Service-Learning Pathways

Our Service-Learning Pathways, each with a social issue focus, are aligned with local and global problems and our UH system-wide strategic plans. Service-Learning at Kapi‘olani Community College’s mission is to reduce the severity of social problems facing Hawai‘i’s local communities. Through the pathways, Service-Learning provides continuous support for students, faculty and community partners. As they prepare for baccalaureate study, 21st century careers, and engaged citizenship, Kapi‘olani Community College students benefit from contextualized learning, meaningful service, and civial reflection with engaged community partners, public schools and families.

Service-Learning Leadership

Each pathway is led and overseen by leaders, both at the student and faculty level. The pathway leader is one who has experience doing Service-Learning in that particular field. Leaders help mentor new service-learners, provide guidance, and facilitate reflection. Pathway leaders also provide support to Service-Learning by managing the student database, orienting students, organizing events, keeping communication with community partners, and evaluating student essays. The Service-Learning emphasis is overseen by a full-time Outreach Coordinator and a Faculty Coordinator who support students/student leaders, community partners, faculty, staff, and administration in partnerships, curriculum development, and other matters related to Service-Learning.

Service-Learning Community Sites and Projects

Art, History, & Culture
- Historical Downtown Sites: Iolani Palace, The Judithia History Center, Mission Houses Museum
- Honolulu Academy of Arts: Bank of Hawaii Family Sundays
- Kalupapa Names Project
- Le‘ahi Hospital Art Visits

Bridging Generations
- Hale Ku‘ike
- Lanakila Pacific
- Le‘ahi Hospital & Le‘ahi Sensory Stimulus Garden
- Palolo Chinese Home
- Project Dana
- Waikiki Health Center – Friendly Neighbor Program

Education
- Hawaii Helping the Hungry Have Hope (H-5) ~ Next Step Kaka‘ako
- Family Programs Hawai‘i
- Family Promise of Hawai‘i
- Kids Hurt Too
- Kukua Hawaii Foundation ~ ‘AINA IN SCHOOLS
- Kuhio Elementary Afterschool Reading Program
- Palolo Pipeline Program – Palolo El, Head Start, Kids’ Club, Palolo Ohana Learning Center, MAAC, Jarrett Middle, Ka‘Imuk High School, Celebrate Reading Program, Big Brothers & Big Sisters
- Papakolea’s Community Center

Environment
- Diamond Head State Monument Foundation
- Hawaii Nature Center
- Honolulu Zoo
- Living Art Marine Center
- Lyon Arboretum
- Malama i na Ahupua’a ~ Community sites throughout ‘O’ahu
- Malama Maunalua
- Manoa Heritage Center
- Sea Life Park
- Waikiki Aquarium

Health
- Aloha Medical Mission
- American Cancer Society
- Blood Bank of Hawaii (Campus Health Promotions Team)
- Diamond Head Clubhouse
- Ke Ola Mamo
- Local Hospitals; Castle Medical Center, Kaiser Permanente Medical Center, Queen’s Medical Center
- Ronald McDonald House Charities Family Room
- World AIDS Day – Life Foundation, Waikiki Health Center, Hawaii State Department of Health

International
- International Café
- Language Tutoring at Kapi‘olani CC
- Project S.H.I.N.E.

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PATHWAYS

A Service-Learning Model

Service-Learning
Kapi‘olani Community College
4303 Diamond Head Road, ‘Ili‘ili 129
Honolulu, HI 96816
Ph: (808) 734-9353
Fax: (808) 734-9443
E-mail: kccserve@hawaii.edu
www.kcc.hawaii.edu/object/servicelearning.html
Arts, History & Culture
The Arts, History & Culture Pathway began in Fall 2007 after discussion surrounding the need for a service-learning emphasis on education and outreach in the arts, historical and cultural preservation in Hawai‘i. The pathway involves projects at the Honolulu Academy of Arts (art with children), Le‘ahi Hospital (art with seniors), as well as the opportunity to be a palace guard (preserving culture) at the historic monument, ‘Iolani Palace. The AHC pathway is thriving and growing, with support from the Arts & Humanities, Hawaiian Studies, and International Studies.

Education
The Education Pathway has a particular focus on P-3 literacy development, through the Palolo Pipeline Program, which links Kapi‘olani Community College, UH Manoa, and Chaminade University with community partners in Palolo Valley: Palolo El., Head Start, Learning Center, MAAC and the Kids’ Club. The Education Pathway also provides learning support from preschool to high schools through reading programs, computer literacy, tutoring, and college awareness. Service-Learning students gain a greater understanding of complex cultural, social, and economic backgrounds in a range of community projects.

Environment
In this pathway, students explore the challenges confronting Hawai‘i’s unique environment and learn about the interaction between humans, technology and the natural world. Native Hawaiians and other talented students participate in programs like Malama i na Ahupua‘a, take responsibility for native plants at arboretums, and work to improve, restore and preserve habitats supporting terrestrial, coral reef, and marine species.

Health
The Health Pathway gives students in Biology, Microbiology, and Family Resources classes an opportunity to gain first-hand experience in the healthcare field. Through various service-learning projects, students are able to help address and reduce the severity of health issues such as diabetes, cancer, and HIV/AIDS, while also participating in community outreach at health fairs and blood drives with health care professionals and social workers.

Shaving cream + watercolor + imagination = beautiful artwork. Just one thing students and residents of Le‘ahi Hospital learn during the Sunday Art Visits led by student pathway leader, Rui Apaka.

Bridging Generations
The Bridging Generations Pathway’s wide range of projects and programs facilitate student awareness of contemporary issues facing seniors in our society. Students taking Sociology of Aging, Anthropology, Linguistics, Sociology, Biology, and other courses are able to work with elders from all walks of life, and in various capacities (long-term care, active aging, and recently in gardens), bridging the generational disconnect between elders and youth.

Service-Learners can serve as mentors to children and youth both in and out of school. Here former student leader, Michi Atkinson, is pictured with some of those whose lives she has directly impacted.

Students in the Malama i na Ahupua‘a program literally get their hands (and more) dirty as they prepare a plot at the lo‘i kalo (taro patch) where a new crop of the Native Hawaiian staple will be planted.

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