



The goal of the UMassD VOTES Coalition is to create a culture of voting on campus at every level, from students to administrators. This year, UMass Dartmouth received a Certificate of Achievement from TurboVote/ Democracy Works for engaging 350 students in 2021 and ending the year within the Top 20 of 194 campus partners. The University also received the Silver Seal from the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge for achieving a student voting rate between 60% and 69% in the 2020 presidential elections, a 14% increase from the 2016 elections. ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge is a nonpartisan, national initiative encouraging higher education institutions to help students become active and informed citizen and make democratic participation a core value on their campus.

Leduc Center Spotlight

Maxwell White Chair of the UMassD VOTES Coalition

Maxwell White, a senior political science major and chair of the UMass Dartmouth VOTES Coalition named to ALL IN Democracy's Student Voting Honor Roll. The ALL IN's Student Voting Honor Roll recognizes college students at participating campuses who have gone above and beyond to advance nonpartisan student voter registration, education and turn out efforts, and to ensure equitable access to the polls.



Off-campus, Maxwell has interned for the Mayor's office in Fall River, conducted policy research for the Alliance of Citizen Engagement, serves on the Guns for Groceries committee, tutored for the America Reads program, and actively engages in community service initiatives with the Leduc Center.

VITA

Our Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program, in partnership with Charlton College of Business Professor Michael Griffin and the Community Economic Development Center (CEDC), successfully recruited three UMassD students who performed 330 hours of service helping prepare tax returns. Through these efforts, the VITA program helped families claim over \$1.4 million in tax refunds.

COMMUNITY SERVICE



Leduc Center Spotlight **Stephanie McGoldrick** **Interior Architecture and Design Professor**

Stephanie McGoldrick, an Interior Architecture and Design Professor and Service-Learning Faculty Fellow was awarded the Interior Design Educators Council Community Service Award and the International Interior Design Association Impact Stipend for projects completed with her students in the New Bedford community. Some of their projects include lighting solutions for Wings Court park, interior and exterior

enhancements for small, minority-owned businesses, space-planning and furniture recommendations for the Community Economic Development Center's (CEDC) new office after their previous space was lost in a fire, and revitalizing a small pocket park on the corner of Phillips and Acushnet Avenue in New Bedford, using the "Wicked Cool Places" grant to install lighting and purchasing an activity panel to engage families.

"I always include my students in these projects because they are the next generation of designers and need to see firsthand how their skills can impact others, especially communities and individuals who have limited access to design services. I'm committed to ensuring that my students gain invaluable experiences that will prepare them for the design profession." -Stephanie McGoldrick

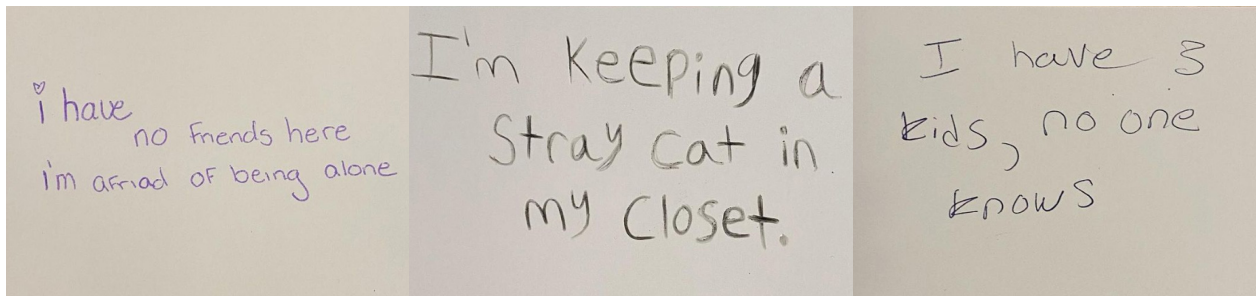
Earth Eve



On April 14, we celebrated Earth Eve with the "Love Mother Earth" procession during New Bedford AHA! Night. The fossil fuel free procession featured 127 participants, 12 community partners, eight floats and was led by Laura Gardner from Climate Reality Southcoast crowned Mother Earth and Russ Wotton from Operation Clean Sweep crowned Father Ocean. The theme this year was inspired by the graphic novel Planeta Blu by New Bedford native Tem Blessed.

Active Minds Collaboration

During the Academic Year, the Leduc Center collaborated in multiple projects with the Active Minds Club in efforts to support mental health awareness on campus and within the community. During First-Year Orientation, UMass Dartmouth students created more than 200+ "Welcome Back" wellness cards that were distributed to 7th grade students at Morton Middle School in Fall River, MA. PostSecretU, a program of Active Minds based on Frank Warren's PostSecret postcard project, engaged and connected students on campus by anonymously sharing their secrets. Drop-off boxes were placed in various locations on campus and students were encouraged to share the secrets they keep on postcards. In doing so, we found that many students shared similar secrets regarding their mental health. Over 400 secrets were shared and displayed in the Campus Center and on Instagram @umassdpostsecretu. Lastly, the Leduc Center for Civic Engagement and Active Minds, in conjunction with Partners for Change (an organization started by UMass Dartmouth Alum, Myriam Jeannis), helped collect and distribute over 50 hygiene bags for Haitian refugees. Each bag included the following items: toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, soap, Chapstick, and socks.



Leduc Center Spotlight

Nicole Ochoa **SCI AmeriCorps Member**

Nicole graduated from UMass Dartmouth in Spring 2021 with a Bachelor's degree in Crime and Justice Studies and served as the Leduc Center's SCI AmeriCorp member this year. Since joining SCI AmeriCorp, Nicole has worked on implementing our new platform, Corsair Engage, amongst our Community Partners. She also worked on organizing community service events, recruiting students for said events, and served as the SouthCoast Serves Coordinator.



Growing up in the SouthCoast, Nicole often worked closely with her community. Whether it was with her church, or with her friends and family, Nicole was often found volunteering in her spare time. Throughout high school, she volunteered as a tutor with School on Wheels, MA and once she got to college, she worked as a tutor with America Reads.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Alternative Break

Alternative Spring Break offers students an opportunity to spend their week in service to others. This year, the theme was “Food Revolution” and focused on food production, distribution and access, consumption, food loss, and sustainability in the food system. Eight UMass Dartmouth students participated in the events during March 9th-March 12th and served 315 hours. Seven community partners hosted events at their organization, those partners include: Sharing the Harvest Community Farm, Marion Institute, Full Plate, Coastal Food Shed, Equal Exchange, Jeanne’s Cupboard, and UMass Dartmouth Sustainability. Students engaged in harvesting vegetables, packaging meals, stocking food, cooking and donating meals, learning about the food system assessment, watching informative documentaries, and engaging in discussion on issues like the SNAP gap.



“The most interesting thing that I learned is how many options there are for fresh fruits and vegetables in the Bristol County area. Also, how to start a compost bin, which I will do at some point.”

-Student



Leduc Center Spotlight

Victoria Cirillo Campus Compact AmeriCorps VISTA

Victoria came to UMass Dartmouth from Buffalo, NY and served as this year’s Campus Compact VISTA. Her project focused on the expansion of service-learning as a strategy for increased retention and degree completion, especially for first-generation students. This was accomplished with the development and launch of Corsair Engage, the Leduc Center’s new platform for finding and tracking community engagement opportunities.

Victoria also worked to pilot an engaged learning project in the CAS 103 Introduction to Arts and Sciences course that exposes first-year students to community engaged learning while introducing them to the Southcoast.

Victoria’s favorite part of her service year was working directly with students and seeing them grow as individuals while spreading a commitment to community engagement and service. She plans to pursue a career in higher education and will begin a master’s program at Canisius College in the Fall.

CAS 103 - Introduction to the Arts & Sciences

This year, we piloted the first year of an engaged learning retention initiative with the Introduction to the College of Arts and Sciences required class - CAS 103. We worked with five instructors to include a service-learning project into the class that would facilitate student transition from high school and success in college, through active engagement in the community. Students were required to complete 15 hours of service with selected partner organizations including: America Reads, Jumpstart, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Jeanne's Cupboard, Gifts to Give, Active Minds, MASSPIRG, Sharing the Harvest Community Farm, and the UMass Dartmouth Sustainability office.

Our new platform Corsair Engage was used by the students to register for activities and track their involvement, while instructors used the platform as a tool to monitor engagement. CAS 103 students completed over 900 hours of service in total, with many individuals completing more than the required 15 hours. In fact, some students are expected to continue their service with the organization they selected during the remainder of their college career. More notably, three students who served with the Active Minds club through the CAS 103 course, are now on the club's executive board.

The initiative will continue next year with the Leduc Center's Deirdre Healy teaching a section. Upperclassmen will also facilitate the class as peer mentors.

Leduc Center Spotlight

CAS 103 Instructors

Robert Darst



Associate Professor of
Political Science

Meghan Fair



Full Time Lecturer
English &
Communication

Suzanne Melloni



Director of Student
Support
Honors College

Nicolas Maloof



Adjunct Professor

Kristin McGillicuddy

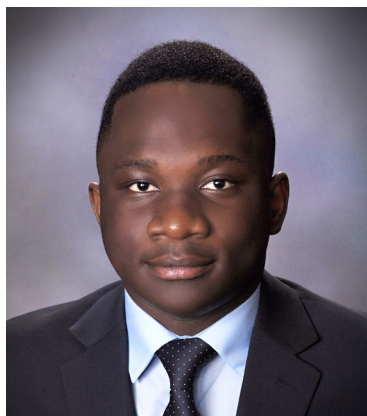


Former Assistant Dean
of College
of Arts & Sciences

AWARDS & HONORS

Civic Leadership Awards

Civic Leadership Awards recognize the civic engagement contributions of our students, faculty, and community members. This year's recipients were:



Student Civic Leadership Award

Narcisse Kunda '22, *Management-Leadership & Marketing*

Narcisse double majored in Management-Leadership and Marketing. He was twice elected as Student Trustee representing the UMass Dartmouth campus on the UMass system Board of Trustees. Narcisse led various community service projects at Sharing the Harvest Farm, the New Bedford Boys & Girls Club, the Fall River YMCA, the Carney Academy Library, and more. He also served as the manager of Jeanne's Cupboard and a student organizer in the Leduc Center for Civic Engagement.



Faculty Civic Leadership Award

Dr. Cristina Mehrtens, *History and Women's & Gender Studies*

Dr. Cristina Mehrtens, a professor in the History and Women's & Gender Studies departments, has taught more than twenty service-learning courses since 2011. In 2014, students in her class revisited and researched Dartmouth historical landmarks, which was later aired by Dartmouth Public Television, presented at the prestigious Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities Conference, and published in the UMassD Engaged Scholarship Collection. In 2021, she offered the first fully online service-learning course. Through service-learning she developed successful partnerships with the Town of Dartmouth, the New Bedford National Park System, and the New Bedford Whaling Museum.



Community Member Civic Leadership Award

Corinn Williams, *Community Economic Development Center*

Corinn Williams, Co-Founder (1997) and Executive Director (2002) of the Community Economic Development Center (CEDC) in New Bedford, MA, has been involved in creating economic opportunities in numerous community development programs and efforts. Corrin was an asset to the community during the COVID-19 crisis by providing services from direct food support to advocacy for people experiencing unemployment and much more. She is a leader in developing the neighborhood around the CEDC office, by providing direct business support to immigrant businesses and leading public art initiatives.

Michael Dukakis Public Service Internship

Michael Dukakis Public Service Internship Award provide students with the opportunity to intern in a public service or government setting to encourage students to consider a career in public service. This year's intern was:



Alyssa Petroff '22, Law

Alyssa interned for Judge O. Rogerie Thompson, U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit in Providence, RI. Prior to the Dukakis Public Service Internship, she has served as a legal intern for the U.S. Department of Justice, a Graduate Teaching Assistant, an Academic Fellow, and a summer intern for Chief Judge John J. McConnell at the U.S. District Court, District of Rhode Island.

After graduation, Alyssa will be clerking with the Maine Supreme Judicial Court.

Newman Civic Fellow

The Newman Civic Fellowship recognizes students who stand out for their commitment to creating positive change in communities locally and worldwide. This year's Newman Civic Fellow was:



Zoi Burns '24, Political Science

Zoi Burns, a junior majoring in political science and minoring in leadership and civic engagement, and urban studies, has distinguished herself as a leader and a scholar. She serves as a Peer Mentor for the College of Arts & Science, is a Student Representative in UMass Dartmouth's 'Black History 4 Seasons' Council, a Student Representative in UMass Dartmouth's Police Oversight Committee, Chair of UMass Dartmouth Diversity, Social Justice & Inclusion Committee, and Senator of the UMass Dartmouth Class of 2024. Last year, Zoi served as a grassroots organizer and leader with the UMass Dartmouth VOTES Coalition, helping to increase the UMass Dartmouth student voting rate in the General Election.

BY THE NUMBERS

LEDUC CENTER BY THE NUMBERS

Service-learning

Service-learning Courses

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------|
| Faculty | 169 |
| Course sections | 282 |
| UMassD Students taking a section | 6,892 |
| Hours of Service | 151,211 |

Early Literacy

America READS/Counts

| | |
|------------------|-------|
| UMassD Students | 47 |
| Sites | 3 |
| Hours of Service | 1,114 |

Jumpstart

| | |
|---------------------------|-------|
| UMassD Students | 38 |
| Sites | 2 |
| Preschool Children Served | 108 |
| Hours of Service | 1,781 |

Youth Programming

College Positive Tours

| | |
|-------------------|-------|
| UMassD Students | 26 |
| Number of schools | 7 |
| Seventh Graders | 1,926 |

Youth Summit

| | |
|-------------------|-------|
| Number of Schools | 8 |
| Eighth Graders | 1,841 |

Economic Development

VITA

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| UMassD Students | 3 |
| Hours of Service | 330 |
| Refund Amount w/ EITC (\$) | 1,496,195 |

Food Security

Jeanne's Cupboard

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------|
| UMassD Student Managers/Volunteers | 44 |
| Number of Visits | 855 |
| Number of Household Members Served | 1,305 |
| Food Distributed (lbs.) | 15,608 |
| Hours of Service | 723 |

Community Service

9/11 Day of Service

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------|
| UMassD Students | 116 |
| Vegetables Harvested (lbs.) | 1,500 |
| Hours of Service | 158 |

Active Minds Collaboration

| | |
|---------------------------|------|
| UMassD Students | 459 |
| Wellness Cards Created | 200+ |
| Hygiene Bags Created | 50 |
| PostSecretU Cards Created | 400 |
| Hours of Service | 500 |

Alternative Break

| | |
|------------------|-----|
| UMassD Students | 8 |
| Hours of Service | 315 |

Orientation

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------|
| UMassD Students | 1,000 |
| Number of Participating Organizations | 17 |
| Food Harvested/Shelved (lbs.) | 4,500 |
| Literacy Kits Created | 90 |
| Litter Removed from Coast (lbs.) | 110 |
| Hours of Service | 2,000 |

Saturdays of Service

| | |
|------------------|-----|
| UMassD Students | 57 |
| Hours of Service | 200 |

Tuesdays at the Farm

| | |
|------------------|-----|
| UMassD Students | 43 |
| Hours of Service | 117 |

UMASS DARTMOUTH BY THE NUMBERS

Leduc Center

Programs

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---------|
| 9/11 Day of Service | 121 |
| Active Minds Collaboration | 500 |
| Alternative Break | 315 |
| America Reads | 1,114 |
| Big Brothers/Big Sisters | 645 |
| CAS103 | 914 |
| College Positive | 582 |
| Endeavor Scholars | 330 |
| Dukakis Fellows | 650 |
| Jeanne's Cupboard | 723 |
| Jumpstart | 1,781 |
| Leduc Service Leaders/Interns | 798 |
| Orientation | 2,000 |
| Saturdays of Service | 200 |
| SCI/Campus Compact AmeriCorps members | 3,400 |
| Service-learning | 151,211 |
| Tuesdays at the Farm | 154 |
| UMassD Votes | 80 |
| VITA | 330 |

University Programs & Centers

Programs

| | |
|-------------------|-------|
| College Now/START | 968 |
| MASSPIRG | 1,000 |
| Sustainability | 864 |

Centers

| | |
|---|-------|
| Career Center | 580 |
| Center for Women, Gender and Sexuality | 1,790 |
| Center for Religious and Spiritual Life | 295 |
| Frederick Douglass Unity House | 1,339 |

Athletics

Teams

| | |
|--------------------|-----|
| SAAC | 15 |
| Football | 966 |
| Men's Soccer | 120 |
| Softball | 96 |
| Swimming | 18 |
| Track & Field | 90 |
| Women's Basketball | 21 |

Housing & Residential Experience

Housing

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Hours of Service | 4 |
|------------------|---|

SAIL

125 Student Organizations

| | |
|------------------|--------|
| Hours of Service | 14,839 |
|------------------|--------|

School of Law

Student Hours

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| Field Placement and Clinics | 10,514 |
| Pro Bono | 5,189 |
| Public Interest Law Fellows | 5,348 |
| Summer Stipend | 1,808 |

TOTAL SERVICE HOURS

Service-learning

211,712

Community Service/Volunteerism

151,211

Value of Service

60,501

\$7.7 million

FUNDING REPORT

From June 2021 to July 2022 we applied for 17 grants worth \$1.75 million and received 11 grants worth \$341,330. Our primary benefactor the Leduc's pledged an additional \$1,000,000 over 8 years (\$125,000 in FY21/22). We were awarded \$25,000 for America Reads from the Massachusetts Office of Labor and Workforce Development. We were awarded two AmeriCorps VISTAs to work on student retention and food justice. Each member is valued at \$75,670 (based on the Independent Sector volunteer rate of \$36.38/hr. in 2021). BayCoast Bank donated \$15,000 to support the 7th and 8th Grade College Awareness Initiatives and \$4,025 was received from the Workforce Development Board in support of transportation costs for the New Bedford 7th Grade Campus Tours. The Greater Boston Food Bank contributed \$6,000 to Jeanne's Cupboard. We thank Chancellor Emeritus Dr. Jean MacCormack for her \$7,500 gift to support Community Service Ambassadors. And finally, the Leduc Center received \$7,500 in gifts to support the Leduc Center and Jeanne's Cupboard.

We have six pending grants worth \$450,000.00. Those pending grants will support voter registration, college awareness initiatives, internships, and community service ambassadors.



Leduc Center Spotlight **Jeanne Leduc**

The UMass Dartmouth Alumni Association hosted the 49th annual Alumni Awards, honoring alumni and community members for their outstanding career achievements and dedication to the UMassD community on April 7.

The Blue and Gold Legacy Award was given to Jeanne Leduc, for her lifelong dedication to helping individuals overcome health, education, and food insecurity challenges. This award is given to an individual who is not a graduate of UMass Dartmouth, but demonstrates a steadfast dedication to the university and the community.

Trained as a nurse, she has dedicated her professional career to caring for others, and continued that mission throughout her life. In honor of her dedication to

supporting individuals with food insecurities, the on-campus food pantry was renamed "Jeanne's Cupboard." Formerly known as "Arnie's Cupboard," the pantry's mission is to alleviate food insecurity among the UMass Dartmouth community by providing emergency food and educational resources to students, faculty, and staff in need.

GRATITUDE & APPRECIATION

We would like to thank our faculty, student, and community partners for dedicating their time and effort in helping build the bridge between learning and community. We would also like to thank and recognize the organizations who have supported the mission of the Leduc Center by funding our programs and projects. This year, the Leduc Center would like to thank:



**Robert &
Jeanne Leduc**

Jumpstart
Children first.®

**MASSACHUSETTS
SERVICE ALLIANCE**



**Dr. Jean
MacCormack**



Leduc Center for Civic Engagement

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