

SYA4930 - Sociology of Youth & Emerging Adulthood
Community Service Projects: Dr. Kristin Joos

Agency List & Descriptions

Remember that you must work with middle school, high school, or college aged youth. You may work at agencies not on this list, but you must contact me for prior approval.

Alachua County School Volunteers Program (East Side Schools)

Background: Each semester, the district office recruits and places thousands of students from the University of Florida and Santa Fe Community College as volunteers in area schools. Teachers submit requests and sign ups are held within the first two weeks of classes. We collaborate with professors at both institutions to provide their students with opportunities to experience working with children in public schools. Volunteer at any school in East Gainesville and you can expect to be exposed the inequality that exists in our community.

Contact: Liz Starke, starkef@sbac.edu, (352) 955-6760,
<http://www.sbac.edu/~volprog/volunteersbacover.htm>

PACE Center for Girls

Background: PACE Center for Girls, Inc. focuses on quality, gender-responsive, school based programs for at risk girls that produce life-changing opportunities. PACE has 19 direct care locations in Florida that have consistently exceeded outcome goals and achieved the highest quality assurance ratings. PACE provides girls and young women an opportunity for a better future through education, counseling, training and advocacy.

Contact: Kathie Southwick, (352) 374-8799, www.pacecenter.org

Dignity Project

Background: The Dignity Project, Inc. strives to restore and develop a sense of dignity in the lives of the people that the program benefits. The Dignity Project, Inc. is not for profit organization with many programs designed to aid members of the community in their quest for self-sufficiency and self-respect. Such programs include educating youth through our Auto Club and Academy, providing innovative transportation solutions, and remodeling homes.

Contact: Jack Butler, (352) 371-6792, contact@thedignityproject.com

Birth Center of Gainesville

Background: The Birth Center of Gainesville is the oldest birth center on the east coast of the United States and is proud to have been "Delivering Florida's Pride and Joy for over 25 years." Our midwives are experts in caring for healthy pregnant women and have a longstanding record of providing high-quality, safe maternity care while helping to grow healthy families and build our community. More than 1,800 babies have been delivered through the Birth Center of Gainesville. Last year BCOG received a generous grant from Johnson & Johnson to sponsor "The Embrace Project" which provides free classes, support groups and counseling for teens, expectant mothers & new parents.

Contact: Jana Borino, executive director, (352) 372-4784, BCOG@midwiferyschool.org

Planned Parenthood

Background: PPNCF believes in the fundamental right of each individual, throughout the world, to manage his or her fertility, regardless of the individual's income, marital status, race, sexual orientation, gender, age, national origin or residence. It provides

reproductive and complementary health care services. It advocates public policies and provides comprehensive sexuality education.

Contact: Michael Amish, (352) 376-9000, ppncfed@mindspring.com, www.ppncf.org

Reichert House

Background: The Reichert House is an after school program designed for youth who are in need of assistance in making the transition from adolescence to adulthood. The Reichert House is operated in a Para Military fashion, as a unit of the Young Marines program. The program has a middle school and separate high school component. The Reichert offers a combination of discipline, work and social and recreational activities which fosters a balanced environment for those enrolled.

Contact: Officer Jeff McAdams at 334-2444, www.reicherthouse.com

Pleasant Place

Background: The mission of Pleasant Place is to provide a safe and healthy long-term residence to facilitate self-sufficiency and healthy family development for pregnant and parenting teenage girls while they continue their education.

Contact: 352/373.6993, <http://www.pleasantplace.net/volunteering.html>

The Preserve Inc.

The Preserve, Inc. has a house for homeless 16-18 year old boys. The house has a 5-boy limit due to code requirements. Original funding for The Preserve came in a grant to the Alachua County Housing Authority, where Ron is also employed. You can contact him through the housing authority by phone.

Contact: Ron Hall 352-372-2549 thepreserveinc@yahoo.com

Corner Drug Store

Background: Corner Drug Store, Inc. has become the corner stone in Gainesville for substance abuse prevention. The agency consists of multiple programs including prevention programs, an interface youth program (runaway shelter), outpatient services, and family action program to help families get what they need. Corner Drug Store also hosts special events that target youths and provide drug-free environments for students to have fun.

Contact: Pat McNally, (352) 334-3800, pat_mcnally@cornerdrugstore.org

Studio Percussion

Background: Studio Percussion is a non-profit organization that specializes in using drums and percussion to encourage, inspire, and motivate students towards community and leadership development. While we accept regular paying students for enrollment in our program our focus is on giving the disadvantaged opportunities in our program.

We do this by offering scholarship generously donated by our community to those demonstrating financial need, those with disabilities, and at-risk youth. Their vision is to provide services in the arts which create meaningful and significant experiences for young people not excluding those with financial limitations, disabilities, or at-risk youth.

Contact: (352) 388-8302, info@studiopercussion.org, www.studiopercussion.org

City of Gainesville, recreation program - Teen Zone

The Teen Zone is a free program brought to children by partnerships between the City, County, School Board and a grant from the 21st Century Community Learning Centers. The City of Gainesville's Department of Parks Recreation and Cultural Affairs is happy to

bring these agencies together and provide a safe and fun environment for the children in our community. A third Teen Zone will open at Eastside Rec Center due to funding received from a 21st Century Learning Grant
Sheryl Ryan call (352) 334-2051 (ryan@cityofgainesville.org)

YMCA of North Central Florida

Background: To volunteer, you must have a desire to help instill YMCA character development values in each aspect of the program you are involved in. Those values include respect, responsibility, honesty, and caring. A background check is required and will be performed by the YMCA. Volunteers must fill out an application and attend a volunteer orientation. YMCA needs volunteers in many of their programs including youth sports (coaches, referees, and site supervisors), childwatch, childcare, aquatics, after school and summer camp, homework tutors, wellness, health education, office work, fund raising, special events, board/committee work, and much more!

Contact: (352) 374-YMCA, www.ncymca.org (application online)

Boys and Girls Club

Background: Provides youths between the ages of 6 and 18 the opportunity to participate in programs designed specifically for them, with special concern for disadvantaged youth. Volunteers help with after school program and community youth.

Contact: www.myboysandgirlsclub.com, 352-372-5342

Children's Home Society

Background: CHS delivers a unique spectrum of social services designed to protect children at risk of abuse, neglect or abandonment; to strengthen and stabilize families; to help young people break the cycle of abuse and neglect; and to find safe, loving homes for children. Volunteer opportunities include such rewarding activities as mentoring, rocking babies, help kids with their homework, organizing and supporting fundraising events, advisory board leadership, advocacy and more.

Contact: (352) 334-0955

Language Assistants at the ELI

Language Assistants are university-age fluent English speakers. Two Language Assistants are assigned to each Listening/Speaking class. They work with the [Listening/Speaking](#) teacher for each level to provide four hours a week of Speaking to practice the language learned in the class. They practice informal, conversational English and teach about U.S. culture. They take advantage of Florida's climate and meet in an atmosphere conducive to informal language practice. The Listening/Speaking teachers and Language Assistants plan different activities, language games, and discussions based on the needs and interests of the class.

<http://www.eli.ufl.edu/>

Challenge Day

"Challenge Day" is an award-winning experiential program that helps teens end the separation and alienation they often feel. The program inspires participants to live, study and work in an environment of compassion, acceptance and respect. By promoting self-acceptance and respect for others, the Challenge Day programs help to ignite participants' passions and inspire them to take their positions as positive leaders of change. The national Challenge Day organization (www.challengeday.org) is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization that develops, trains and delivers these powerful programs. The Alachua County Circle of Change - our local non-profit volunteer group - is dedicated to

bringing Challenge Day programs to every high school and middle school in Alachua County.

Contact: Richard Allen, 378-4357, Circle@alachuacircle.org, www.alachuacircle.org/

UF Programs

CHAMPS

The "CHAMPS" (Collegiates Helping As Mentors in Public Schools) Program began as a partnership with the student government at the University of Florida in 1991. Over 4000 students have volunteered since the program began. Volunteers commit to be matched, one-to-one with children in elementary and middle schools, and as special friends, to visit them at school, during school, once each week, for about an hour. Volunteers commit for one semester, although many continue beyond. Formal recruitment, orientation, and placement of volunteers is done at the beginning of fall and spring semesters.

Contact: 955-6760 kostamkb@sbac.edu

Florida Alternative Breaks

FAB's mission is to create active citizens through a year-long commitment to community service, leadership and social change. In participating in social change education and projects both locally during the year and regionally during Spring break, students gain the opportunity to immerse themselves in a particular social issue. Through FAB's unique conditions of volunteerism and reflection, we seek to heighten social awareness, advocate for and foster life-long social action while building friendships along the way.

Contact: Justin Farge fargie03@ufl.edu or (352) 392-1261 x4

SOAR (Strengthening Opportunities And Reaching out) at Howard Bishop

The SOAR Program is a unique partnership between the University of Florida and Howard Bishop Middle School offering two exciting service opportunities. Members of the Orange Team work to tutor and/or mentor the students of Mr. Hicks's math classes, while members of the Blue Team serve to individually and consistently mentor the students of Ms. Milinkovick's ESE class with whom they are specifically matched.

Contact: ufsoar@yahoo.com

Gator Teens

Becoming a GatorTeen Mentor means that you will help provide volunteer events and service opportunities to middle and high school students in Gainesville and the surrounding areas. It is the responsibility of the Mentors to empower the youth to identify community needs, develop creative solutions, and implement projects to improve the well-being of the community. The Mentors educate area teenagers on the value of volunteering by working one-on-one with them in the design and implementation of service projects.

Contact: gator teens@yahoo.com 352-392-1261

Raise Your Voice Month — A Month of Action: February 20th - March 25th

Raise Your Voice - A Month of Action, sponsored by Campus Compact, aims to increase, celebrate, and deepen the student civic engagement efforts on over 250 college campuses around the country. During this month, students will speak in a collective voice about the importance of promoting student civic engagement. It is a student-led initiative to encourage students to take action toward social change. The Raise Your Voice Month campaign has a clear message for students:

Change starts with you. Act now to create the world you want to live in tomorrow.

Events will facilitate opportunities for students to speak out and act to create a more vibrant democracy. At UF, such events will focus on a variety of important social issues and will include speakers, dialogues/discussions, issue fairs, open-mic nights, film series, volunteer events, an art exhibit, nonverbal dialogues, and much more!

Contact: raiseyourvoice@dso.ufl.edu

Center for Leadership and Service

To find out about general programs you could get involved with, contact any time.

Contact: (352) 392-1261 Ext. 222 cls@dso.ufl.edu