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New UMN Morris Students Volunteer at Day of Service

Claudia Iron Hawk, Office of Community Engagement

On August 9, 2019, STELLAR and Gateway students from the U of Minnesota Morris will undertake a Day of Service in which they will volunteer for a variety of community service projects. A Day of Service will include projects in which students will collaborate with: Habitat for Humanity, Morris Wetlands Management, Stevens County Food Shelf, Stevens County Human Services Backpack Program, an Intergenerational Community Art Project with Stevens County Fair, Prairie Renaissance Cultural Alliance, West Wind Village, Legacy, and Skyview.

Community involvement is needed for the Backpack Program and the Intergenerational Community Art Project. The Backpack Program is a school supplies collection project and will take place from 1-5PM at four donation locations: Willie's, Meadowland Market, Town and Country, and Family Dollar. Those interested in donating any new school supplies can stop at one of these locations to donate. There is a particular need for washable markers, black dry erase markers, glue sticks, colored pencils, and watercolor sets. Various other school related supplies will also be accepted. Those who would prefer to donate cash can do so, and volunteers will purchase needed items at the end of the drive. The donated school supplies will go to students in need.

For the Intergenerational Community Art Project, children, elders, and college students will contribute to an art piece documenting their favorite places in Stevens County. The pieces will then be joined into one, and displayed at the Stevens County Courthouse. Children are invited to help create pieces at the Morris fairgrounds. Those interested can find our table at the fairgrounds from 1-5PM.

STELLAR and Gateway students will be teaming up to help The Habitat for Humanity project. In addition, the Morris Wetlands project will gather another group of students to harvest seeds and remove invasive species in Stevens County, alongside the U.S. Fish and Wildlife service.

The Stevens County Food Shelf project will involve sourcing local produce to preserve for future community meals and to have for distribution at both the Stevens County Food Shelf and the campus food shelf.

All of these community service projects will take place from 1-5PM. Community members are more than encouraged to donate or stop-by.

The STELLAR and Gateway Day of Service is co-sponsored by the Office of Community Engagement and the Office of Equity, Diversity, and Intercultural Programs at UMN-Morris. For more information about this or any of our upcoming events, contact the Office of Community Engagement at 320-589-6457 or engagmnt@morris.umn.edu.