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Community Partnerships Newsletter December 2017

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Kelly Campos '17

In this past year, the western hemisphere has experienced one natural disaster right after another. Devastation hit Texas, Florida, Mexico, Puerto Rico and other Caribbean Islands with no time to grasp what has happened or grieve what has been lost. In response to that, Connecticut College students, staff, and faculty formed the Natural Disaster Relief Committee (CCNDRC). We first met in mid-September to discuss what the committee wanted to work towards. Many ideas related to fundraising and service projects were brought to the table. This included penny wars, spring break service trips, and educational events. Our first organized effort was at Harvest Fest where we fundraised at different events throughout the weekend asking campus visitors to donate. Although we did not raise as much as we had hoped, it was the jump start that we needed. Next, we placed disaster relief jars in different locations across campus (Bookstore, mailroom, Coffee Grounds, Blue Camel, Community Partnership Office, Holleran Center) in hopes that campus members would donate what they can each day. We also partnered with Blue Camel and Coffee Grounds to sell sustainable steel straws, $4 each as another longstanding fundraiser. We recently wrote a proposal (that has been approved) to have up to 6 students from Puerto Rico to come to Connecticut College for the Spring 2018 semester because CCNDRC has raised $1,181.65, but the goal is to hit $3,000"
Rachel Levin ‘20

My name is Rachel Levin and I am a sophomore majoring in Architectural Studies, minoring in psychology, and participating in the Museum Studies Certificate Program. I work as the KBA Coordinator for Community Partnerships. KBA stands for Kids Books Athletics and the program focuses on engaging eighth-graders from Bennie Dover Jackson Middle School in New London in academic and athletic activities.

KBA has raised $1,181.65 and the fundraising campaign closes on Dec. 22. The money will be dispersed to five reputable grassroots NGO and non-profits in the areas that were hit by a natural disaster during fall 2017.

The goal of KBA is to emphasize the importance of academic stimulation and physical health. We read and discuss articles such as gender inequities in school sports and the way media portrays successful athletes of color. As the coordinator, I collaborate with my supervisors to develop KBA programming. In general, I find joy in working with kids, so this job is very rewarding to me. The kids are astute and specialize in a variety of sports, so it is wonderful to see them doing what they are passionate about.
On Friday, November 17, Writer’s Block Ink celebrated their second ACE awards at an event honoring community leaders, teachers, artists and students working on solutions through Arts, Education, and Community Excellence. Kim Sanchez was one of the awardees named as a Writer’s Block Purpose Partner for work in the field of education and for contributions to the continual growth and betterment of the community.

On Monday, November 20, Tracee Reiser, former Director of CP, Associate Director of the Holleran Center, and Senior Associate Dean of Community Learning was awarded the Volunteer award on behalf of the collaborative work between Community Partnerships and the Admissions office. The award was presented by the New London City Council Beautification Committee for the work completed at Ocean Beach by Conn College Spring Preview students.
Build Community  Create Change

How to Schedule an Appointment with a CP Advisor:
- Go to the CamelLink homepage
- Locate the ‘Shortcuts’ section on the right side of the page (COMPUTER VIEW, may be in different locations depending on electronic device)
- Click on Request Advising/Intake Appointment
- Select the appointment type you would like by scrolling to the bottom of the list choosing subject area (CP-Education, Environment/Sustainability, etc.)
- Click Check Availability and select one of the available slots

CP Volunteer & Work-Study Opportunities in the Community:
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- Culture
- Economics
- Education
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- Health & Wellness
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- Psychology/Human Development
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