



Combining Learning and Meaningful Service

Learn and Serve - Michigan 2008 Accomplishments

What is Learn and Serve – Michigan?

Service-learning is a teaching and learning approach that connects meaningful service to the community with classroom instruction that enriches learning, teaches civic responsibility, and fosters personal growth. Service-learning helps youth see beyond the classroom and into the community where they learn math, science, language arts, and other required subjects by addressing community needs and solving real-life problems. The Learn and Serve - Michigan program administers grants that support schools and community organizations in providing service-learning opportunities.

Learn and Serve - Michigan awards two types of grants – school based and community-based. School-based programs are rooted in K-12 classrooms and integrated into the school's curriculum. Community-based programs are facilitated by non-profit organizations and occur during non-school hours.

In 2008...

Learn and Serve – Michigan supported **22** programs.

1,042 teachers engaged **26,316** students in **538,477** hours of service-learning through Learn and Serve – Michigan grants

2,713 adult volunteers assisted Learn and Serve – Michigan participants in completing **70** community revitalization projects

527 students from the Michigan State University Extension 4-H program completed **25,842** hours of service through Learn and Serve – Michigan's Peer Mentoring and Service-Learning programs.

Service-learning has been shown to:

- Build critical thinking and communication skills
- Increase student motivation and
- Improve academic knowledge and performance



Financial Impact

The Michigan Community Service Commission, in partnership with the Michigan Department of Education, was granted **\$726,062** in Federal Funds for the 2008 Learn and Serve – Michigan grantees.

Learn and Serve – Michigan's local grantees for 2007-2008 leveraged **\$775,589** in Match Funds.

According to research conducted by RMC, Inc., community partner organizations that partner with service-learning students indicated service-learning:

- Positively affected students' respect for others
- Created commitment to working on social or community problems
- Encouraged a sense of belonging to community
- Boosted self esteem through enabling students' to view their achievements

Additionally, more than half of students felt they had acquired work experience (**51 percent**) and **38 percent** believed they experienced an increase in overall career awareness.

"Service-learning has a positive impact on students' academic achievement, personal and social development, and civic engagement. It provides numerous opportunities for students to apply what they are learning to solve real world community problems."

– Mike Flanagan,
Superintendent of
Public Instruction,
Michigan Department
of Education.

The printing of this publication was paid for with private contributions.
No state or federal funds were used.

*Some photos used in this publication are courtesy
of the Corporation for National and Community Service
Office of Public Affairs, CNCS Photo Office.*

MICHIGAN



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SERVICE**

COMMISSION

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