



# All Things Ignatian



## Community Partners

*A mutual relationship between residence halls and community agencies*

In the Jesuit, Catholic tradition at Creighton University the concept of community is paramount in a students' collegiate experience. The ongoing creation of community is critical to the development of a service of faith that promotes justice.

Inter Residence Hall Government and The Department of Residence Life have had a rich tradition of providing students with opportunities to serve the community. The intention of the Community Partner program is to establish long-term, meaningful relationships between the community and students living in residence halls at Creighton.

Initiated in the Fall of 1993 and fully implemented by the Fall of 2002, Creighton's Department of Residence Life was the first housing and residence life system in the nation to establish a community partner for each residence hall on campus.

Each residence hall partners with a local community agency or organization in order to establish a lasting relationship. It is from this relationship that the elected student leaders, namely the Service, Faith, and Justice Ambassadors, coordinate opportunities including weekly volunteer opportunities, event planning and collaboration in order to support the community partner.

### Mutual Relationship

The community partner program is a mutual partnership between Creighton's residence halls and local Omaha community agencies. The program was intentionally designed to focus on providing services with an occasional donation from building penny wars, clothing drives or food collections. Here are a few examples of the benefits seen by our community partners: Seven Oak residents receive monthly social visits, Omaha Boys and Girls Club students are offered tutoring sessions, Assumption Guadeloupe students have developed pen pal relationships and Sienna Francis guests received helping hands during meal times.

In turn for their time, participating on-campus Creighton students receive a wealth of knowledge and experiences in reflecting with peers in conversations on social responsibility and social justice issues. Students develop leadership skills in designing and implementing service site visits and the occasional community partner trips to Creighton's campus. Students receive first hand experience in understanding the rich and diverse Omaha community.



*Gallagher Hall residents visiting the Madonna School.*

### Partnerships

**Davis Square – Together Inc.** (est. 2006)

**Degelman Hall – Girls, Inc.** (est. 1993)

**Gallagher Hall – Madonna School** (est. 2003)

**Heider Hall – Seven Oaks of Florence** (est. 2005)

**Kenefick Hall – North Omaha Boys and Girls Club** (est. 2003)

**Kiewit Hall – South Omaha Boys and Girls Club** (est. 2003)

**McGloin Hall – Assumption-Guadalupe School** (est. 1998)

**Opus Hall – Ollie Webb Center, Inc.** (est. 2007)

**Swanson Hall – Siena/Francis House** (est. 2001)