Off Campus Opportunities

Arc of Minnesota Southwest
709 S. Front Street Suite 3
Mankato, MN 56001

Mission Statement: Our mission is to help people with developmental disabilities and their families to connect with resources, supports, and policy efforts. Our goal is an inclusive future where people of all ability levels are celebrated.

Contact:          Wilbur Neushwander-Frink, Regional Coordinator
                  Catherine Hooper, Director of Development
Phone:           (507) 345-4223
Fax:             (507) 345-8145
Email: develop@hickorytech.net; Wilbur@hickorytech.net

Services: Services are flexible. They could include data entry, answering phones, updating website content, or helping set up and coordinate events and programs. Recipients: People with developmental disabilities and their families. Requirements and/or Restrictions for Service: None

Blue Earth County Historical Society
415 Cherry Street
Mankato, MN 56001

Mission Statement: To collect, preserve, and promote the history of Blue Earth County, MN.

Contacts:        Jessica Potter, Executive Director
                  Shelley Harrison; Archives Manager
Phone:           (507) 345-5566
E-mail: bechs@hickorytech.net or bechsam@hickorytech.net

Direct Services and Recipients: Working with youth in the Young Historians Program; Working side-by-side with Blue Earth County Historical Society volunteers (majority of whom are retired senior citizens); Volunteering at the History Fest youth event in the Fall. Requirements and/or Restrictions for Service: None
Blue Earth-Nicollet County Humane Society
1250 North River Drive
Mankato, MN 56001

Contact: rrrs@hickorytech.net

Common Good RSVP
816 Hubbell Avenue
Mankato, MN 56001

Mission Statement: To engage adults 55+ in fulfilling volunteer opportunities that will enrich their lives and enhance the community.
Contact: Lora Brady, Coordinator
Phone: (507) 387-5586
Fax: (507) 387-5587
Email: lbrady@ccwinona.org

Direct Services and Recipients: Volunteer and service-learning students can help us with our programs; however, our key goal is to recruit retired individuals (Non-Traditional Students) to volunteer in our community. We do, however, offer internships to students of all ages from many of the departments at MSU. Requirements and/or Restrictions for Service: Students must interview in a semi-formal manner, just as they would if applying for a job. We hire interns based on their willingness to work with others, their level of commitment to the program and the community, and we hold the student accountable for every aspect of their job. Internships are available only based on budgetary availability, as we do have reimbursements for driving that interns do during the internship. Students should contact us to see about that availability.

ECHOFood Shelf
1412 South Front Street
Mankato, MN 56001

Mission Statement: The Emergency Community Help Organization (ECHO) provides emergency food assistance to households in need in Blue Earth County and North Mankato.

Contact: Deisy DeLeon, Manager and Volunteer Coordinator
         Ed Babel, Board Chairman
         Carolyn Kanyusik and Barb Manske
         Phone: 507 345-7477
         Fax: 507 345-7477
         Email: echofoodshelf@yahoo.com

Direct Services and Recipients: Our volunteers fill client food orders, sort donations, stock shelves, and help with general maintenance. Some groups hold food-drivers, donate special items (Easter baskets, Christmas gifts for children, etc.) Requirements and/or Restrictions for Service: No requirements or restrictions, except that children must be accompanied by an adult.

Elks Nature Center in Rasmussen Woods
555 Rasmussen Woods (Physical Location)
Mankato, MN 56001

Mission Statement: To provide awareness, understanding, appreciation, and preservation of Rasmussen Woods and the natural environment.

Contact: City of Mankato
         Phone: (507) 387-8585
         Website: www.ci.mankato.mn.us/ElksNatureCenter

Direct Services and Recipients: Event implementation, environmental educational activities, planning, center management available to community members of all ages. Requirements and/or Restrictions for Service: Background check needed to work more than 10 hours staffing the center.
Friends of the Deep Valley Libraries  
100 E. Main St.  
Mankato, MN 56001

Mission Statement: The Friends of the Deep Valley Libraries is a non-profit volunteer organization that has supported libraries in this area since 1977. The Friends provides funds to libraries in Mankato, North Mankato, Lake Crystal and Mapleton; the book mobile; funding for the summer reading program for children, Project Bookshelf (in conjunction with Santa Anonymous), and materials and equipment to enhance reading and learning opportunities.
Contact: Lindsay Mollberg, President  
Phone: (507) 625-8155 or (507) 304-4005 (Pages-Past Bookstore)  
Fax:  
Email: lindsaymollberg@aol.com  
Website: www.friendsofdeepvalleylibraries.org

Direct Services and Recipients: Passing out books at community events; selling books at used-book annual sales; collecting books for community projects; assisting with special events and projects. Recipients include children and community members. Requirements and/or Restrictions for Service: Must be at least 18 years of age.

Habitat for Humanity of South Central Minnesota  
1751 Bassett Drive  
Mankato, MN 56001

Mission Statement: Habitat for Humanity of South Central MN is a non-profit Christian housing ministry, dedicated to building simple, decent, and affordable housing with and for families in need.
Contact: Kelli Hanson  
Phone: (507) 388-2081  
Fax: (507) 388-1618  
Email: habitatsc@hickorytech.net  
Website: hfhscsouthcentral.net

Direct Services and Recipients: Building homes for low-income families, working in the ReStore to help fund more Habitat homes for low-income families, and/or serving on a committee that benefits Habitat families. Requirements and/or Restrictions for Service: Construction—must be at least 18 years old.
LEEP (Leisure Education for Exceptional People): Recreation Has No Limits
929 North Fourth Street
Mankato, MN 56001

Mission Statement: To provide recreational and leisure opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities so that they might achieve optimal levels of socialization and independence in the community.

Contact: Mandy Hunecke, Assistant Director
Phone: (507) 387-5122
Fax: (507) 387-1676
Email: leep2@hickorytech.net

Direct Services and Recipients: Assisting individuals with disabilities during various recreational programs such as Special Olympic Sports, classes, and social activities. Assisting may consist of working one-to-one with participants, taking on more of an active leadership role at activities, and miscellaneous set-up and clean-up. Requirements and/or Restrictions for Service: Students must volunteer at least 15 hours at any program during one semester at LEEP, and may continue as desired.
Pathstone Living on Sibley Park
718 Mound Avenue
Mankato, MN 56001

Mission Statement: Our mission is to create home for older adults wherever they choose to live.
Contact: 
   Beth Colway, Director of Development
   Margo Isebrand, Director of Nursing
   Phone: (507) 385-4364
   Fax: (507) 385-4212
   Email: bethcolway@ecumen.org or margoisebrand@ecumen.org

Direct Services and Recipients: We utilize volunteers, provide internships for nursing students, and utilize assistance in food service. Requirements and/or Restrictions for Service: None

Project Read
Mankato, MN 56001

Mission Statement: District 77 and the Mankato Community Initiative strive to ensure that all children enter kindergarten ready to learn and leave third-grade reading successfully.
Contact: Deb Vorpahl, Project Read Coordinator
   Phone: (507) 388-6097

Direct Services and Recipients: Read to pre-school children either one-to-one or in small groups. Students may be able to help with a book drive through organizations. Mass Communications majors may participate in public relations. Requirements and/or Restrictions for Service: Would prefer a commitment through the end of the school year, but is not absolutely necessary (hours are also available during the summer months). Must provide own personal transportation.
The Greater Mankato Area United Way
101 North Second Street
Mankato, MN  56001

Mission Statement: To share resources to meet human service needs in our community

Contact:       Laura Bowman, President
               Katie Bootie, Director of Community Impact
               Gwen Doner, Director of Finance and Administration
               Christi Wilking, Director of Development
Phone:    (507) 345-4551
Fax:      (507) 345-3724
Email:    mankatouw@mankatounitedway.org or katieb@mankatounitedway.org

Direct Services and Recipients: 1) Volunteer Solutions: data-base of local volunteer
opportunities, service-learning opportunities and internship opportunities found within the
Greater Mankato Area’s nonprofit sector. 2) Internship opportunities at Greater Mankato Area
United Way. Requirements and/or Restrictions for Service: Require a minimum of 8
hours/week per semester.