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Mission and Brief History of Livingston CARES

Mission

The mission of Livingston County CARES is to help communities and individuals locally, regionally, statewide, nationwide, and globally in humanitarian projects, including disaster relief and recovery efforts. Livingston County CARES provides a central repository for resources and information for individuals and organizations wishing to contribute to disaster relief efforts.

A Brief History of Livingston CARES

Livingston County CARES, Inc. is a collaborative effort among groups and organizations at SUNY Geneseo and in the Geneseo and Livingston County community that started in September 2005 to focus on relief and recovery efforts by helping people in Harrison County, Mississippi. The initial groups were members of SUNY Geneseo students, faculty, and staff, the Livingston County Administrator, the Livingston County Chamber of Commerce, the Town of Geneseo, the Village of Geneseo, and the Livingston County Coalition of Churches. Individuals, organizations, schools, local municipalities, and interested citizens were invited to participate in Livingston County CARES' projects and programs. Livingston County CARES, Inc. was incorporated and registered as a New York State non-profit organization in 2006. In March 2007, the IRS granted CARES tax exempt status under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code. Gifts and donations to CARES are tax deductible. Donations may be given as restricted gifts for specific projects or the general fund. Livingston CARES board members are volunteers and there are no employees and very minimal administrative overhead. The headquarters for Livingston CARES is in the Center for Community and the Division of Student & Campus Life at SUNY Geneseo. The Center for Community supports CARES through its commitment to volunteer work, leadership development, civic engagement of students, and outreach to community organizations. Organizations and individuals interested in volunteering or making contributions should contact Tom Matthews at 585-245-5857 or by email at matthews@geneseo.edu or Samantha Hebel at 585-245-5893 or email hebel@geneseo.edu.

Volunteer Work Trips to Harrison County, Mississippi

Livingston CARES has recruited volunteers to work on the rehabilitation and reconstruction of homes for the victims of Hurricane Katrina in Mississippi. Livingston County CARES will have sent 939 volunteers on thirty-seven service trips beginning with the first trip in January 2006 and ending with the upcoming May 2016 trip. Future service trips to Biloxi are scheduled in January,

March and May of 2017. The National Corporation for Public Service 2015 guidelines estimates the total value of our volunteer efforts at \$1,202,946.00. This is calculated through estimating a wage of \$26.45 per hour for 1,137 volunteers on 56 Livingston CARES week-long service trips to Biloxi, Long Island/Staten Island/Brooklyn and Orlando (Give Kids the World). In addition to their time, volunteers paid trip fees of \$409,317.00 to participate in the 56 service trips. Livingston CARES has also received gifts and donations to assist volunteers with travel expenses and for projects in Harrison County and the New York metropolitan area. Since CARES was established in 2005, Livingston CARES has received \$50,805.00 in gifts and donations from individuals and organizations. In 2006, the Division of Student & Campus Life contributed \$12,250.00 to help pay for transportation and to assist students with expenses on the January and March trips. We also received \$20,000.00 in grants from the New York State Legislature (Senator Dale Volker) to assist with funding trips to Mississippi. More recently, the Student Association has been contributing funds to assist students with travel expenses. In 2013, the SUNY Geneseo Student Association allocated \$2,900.00 and Phi Eta Sigma Honorary donated \$2,500.00 to assist students with travel expenses and help provide scholarships for the 2014 trips. In 2014 and 2015, the Student Association allocated \$3,000.00 each year to assist students with travel expenses and help provide scholarships for the 2015 and 2016 trips. The Center for Community also provides in-kind support and supplies to assist student volunteer and service activities. CARES funds have been used to assist student volunteers with travel expenses. Funds have also been donated to support various projects in Harrison County, Mississippi. CARES supported the six projects described below.

Livingston County Coalition of Churches Tools for Katrina Project

In the spring of 2006, the Livingston County Coalition of Churches, as a Livingston CARES project, organized the Tools for Katrina Project. Tools were collected at local churches and donated by local contractors and delivered to two recovery centers in Biloxi: Hands on Gulf Coast and Volunteers on Gulf Coast. Some church related items were delivered to the Biloxi Methodist Church.

Woolmarket Youth Football League

Harrison County Board of Supervisors President, Connie Rockco, identified the Woolmarket Youth Football League as an organization that needed assistance. CARES donated \$660.00 to purchase uniforms for five students in the program whose equipment had been destroyed by the hurricane.

ARC Connections to the Gulf Coast

Livingston CARES board member Lyle Lehman made connections between the Livingston-Wyoming ARC and the ARC in Harrison County. Lehman met with board members of the ARC of the Gulf Coast on two trips to Mississippi and was instrumental in securing a \$4,000.00 donation from the local ARC Foundation to Livingston CARES to forward to the ARC of the Gulf Coast to assist the Harrison County ARC programs and projects.

Woolmarket Youth Recreation Complex Project

Supervisor Connie Rockco requested our assistance with the restoration of the youth recreation complex in her district north of Biloxi. CARES donated \$2,000.00 for the purchase and installation of a flagpole. A plaque on the pole recognizes the gift from the people of Livingston County, New York. A flag raising ceremony held on January 7, 2009 included the presentation of New York State and Livingston County flags to Harrison County. Nick Mazza, Livingston County Administrator, and Cynthia Oswald, President of Livingston County Chamber of Commerce, participated in this ceremony.

Moore Community House

Prior to Katrina, Moore Community House in East Biloxi was the only center serving low-income families with day care and other pre-school programs such as Head Start. Katrina destroyed all but one of the buildings in the complex. After hearing the history from the director, Carol Burnett, and learning about the critical services provided by Moore Community House, the CARES Board approved the donation of funds contributed by the Geneseo Central Presbyterian Church to CARES. A donation of \$2,000.00 was made and the funds were used to purchase equipment for the classrooms in the renovated facilities.

Garden Clubs Donations

The Geneseo Garden Club and Livonia Garden Club contributed funds to help with the recovery efforts. On the May 2009 trip visit to the Katrina Memorial Park in Biloxi, volunteers noticed a southern live oak died and inquired about replacing the tree. The city and county officials agreed to accept a new tree as a gift to the City of Biloxi. In January 2010, we helped plant a new live oak and dedicated a permanent plaque in the park honoring our volunteers and the friendships that have developed between Livingston County and Harrison County over the last nine years.

Katrina Story Fades But Recovery Work Continues

Livingston CARES made a commitment to continue working in Harrison County, Mississippi long after the stories faded from the media. Participants in all the service trips have learned about the destruction caused by Katrina and how important volunteer assistance to families and communities has been since the hurricane in 2005. Livingston CARES feels it is very important for contributors and volunteers to know that help is still needed and we intend to continue our work on the Gulf Coast of Mississippi for years to come. Our initial commitment made in the fall of 2005 was to continue our work for ten years. Our 2016 trips will celebrate the ten years of work on the Gulf Coast of Mississippi. Since many of our future volunteers will not remember watching Hurricane Katrina in August of 2005, the Livingston CARES board has decided to continue our work in Mississippi and to refocus our efforts on making a difference to low income families and communities in the state with the lowest income per capita in the United States. Please help CARES with the service work and continuing the friendships we have established with the homeowners and leaders in Harrison County, Mississippi.

Focus on Projects in Livingston County

In 2009, the Livingston CARES Board agreed to look for ways to focus some of our volunteer efforts on Livingston County. A new volunteer effort was initiated in the spring of 2010, which involved seven groups of SUNY Geneseo students, who worked on seven projects in various locations throughout Livingston County, as a part of the new "Geneseo Goes to Town" volunteer day. This project was developed through the civic engagement initiatives of the GOLD leadership program. In 2011, the program was expanded and included 17 student groups that worked on different projects in almost every town in the county. In 2013, 20 teams worked on projects in 18 towns and villages. In 2014, 17 teams including 84 students worked on projects in 17 towns. In 2015, 18 teams including 78 students worked on projects in 18 villages and towns on April 18. Connecting students to people and organizations throughout the county will expand opportunities for volunteer work and service. We will continue our efforts to develop collaborative programs with other local agencies to help people within the county.

Haiti Relief and Recovery

In January 2010, the CARES board established a Haiti Relief Fund to assist in recovery efforts. Numerous college organizations and individuals from the campus and community donated monies to this fund. In November 2010, the CARES board also approved a special appeal for more contributions to purchase water purification kits to help stop the cholera epidemic. Donations totaling \$8,255.30 were received and most of the funds have been given to the HOPE

Foundation headed by Emeriti Professor Rose-Marie Chierici for targeted projects in Borgne, Haiti. The projects included resettlement of two families in Port au Prince, the purchase of three teacher boxes for use in Haiti, the establishment of a nursery to grow trees for reforestation, and the purchase of over forty water purification kits.

Project Holding Accounts

In May 2009, the CARES board approved policies and procedures to permit student civic engagement projects to deposit funds with Livingston CARES. One major project, the Ghana Project, was approved to help with education projects in Ghana. The Ghana Project later became recognized as a student organization. In the spring of 2013 \$1500.00 was sent to assist in the building of a school in Besease, Ghana. In March 2013, \$1500.00 was donated from the Ghana fund to build a kindergarten classroom that is attached to a new grade 1-6 building. The new classroom is being built for the teacher who originally donated his time to start the school in the village. The Ghana Project students also purchased school supplies to donate to the new classroom. This summer, \$156.37 worth of school supplies were sent with two group members traveling to Ghana. The remaining balance in the Ghana Project fund was donated in April 2014 to assist the AGOGO Presbyterian Hospital in Accra, Ghana with a classroom to educate area families on disease prevention. Several academic departments and the Study Abroad Office at SUNY Geneseo are involved in the Ghana project. In 2011, the second project was established to assist with the El Sauce, Nicaragua programs that include building schools and microfinance projects. The Las Minita School was built in January of 2012 and the La Flor School was built in 2013. A microfinance project was also created to help women and businesses with loans to establish business projects in the El Sauce area. A current status report on the latest school projects is included in this Annual Report to the Community. The third project was established in April of 2010 to provide students in the HEROS mentoring program with a depository for fundraising income and expenses associated with the program that is currently operating in three area schools – Geneseo, Livonia, and Perry. Funds raised by the HEROS volunteers are used to support social mixers and parties for the mentees and for gas reimbursements to volunteers for the weekly trips to the schools.

Tornado Relief Fund

In the winter and spring of 2011, the United States experienced a series of violent storms and tornados that destroyed entire towns and villages including Joplin, Missouri. Although we made a fundraising appeal to the campus community, only a few contributors responded with donations

totaling \$533.00. The CARES board voted to transfer the funds to the Hurricane Sandy Relief fund.

Flood Relief Fund

In early September of 2011, Tropical Storms Irene and Lee devastated several areas of New York State. We established a fund to help student groups with travel expenses on two Saturday trips to the Binghamton and Owego areas. We worked with Sean Phillips (Inter Varsity Christian Fellowship), Denice Szafran (Anthropology), Amy Sheldon (Geology), and Brian Sheldon (Livonia Central School) to sponsor a bus work trip on October 15. Twenty-six students and two faculty members participated in the trip. The expenses for the trip were \$643.79.

Hurricane Sandy Relief Fund

In November 2012, the CARES board established a Hurricane Sandy Relief Fund in response to the devastation of the super storm in the New York metropolitan area. The college collected \$1675.00 through the Geneseo Foundation to assist with the Livingston CARES Hurricane Sandy Relief efforts. To date, CARES has deposited a total of \$10,282.25 in the fund. Monies have been used to support the volunteer work trips and to assist agencies that support the recovery efforts. Livingston CARES has donated \$1,700.00 to the Bethel United Methodist Church on Staten Island to purchase cots and supplies for housing volunteers, \$1,850.00 to Community United Methodist Church Disaster Relief Center in Massapequa for supplies to assist with housing of volunteers, and \$2,500.00 to the New York Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church for the purchase of construction equipment and supplies for the recovery efforts on the south shore of Long Island. In January 2013, nineteen volunteers worked on Staten Island and in March 2013, sixteen volunteers worked on the south shore of Long Island. The following May, a third work trip with fourteen volunteers worked on Staten Island. In January 2014, seven volunteers worked on Staten Island and in March 2014 fourteen volunteers worked at two locations on Long Island. Seven volunteers also worked on houses on Staten Island in May. In 2015, seven volunteers worked on Staten Island in January, seven volunteers worked on Long Island in March and seven volunteers worked on Staten Island in May. CARES has been collaborating with the New York Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church on the nine work trips to Staten Island/Long Island. In 2016, seven volunteers worked on a home in Brooklyn in January and seven volunteers worked on the same house in March. Both were under the supervision of Rebuilding Together NYC. The May Brooklyn group will do similar work. CARES has been collaborating with the New York Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church on the nine work trips to Staten Island/Long Island.

Livingston CARES Chronology Highlights

September 7, 2005

Semi-annual Volunteer Fair at the College provided opportunities for students to join committees to help with hurricane relief efforts.

September 8, 2005

The Center for Community at SUNY Geneseo hosted a meeting of 32 representatives from college and community organizations to discuss a collaborative response to the horrendous devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina. The participants unanimously agreed to create a countywide effort to respond with a long-term commitment to help the Gulf Coast recover from the hurricane. A set of assumptions was approved that formed the basis of a plan to conduct fundraising for relief efforts while the hurricane remained front-page news and explore possibilities for developing a relationship with communities on the Gulf Coast for long-term recovery assistance. Participants agreed that Livingston CARES would become a college and community program directed by a steering committee with representatives from students, faculty and administrators at SUNY Geneseo, Livingston County government, the Livingston County Chamber of Commerce, the Livingston County Coalition of Churches, the Village and Town of Geneseo, and other interested organizations. The College agreed to coordinate the Livingston CARES efforts through its GOLD leadership and volunteer center programs. Tom Matthews, director of leadership education, development and training, agreed to serve as chair with assistance from Kay Fly, Coordinator of Volunteerism and Service Learning.

September 11, 2005

Article by Matthew Daneman in *Democrat and Chronicle* on "Beyond Katrina: Livingston wants Gulf to know it cares" reports on Livingston County CARES activities.

September 12, 2005

Livingston County CARES logo approved and website created at <http://communitycare.geneseo.edu> to serve as a location for sharing information on hurricane relief efforts. Numerous student organizations announced fundraising activities on the website. A Student Action Committee of Livingston CARES begins meeting weekly to coordinate SUNY Geneseo student involvement in the relief efforts.

September 20, 2005

Livingston County CARES steering committee met to coordinate efforts and investigate communities on the Gulf Coast that would be willing to partner with Livingston County. Based on the news reports that Mississippi coastal areas were not getting attention or much assistance, members of the steering committee agreed that Livingston CARES should focus its concerns on Harrison County, Mississippi. Cynthia Oswald, President of the Livingston County Chamber of Commerce, agreed to contact government and business leaders in Harrison County. Oswald initiated conversations by phone and email with Berinda Logan from Mississippi Gulf Chamber of Commerce whose offices and records had been totally destroyed in the hurricane. Logan connected Oswald with Connie M. Rockco from the Harrison County Board of Supervisors. Conversations between Oswald and Rockco led to the agreement between Livingston and Harrison Counties to work together on the relief and recovery efforts. President Christopher Dahl sent an email to the campus community about the hurricane and the SUNY Geneseo response including information on the community forum and Teach-In on the Hurricane on October 30, the student fundraising activities, and the Livingston County CARES initiatives.

September 27, 2005

Livingston CARES steering committee met and approved a resolution-identifying Harrison County, Mississippi as the location to focus relief efforts. Brad Lowell, a Red Cross volunteer who had just returned from two weeks doing damage assessment in Harrison County briefed the committee on his experiences and observations about the need for long-term assistance in Harrison County.

September 28, 2005

A resolution was submitted by Geneseo Town Supervisor, Wes Kennison, to the Livingston County Board of Supervisors to support Livingston County CARES and to formally offer assistance to Harrison County, Mississippi. Cynthia Oswald, Tom Matthews, and Kay Fly participated in the meeting and addressed the Board of Supervisors on the initiative. The resolution was presented but not acted upon in order to provide time for officials in Harrison County to accept the offer of assistance from Livingston County.

October 6, 2005

Article on Livingston County CARES appeared in *The Clarion* on the developing relationship with Harrison County. The same issue featured Gail Orr and her work in Harrison County and the Humanity Outreach Partners Enterprise (HOPE) Unites Foundation. Orr led a team of 18 volunteers from western New York to work in a "tent city" in D'Iverville, Mississippi immediately after Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast.

November 21, 2005

Cynthia Oswald, Livingston County Chamber of Commerce President, was interviewed on WYSL about the Livingston CARES initiatives.

November 23, 2005

A feature story in *Livingston County News* reports on "From Nunda to Gulfport" efforts by Carolyn Lowell, a teacher in the Dalton School District and Paul Kreuzer, an active member of the community to involve teachers, students, and community groups in Dalton, Nunda, Hunt, and Portage to collect school supplies and funds for the Gulfport School District. Gerald Hotchkiss delivered the school supplies to the children in Gulfport on a trip to visit his son in Mississippi.

November 30, 2005

The Livingston CARES steering committee met and approved a K-12 initiative created by Glenn McClure to connect schools in Livingston County and Harrison County. The "Cosmic Gumbo Café" project will involve teachers and students in various arts integration activities over an extended period of time. Dr. Jon Hunter, Geneseo Superintendent of Schools, agreed to work with Glenn McClure on this project.

December 4, 2005

Pennysaver features Livingston County CARES in its column devoted to "Hometown Spotlight."

December 5, 2005

Thirty-five volunteers including nine SUNY Geneseo students registered and paid deposits for the trip to Biloxi. SUNY Geneseo, through Bob Bonfiglio, Vice President of Student and Campus Life, subsidized each student with grants to assist with travel expenses. Livingston CARES did not provide any funds to assist the volunteers with the \$500 cost of the trip; all volunteers self-funded their expenses.

HOPE Unites provided a three-hour training session for participants in the January work trip to Biloxi. The Iota Lambda chapter of Sigma Tau Delta English Honor Society announced that Casey Carrigan won an essay for his writing about the hurricane and was sponsored by the chapter to participate in the January work trip to Harrison County.

December 20, 2005

Livingston CARES submitted a proposal to the Bush-Clinton Katrina Fund to support students and

faculty participating in relief and recovery projects during spring break and for summer directed studies and internships in Harrison County. The proposal also requested funds to support the “Cosmic Gumbo Café” project with the K-12 links to Harrison County.

December 21, 2005

Livingston CARES steering committee added its support for the grant proposal submitted to the Bush-Clinton Hurricane Katrina Fund by the College. The committee also agreed to sponsor a community dinner on Wednesday, February 1 at the Geneseo United Methodist Church. The Geneseo Philanthropic Chefs will cater the Share and Care dinner with assistance and entertainment provided by the “Strong As Steel Corporation” 8th grade career studies project students at Mt. Morris Central School. Participants in the January work trip will tell their stories and the event will be a fundraiser with proceeds to go to Livingston CARES. Kay Fly reported that eighteen college organizations participated in a wide variety of fundraising activities during the fall semester with proceeds going to the American Red Cross, Habitat for Humanity, the Humane Society of America, and Livingston CARES. Events included programs such as a Residence Life competition to raise funds, the Japanese Culture Club 1,000 cranes project folding origami cranes in the library, a Beta Fish sale by the Pre-Veterinary Club for animals displaced by the hurricane, a Alpha Phi Omega sale of Halloween Goodie Bags, the women’s athletic teams Kids Knight Out recreation program, a yard sale sponsored by the Royal Lady Knights and Livingston Residence Hall, and numerous collections for hurricane relief. A list of events registered with Livingston CARES was posted on the CARES website.

December 23, 2005

Letters from Glenn McClure, arts consultant, and Jon Hunter, Geneseo school superintendent, were sent to the five school district superintendents in Harrison County introducing the “Cosmic Gumbo Café” project and inviting the school districts to collaborate in long-term partnerships with the schools in Livingston County.

December 29, 2005

A news story on “County helps Hurricane Katrina victims” appeared in *The Clarion* describing the efforts of Livingston County CARES and the upcoming trip to Biloxi. *Livingston County News* featured the Top stories of 2005 and listed the disaster response as one of the major stories of the year.

January 2006

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce *US Chamber* news magazine in its January edition included a feature article "Communities Aid Storm Recovery" that focused on the Livingston CARES initiatives as a "best practices" activity for other chambers of commerce to use in working on the hurricane relief efforts.

January 3, 2006

Kyle Clark, WHAM Channel 13 reporter, interviewed eight members of the Livingston County CARES volunteers on January 2 for a video report that aired on the local news after the Monday Night Football game on Tuesday morning.

January 4-10, 2006

Thirty-three Livingston County CARES volunteers traveled from New York to Biloxi, Mississippi and spent five days working on recovery projects in conjunction with the Urban Life Ministries. The volunteers stayed at the Urban Life Ministries Relief and Recovery Center on the grounds of a former V.F.W. site in East Biloxi. The Livingston CARES volunteers made a presentation to the Harrison County Board of Supervisors in Biloxi on January 9th. The work trip volunteers included nine students, one faculty member, who is also Town Supervisor of Geneseo and a member of the Livingston County Board of Supervisors, and two administrators from SUNY Geneseo; five students and one administrator from the Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, Canada; nine individuals representing the Central Presbyterian Church in Geneseo; three individual citizens dedicated to service; and three team leaders from HOPE Unites.

January 5, 2006

The Livingston County News carried an editorial on the Livingston County CARES January work trip to Biloxi praising the efforts of the volunteers working in Mississippi and welcoming the group returning as heroes.

January 12, 2006

A full-page feature story on "Biloxi Blues" by Editor Mark Gillespie appeared in the *Livingston County News* reported on the January Work-Trip activities in Biloxi. Gillespie interviewed Matthews and Kennison and Harrison County Supervisor Connie Rockco while the team was still working in Biloxi.

January 17-18, 2006

Cynthia Oswald from Livingston County Chamber of Commerce made a presentation on the

Livingston CARES initiatives as part of a panel discussion at the Chamber Alliance of New York State (CANYS) conference in Albany.

January 18, 2006

An article by Dolores Orman on "Group to Explain Post-Katrina Work" appeared in the *Democrat & Chronicle* highlighting the January Livingston County CARES work trip to Biloxi and the February 1st Share and Care dinner. Livingston County CARES steering committee met and heard brief reports on the January work trip to Biloxi. The committee also approved HOPE Unites as the designated agency to arrange future Livingston County CARES work trips to Harrison County.

January 19, 2006

The Clarion featured a group photo on the front page of the Livingston County CARES work team orientation after arrival in Biloxi on January 4, an article by Sally Fox on "Our Clarion Correspondent Reports on Hurricane Victims," and an article by Harrison County employee Welton Babuchna on "Harrison County, Mississippi worker says, Good Morning America."

January 26, 2006

Livingston County News editorial cartoonist Tom Fox depicts a bus with seats available on a work trip to Biloxi with a banner saying "Livingston Cares."

February 1, 2006

Livingston CARES sponsored the First Annual Share and Care Dinner from 6:00 – 8:00 PM at the Geneseo United Methodist Church. The Share and Care dinner was catered by the Geneseo Philanthropic Chefs with assistance and entertainment provided by the "Strong As Steel Corporation" 8th grade career studies project students at Mt. Morris Central School. Participants in the January work trip shared their stories and experiences working on the hurricane recovery in Harrison County. The program included commentary from the Wilfrid Laurier University staff and students, SUNY Geneseo students, Central Presbyterian Church in Geneseo participants, and stories about each of the worksites in Biloxi and Gulfport. Over 120 students and community members attended the fundraiser dinner and donated over \$1500.00 to Livingston CARES to assist with the Hurricane Katrina recovery efforts in Harrison County.

February 5, 2006

The Sunday edition of the *Democrat & Chronicle* carried a story and photos of four of the January work trip volunteers: Roger and Kathy Collins, Kristy Sirianni, and George Sullivan. The article "2nd

Group to Aid Mississippi Cleanup” publicized the March spring break trip and focused on stories from the four January trip volunteers.

March 10-18, 2006

The Student Action Committee of Livingston CARES led a second work trip to Harrison County, Mississippi. Fifty-five volunteers including 51 students, 1 faculty member, and 3 Division of Student & Campus Life staff worked on 5 houses in Gulfport. Charlie Elliot-Bearce served as the trip leader.

March 22, 2006

Livingston CARES steering committee approved a revised mission statement to be used in applications for state and federal government recognition as a non-profit organization. The expanded mission covers future activities related to humanitarian projects at the local, state, national, and international levels.

April 6, 2006

The Lamron reporter Mike Peek reported “Students Help Mississippi Hurricane Victims Recover from Katrina.” Charlie Elliott-Bearce and other students on the March trip reflected on their experiences in Mississippi. The same issue also featured an Invasion of Privacy column by Kathryn Adams on “Charlie Elliot-Bearce’s philanthropy brings Geneseo students to Mississippi.”

April 14, 2006

The Navy *Seabee Courier* carried a story by JO1 (SW) Dennis J. Herring “NMCB 1 Seabees assist New York college students.” The article interviewed the five Seabees from the Naval Mobile Construction Battalion OBE (NMCB, 1) who assisted the March CARES trip volunteers on the reconstruction of five houses in Gulfport. Tom Hurlburt was the Seabee that arranged for the Seabees to help with the projects.

May 15, 2006

Five students, one retired SUNY Geneseo staff member, and one retired electrician community volunteer traveled from New York to Harrison County, Mississippi and spent the week rehabilitating a house in Gulfport. Connie Hurlburt served as trip leader and her son, Tom Hurlburt, from the Navy Seabees assisted with the reconstruction work.

June 28, 2006

Livingston CARES steering committee approved the filing of papers with the Secretary of State to become a registered New York State non-profit corporation. The initial volunteer directors signed the papers: Tom Matthews, Kay Fly, Kurt Christiansen, Cynthia Oswald, and Lyle Lehman. Doug Wilson reported on the Tools for Katrina project coordinated for CARES by the Livingston County Coalition of Churches.

July 6, 2006

Livingston County News briefly noted column reported on the Tools for Katrina collections spearheaded by the Livingston County Coalition of Churches for Harrison County, Mississippi. Dave and Erin Bills from the Livonia Community Church delivered the tools and supplies to the Hands On Gulf Coast and Volunteers on the Gulf Coast recovery centers in Biloxi and church related items to the Biloxi Methodist Church.

August 2, 2006

Livingston County CARES, Inc. registered as a New York State non-profit corporation with the Secretary of State. The stated purpose is to help communities and individuals locally, regionally, statewide, nationwide, and globally in humanitarian projects, including disaster relief and recovery efforts. Additionally, it is to provide a central repository for resources and information for individuals and organizations wishing to contribute to disaster relief efforts.

August 30, 2006

Livingston CARES steering committee approved four trips for 2007: a January trip, a February trip hosted by Central Presbyterian Church, a March spring break trip, and a May trip. Doug Wilson and Charlie Becker reported on the Tools for Katrina project that included \$1,146.59 in cash donations and 630 items for the recovery centers in Mississippi. Dave and Erin Bills from the Livonia Community Church delivered the tools to the Hands ON Gulf Coast and Volunteers on Gulf Coast recovery centers in Biloxi. The committee also approved \$660.00 to purchase equipment for five students in the Woolmarket Youth Football Leagues that had lost their all their uniforms in the hurricane. The committee also voted to support the possible restoration of a greenhouse in Gulfport.

September 28, 2006

The Lamron at SUNY Geneseo featured an editorial in its Lunatic's Fringe column on the "Aftermath of Katrina Should be More of a Priority" by Taryn Thompson. Thompson reviews the lack of attention by the press and the government on helping with Katrina recovery efforts in

Mississippi. The feature included a photo of the remains of a front step for a home in Biloxi.

October 3, 2006

The Livingston Chamber of Commerce and SUNY Geneseo annual joint luncheon at the Campus House included a presentation on Livingston CARES from Charlie Elliott, student chair of the March 2006 Spring Break Trip and Tom Matthews. The program also included a slide presentation and the narrative PowerPoint written by Maureen Gillard reflecting on her experience as a student participant on the CARES spring trip.

October 12, 2006

Michelle Plyem and Tom Matthews made presentations at the Campus House to the Geneseo Torch Club on Livingston CARES trips to Mississippi. Maureen Gillard's narrative PowerPoint was used to illustrate the student reactions and reflections on work trip experiences.

October 17, 2006

SUNY Geneseo was one of nine colleges and universities in the nation to receive a Katrina Compassion Award during the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll Awards Ceremony in Chicago. The Katrina award recognized the efforts spearheaded by Livingston CARES to engage students in relief and recovery work on the Gulf Coast in Harrison County, Mississippi. Geneseo was one of 141 institutions of higher education recognized for distinguished service in the first President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll.

October 25, 2006

Letter from Suzanne Martel, President of Woolmarket Youth Football League thanking Livingston CARES for the donation of \$660.00 used to purchase equipment and uniforms for the participants. Martel enclosed a CD on the league activities and fall games.

November 1, 2006

The Democrat & Chronicle carried a brief on the "Service Roll Lists Area Colleges" that reported on the first President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll that included SUNY Geneseo. The article also noted that SUNY Geneseo was a recipient of the Katrina Compassion Award.

November 15, 2006

The Livingston CARES steering committee met to review the progress on the upcoming spring

trips and the greenhouse, Woolmarket Youth Recreation area, and the Moore Community House projects.

December 4, 2006

Tom Matthews made a presentation to the Geneseo Rotary on Livingston CARES and showed the slide PowerPoint presentation written by student Maureen Gillard, reflecting on her experience on the CARES March trip to Mississippi.

December 28, 2006

Livingston County News editor Mark Gillespie added his "Also Noteworthy" editorial to his top stories of the year praising the volunteers and Livingston CARES for the "tremendous up swelling of generosity and labor for the residents of Biloxi, Mississippi." The same issue also included a headline on David W. Parish's column noting that "Livingston CARES Awarded National Honors" with reference to the presentation on Livingston CARES by Tom Matthews to the Geneseo Rotary.

January 6, 2007

Twenty volunteers traveled to Biloxi, Mississippi to work on three houses in Biloxi and Gulfport. Camp Biloxi run by the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepard hosted the group. Team members met with Harrison County officials, visited the Moore Community House in East Biloxi, met with The ARC of the Gulf Coast, and took gift packages to the owners of homes worked on by previous Livingston CARES volunteers.

January 26, 2007

Channel 13 reporter Kyle Clark interviewed volunteers from the January Livingston CARES trip to Biloxi. Clark interviewed Marie Ostrander, student co-chair, and Tom Matthews on their reactions to visiting the Gulf Coast for a second time.

February 7, 2007

Livingston CARES steering committee heard a report on the January trip to Biloxi and discussed the February, March, and May trips. The committee approved the greenhouse project in Gulfport and volunteers on the March trip will begin the initial clearing of the area for restoration. The committee also approved the 2nd annual Share and Care dinner for April 18 with Connie Rockco from Biloxi as our guest speaker.

February 15, 2007

The Lamron reporter Sean Kaplan's headline story "Despite Less Media Coverage, Mississippi Trips Continue" featured commentary from Kay Fly and Marie Ostrander on their thoughts about the upcoming March spring break trip to Mississippi.

February 18, 2007

Twenty-three volunteers from Livingston CARES traveled to Biloxi for President's Week to work on recovery efforts. God's Katrina Kitchen hosted the volunteers at their site in Biloxi. Participants worked at the recovery center that feeds over 1,000 volunteers and needy families on a daily basis and on three houses in Biloxi. Beth Godfrey, pastor of the Central Presbyterian Church served as the team leader of the February group.

March 1, 2007

Internal Revenue Service approved Livingston County CARES, Inc. as a tax-exempt organization and public charity under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

March 9, 2007

Forty-four students, three staff members, one faculty, and one retiree from SUNY Geneseo and one community volunteer traveled by bus to Gulfport, Mississippi to spend spring break working on the restoration of homes. The teams also cleaned up a greenhouse area for Harrison County and worked on five homes throughout the week.

March 28, 2008

Livingston CARES approved a \$2,000.00 contribution to purchase a flagpole for the Harrison County Woolmarket Youth Recreation Complex. The committee also approved granting the \$2,000.00 gift from the Central Presbyterian Church to the Moore Community House pending agreement on a specific use of the funds. The Livingston-Wyoming ARC grant of \$4,000.00 was also approved for gifting to The ARC of the Gulf Coast.

March 29, 2007

The Knight's Life section of *The Lamron* featured stories on "Fixing Up on Spring Break" that reported on two groups of volunteers and their reflections on the spring break trips. Dan Skahen reported on the trip of thirty-one members of the Outing Club at SUNY Geneseo to Louisville, Kentucky to work on cleaning up the Ohio River in conjunction with Chad Pregracke's Living Lands and Waters Foundation. The second story by volunteer Sean Roche included a daily "Biloxi, Mississippi: A Journal from Devastation" review of the Livingston CARES trip and work on the

greenhouse and five homes in Gulfport, Mississippi.

April 4, 2007

Press release on "SUNY Geneseo Professors to Cater Livingston CARES Dinner on April 18; Mississippi Leader to Speak" circulated to media.

April 5, 2007

Livingston County News brief on "Mississippi for Mother's Day" announced the CARES May 13th trip to Biloxi with contact information on the trip.

April 11, 2007

Letter from Senator Dale Volker indicating that a Legislative Initiative in the amount of \$10,000.00 has been approved for support of students and recovery work in disasters and other humanitarian efforts.

April 12, 2007

Mark Gillespie reported in a front page article "Gulf Coast County Leader to Speak" in the *Livingston County News* about Connie Rockco's visit to Livingston County on April 18 and upcoming speech at the 2nd Annual Livingston CARES dinner.

April 18, 2007

The 2nd Annual Livingston CARES Share and Care Dinner was held at the Geneseo United Methodist Church. The Geneseo Philanthropic Chefs catered the dinner and the guest speaker was Connie Rockco, Harrison County District 5 Supervisor.

May 16-23, 2007

The May 2007 work trip to Biloxi included ten SUNY Geneseo students and six community representatives. Dan Dimpfl was the trip leader. During the week the group worked on three Habitat for Humanity houses. The group also worked with Chip Carter, son of President Jimmy Carter.

May/June 2007

Genesee Valley *BOCES News in Brief*, profiled Tom Wilson, a BOCES teacher who participated in the February 2007 work trip with Livingston CARES. The article reported on the volunteer work during the February trip group on Jewel's house in Gulfport and their stay at God's Katrina Kitchen in Biloxi.

Summer 2007

Livingston County Coalition of Churches published an article in their quarterly Newsletter by Reverend Dr. Doug Wilson on Livingston County CARES projects and trips to Mississippi.

June 29, 2007

Livingston CARES formally established a board to manage the 501(c)(3) not-for-profit public charity corporation. The meeting of the original incorporators (Kurt Christiansen, Kay Fly, Lyle Lehman, Cynthia Oswald, Kay Fly and Tom Matthews) was scheduled to create Livingston CARES as a formal organization, approve by-laws under Sections 602 and 702 of the Not-For-Profit Law, establish officers, and elect members to serve on the first Board of Directors. Fourteen of the possible 19 members of the Board of Directors were elected to serve as the first board. Board members elected included: Jerry Alonzo, Niels Christiansen, Joan Ellison, Kay Fly, Richard Hatheway, Connie Hurlburt, Kathleen Jones, Wes Kennison, Lyle Lehman, Tom Matthews, Cynthia Oswald, Doug Wilson, Dan Dimpfl, and Jennifer Delcourt.

July 10, 2007

The first annual meeting of Livingston County CARES was held. The board elected Tom Matthews to serve as chair, Kay Fly to serve as Secretary and Lyle Lehman to serve as Treasurer. In addition to establishing organizational policies and procedures to guide decision making, the board approved four trips for 2008 in January, February, March, and May. The board also authorized the Chair and the Treasurer to establish a bank account at a local bank and move the holding account funds from the college accounts to the new bank account. Tom Matthews announced that Senator Dale M. Volker provided a member item in the New York State budget of \$10,000.00 to assist students for CARES volunteer work.

July 27, 2007

Livingston County News published a story on the "Return to Biloxi" that featured work by Livingston CARES in Mississippi and announced the 2008 work trips to the Gulf Coast.

September 26, 2007

The Livingston CARES Board of Directors held its second meeting. The board approved the purchase of two insurance policies from the Chanler Insurance Agency to protect the organization in the event of claims or lawsuits, Directors and Officers Liability and Employment Practices Liability. CARES has no employees but the insurance includes coverage for actions by volunteers. The board approved a donation of \$2,500.00 to Moore Community House for

purchase of classroom furniture and \$500.00 to the Harrison County Greenhouse Project, and approved a Livingston/Harrison County Cookbook project. The board also approved policies relating to processing checks, established the annual meeting of the board in November, authorized July 1 to June 30 as the CARES fiscal year, created a financial assistance committee to approve assistance to volunteers, established a policy requiring evaluations and reflections from all trip participants, approved trip coordinators for 2008, accepted the Salvation Army Volunteer Village in Biloxi for the four 2008 work trips, set the fees for students and non-students for the 2008 work trips, set aside \$1,000.00 of the Volker member item to be used for grants to student organizations for humanitarian projects, and established the fourth Wednesday for monthly meetings. BJ Scanlon, the AmeriCorps VISTA in the Center for Community, was elected to the Board of Directors for a one-year term ending in July 2008.

October 24, 2007

The Livingston CARES Board of Directors held its third meeting. The board approved chartering a bus with Kemp's Bus Service for the March trip to Biloxi, approved an allocation of \$3,000.00 for financial assistance to volunteers and a policy of a minimum payment of \$150.00 for all trip participants with exceptions made by the Financial Assistance Committee, established a policy permitting gifts honoring individuals or groups, authorized four levels of giving, and established an audit committee consisting of board members Hatheway, Christiansen and Oswald. The board also approved an account with www.goodsearch.com that supports non-profit agencies by donating one cent for every internet done under its name. BJ Scanlon reported on Students CARE, a group of SUNY Geneseo students who have been active with Livingston CARES, was established at the College. The group will raise funds for students participating in Livingston CARES trips to Mississippi as well as serving in an advocacy role for the recovery of the Gulf Coast region.

November 28, 2007

The Livingston CARES Board of Directors held its fourth meeting. Amanda Flannery, a SUNY Geneseo student was elected for a two year term to fill the second student seat on the Board of Directors. The board approved registration and insurance offered through HOPE Unites for all 2008 trips to Biloxi, and reviewed plans for all four 2008 trips to Mississippi. The board also approved soliciting contributions in December as an alternative form of gift giving during the holiday season and established giving levels: CARES giver from \$1.00-\$249.00, CARES Donor from \$250.00-\$499.00, CARES Good Samaritan from \$500.00-\$999.00 and CARES Humanitarian \$1,000.00 plus.

January 5-12, 2008

The first work trip of the 2008 included 24 volunteers. The group flew to Gulfport and rented cars to drive along the Gulf Coast to Biloxi. Highlights included lunch at Sonic, a pizza party, and a greeting by Connie Rockco, Harrison County Supervisor. Work projects included assisting the Salvation Army with work on the Volunteer Village and a satellite facility and work on seven houses under the supervision of the Beaverton Four-Square Church from Oregon.

January 5, 2008

The local Biloxi television station, WLOX, highlighted the 8th visit by Livingston CARES volunteers to the region by putting together a news piece that included interviews with work participants. The story ran on the late evening news.

January 24, 2008

Livingston County CARES was featured in the *Livingston County News* with a story "Livingston CARES Back From Biloxi" with almost a full page spread showing pictures of the flag pole donated by CARES to Harrison County, work on a house in Biloxi, a visit with Daisy Guyton from a previous work trip, and a group photo at Yankee Stadium of the 24 volunteers on the January 2008 to Biloxi.

January 30, 2008

The Livingston CARES board held its fifth meeting. The January trip participants reported on the experiences of the 24 volunteers at Yankee Stadium working with the Salvation Army and the Four Square Church, reviewed plans for the upcoming February trip coordinated by Chris Lynch with 10 college and community volunteers, reviewed plans for the March alternative spring break trip with 55 participants, approved the third CARES fundraising dinner for April 23 with Kathleen Jones serving as coordinator, and authorized Dimpfl and Matthews to set fees for the May trip depending on the cost of airfares.

February 16-23, 2008

The second trip to Mississippi scheduled during President's Week included ten volunteers with one from the college and nine community members including two high school students. The group traveled on Sunday and returned on Friday night in order to save money on airfare. Chris Lynch served as the trip leader. The group worked on the final stages of reconstruction of one house in Biloxi.

March 12, 2008

The Livingston CARES board held its sixth meeting. The board reviewed plans for the Annual Share and Care Dinner and agreed to a free will offering instead of charging for tickets, confirmed an agreement by Dimpfl and Matthews to reserve up to 20 plane tickets for the May trip with unused deposits to be credited to final list of participants, heard a report from BJ Scanlon on outreach initiatives to Livonia and Avon, and continued discussion on contributions to work sites in Biloxi. The SUNY Geneseo Outing Club requested assistance from Livingston CARES for a spring break trip to Louisville to continue its work with the Living Lands and Living Waters Foundation project cleaning up the Ohio River. The board approved designating funds from the Senator Volker grant to assist the students with travel expenses.

March 14-22, 2008

On the third trip of 2008, 55 individuals including 4 staff members from the college traveled by Kemps Bus to and from Biloxi, Mississippi for the alternative spring break work trip. Volunteers worked with the Salvation Army and at Popp's Ferry elementary school, doing an overhaul of their grounds, and sprucing up their playground. Volunteers also worked on three other homes during their week in Biloxi.

April 3, 2008

The Lamron reported on the alternative spring break trips to the Gulf Coast and the Ohio River in a Knights' Life piece entitled "Fixing up on Spring Break."

April 15-17, 2008

Students CARE sponsored a Jail Break fundraiser on the College Green during late morning and afternoon class break times. Several faculty, staff and student leaders were recruited to serve jail time and to ask passers-by to help them get out of jail with donations while Students CARE solicited donations to keep the volunteers in jail. The weather cooperated and faculty, staff and students contributed over \$500.00 to help fund Livingston CARES trips to Mississippi.

April 17, 2008

The Lamron reported on "Fundraiser Puts Students, Staff in Slammer" describing the Jailbreak fundraising activities organized by Livingston CARES board member Amanda Flannery.

April 23, 2008

The Livingston CARES board met prior to the annual thank you dinner. Amanda Flannery reported

that students raised \$800.00 from the Jailbreak fundraising. Board members approved a \$1,000.00 donation to the Salvation Army for the Volunteer Village in Biloxi in honor of Edwin and Susan Britt for their work in operating the Volunteer Village at Yankee Stadium.

April 23, 2008

The Third Annual Livingston CARES Share and Care fundraising dinner was held at the Geneseo United Methodist Church. Celebrity Chefs, Gary Towsley, Lynn Kennison and Glenn McClure provided southern hospitality with a gumbo and pasta dinner. KC Bailey presented a multimedia collection of photos and videos spanning the three years of the rebuilding efforts in Harrison County. Volunteers from the May 2007, January 2008, February 2008 and March 2008 shared brief reflections on the work trips to Biloxi. Jennifer Delcourt received a special award for participating in four trips and for serving as the trip leader for the March 2008 Alternative Spring Break trip.

May 2008

Fifteen volunteers participated in the May trip to Biloxi. Dan Dimpfl served as the trip leader. Hope Force director Craig Snow reported that the May group was the best group he had ever worked with in his volunteer career.

June 18, 2008

The Livingston CARES Board met and elected Elise Arneson, the AmeriCorps VISTA staff member from the Center for Community to the board of directors. Matthews reported that the annual dinner raised \$842.50. The board agreed to change the focus from fundraising to a thank you event for volunteers and contributors.

July 23, 2008

The Livingston CARES Board met to review and approve estimated costs and participant fees for the 2009 trips. Matthews reported that volunteers for all four trips will be accommodated at Camp Victor in Ocean Springs and work will be under the supervision of the East Biloxi Coordination, Relief & Redevelopment Agency. The EBCRRA is a non-profit agency dedicated to helping people rebuild homes in East Biloxi. Plane reservations have been made for 25 volunteers for January and a bus for March has been reserved.

September 23, 2008

The Livingston CARES board met and re-elected Lyle Lehman, Wes Kennison and Richard

Hatheway for three-year terms. Student representative, Marissa Evarts was elected to a two-year term. The three officers were reelected for another one-year term. The board approved Tom Matthews to head the January trip, Tom Wilson to lead the February trip, and Elise Arneson, Amanda Flannery and Marissa Evarts to lead the March trip.

October 8, 2008

The Livingston CARES Board met to review plans for the 2009 work trips. Julie Matthews reviewed IRS regulations and presented documents that she prepared for submission to IRS from Livingston CARES.

November 5, 2008

The Livingston CARES Board elected Lori McEvoy, Program Coordinator, Livingston County Coalition of Churches to a three-year term. The board also started a conversation about expanding our volunteer work beyond our current efforts in Mississippi to provide other service options for students.

December 3, 2008

The Livingston CARES Board received reports that the January, February and March trips were filled to capacity and that scholarship assistance has been provided to eight students for the January and March trips. Karen Bailey was elected to a three-year term on the Board of Directors.

January 3-10, 2009

Twenty-five volunteers including 14 students participated in the January trip to Biloxi. The volunteers worked on two houses in East Biloxi. The group also participated in a ceremony and presentation of the Livingston County and New York State flags by Nick Mazza, Livingston County Administrator and Cynthia Oswald, President of the Livingston County Chamber of Commerce.

January 8, 2009

Volunteers on the January trip were featured in the South Mississippi's Newspaper, the *Sun Herald* with a story "Flag Pole Honors Katrina Volunteers" and photo of the flag raising ceremony at the Woolmarket Little League ball fields.

January 15, 2009

The *Livingston County News* ran a front-page feature story by Sally Fox on "Livingston Cares and

Cares and Cares and Cares," with a group photo of the twenty-five volunteers in front of one of the house projects. An editorial on "Foul Weather Friends," by General Manager and Editor Mark Gillespie praised the work of Livingston CARES and urged the public to continue to support the recovery work in Mississippi.

January 15, 2009

The *Biloxi D' Iberville Press* ran a story about the Livingston County flag pole dedication entitled "New York Volunteers Claim Harrison County." The story reported on the relationship between the two counties and features the flag being flown.

January 22, 2009

The *Livingston County News* featured a photo and "More From Biloxi, Mississippi" on the reported that the volunteers accomplished two weeks of scheduled work in the five workdays.

February 4, 2009

The Livingston CARES Board met to review February, March and May trips. President Matthews reported that CARES has been registered with the New York State Charities Bureau. The board approved joining the Network for Good that will allow online contributions to the organization. Discussion continued on expansion of CARES work with other agencies and possible involvement in the El Sauce Project in Nicaragua.

February 15-21, 2009

Eleven community volunteers from the Central Presbyterian Church and the Philanthropic Chef led by Gary Towsley prepared a jambalaya special for the event. Dominic Mazza, retiring Livingston County Executive was recognized as our Outstanding Community Partner and *Livingston County News* Editor Mark Gillespie and Reporter Howard Appell were recognized with the CARES Building Community Awards. Humanitarian Awards were also presented to trip leaders Dan Dimpfl (May 2008), Tom Wilson (February 2009), Amanda Flannery (March 2009) and Marissa Evarts (March 2009). Elise Arneson was recognized for her service supporting Livingston CARES trips and programs during 2008-2009. Geneseo United Methodist Church participated in the President's Week Livingston CARES work trip to Mississippi. The group worked on reconstructing two homes in East Biloxi.

March 11, 2009

The Livingston CARES board met and reviewed plans for the March and May trips, approved a

layman's version of by-laws for the operation of the organization, heard a presentation from Zach Monahan at Catholic Charities on local work projects, and continued discussion of expanding work opportunities for volunteers.

March 14-21, 2009

Fifty-five volunteers including three professional staff members and 52 SUNY Geneseo Students traveled by bus to Biloxi.

April 6, 2009

Seventy volunteers and donors attended the Livingston CARES Annual Thank You Dinner at the InterFaith Center.

April 14-17, 2009

Student trip leaders, Amanda Flannery and Marisa Evarts, coordinated the Jailbreak fundraiser on the College Green and raised \$900.00 to support the volunteer work trips.

May 6, 2009

The CARES board approved the Guidelines for Project Holding Accounts permitting Livingston CARES to accept funds for humanitarian purposes from groups that have approved projects at SUNY Geneseo. The board also approved the first holding account for the Ghana Project.

May 17-23, 2009

Twenty-eight volunteers spent the week in Mississippi working on houses and projects. The trip leader was Trevor Ramsey-Macomber, a SUNY Geneseo senior on his fourth trip to Biloxi. Two retired local teachers, two professors and one administrator joined the 23 students. Volunteers worked on eight different homes on a variety of projects.

June 17, 2009

The CARES board approved the addition of the Give Kids the World winter break service project sponsored by Dave Parfitt, Director of the Teaching and Learning Center at SUNY Geneseo. The project will be self-sustaining and not require funding from Livingston CARES. Katie Rogers, the 2009-2010 VISTA was elected for a one-year term on the Board of Directors. The *Livingston News* featured a story on "Livingston Cares Volunteer Group Makes 15th Trip to Mississippi" by Howard Appell.

September 23, 2009

The board elected Joan Ellison, Connie Hurlburt, Dan Dimpfl, and Dave Parfitt for three year terms, Elise Arneson for a one-year term and Dan Hart for a two-year term on the board of directors. Kurt Christiansen decided to step down as a board member and was thanked for his service as one of founding directors of Livingston CARES.

November 5, 2009

The *Livingston News* featured a story by Howard Appell on "Livingston Cares Hurricane Relief Still Needed" with information about the 2010 work trips and the fundraising efforts including the haunted house by Alpha Kappa Phi Sorority on Halloween, the Gumbo to Go on November 12 and the December 5 holiday college a cappella concert.

November 12, 2009

The Geneseo Philanthropic Chefs led by Glenn McClure prepared a take-out Gumbo to Go dinner at St. Mary's Parish Hall. Over 200 dinners were sold raising \$2,000.00 for Livingston CARES.

January 3-10, 2010

Twenty-eight volunteers traveled to Mississippi on the 16th Livingston CARES work trip. Volunteers planted a southern live oak tree and dedicated a permanent plaque. The group worked on three different houses on the fifth year of CARES trips to Mississippi.

January 5, 2010

The *Sun Herald* newspaper in Biloxi ran a story by Mary Perez announcing that "Live Oak will Honor New York Volunteers" ceremony on Tuesday and a box telling the readers where and when to attend the event.

January 6, 2010

The *Sun Herald* featured two group photos of the dedication ceremony and a story by Mary Perez titled "Honoring Volunteers on Their 16th Trip to Coast."

January 10-16, 2010

Twelve SUNY Geneseo students volunteered at Give Kids the World Village which houses kids and families who visit Disney World and other attractions through Make a Wish Foundation. Dave Parfitt served as the trip coordinator and leader in Orlando.

January 20, 2010

The CARES board confirmed an earlier unanimous email and voice vote establishing a Haiti Relief

fund to assist in the relief and recovery effort from the earthquake.

January 20, 2010

The *Livingston News* Letters to the Editor included a letter from Christopher Dahl, SUNY Geneseo President, addressing the Haitian earthquake relief and encouraging donations to the CARES Haiti Relief Fund.

February 11, 2010

The *Livingston News* editorial "After Quakes and Storms" by Mark Gillespie connected the Haiti earthquake and Hurricane Katrina work of volunteers and mentioned the CARES trips and the Haiti Relief Fund.

February 12-26, 2010

Eight local community volunteers traveled to Mississippi on the 17th CARES work trip. Dan Young served as the trip coordinator.

March 13, 2010

The Democrat and Chronicle's Good News columnist Jim Memmott reported on his conversations with six January trip volunteers in a story "*Livingston CARES Keeps Promise.*"

March 13-20, 2010

Fifty-four volunteers, including five college administrators and 49 students, traveled to Mississippi by bus on the 18th CARES work trip. During the week, the volunteers split their efforts between the Hope Community development Agency and Camp Victor. Twenty of the volunteers worked at an animal shelter assisting the county caring for abused animals. Several participants have adopted dogs from the facility and Mississippi residents have named a dog "Geneseo." The Harrison County Sheriff presented the volunteers with Honorary Deputy Sheriff Certificates to thank the students and staff for their work. Marissa Evarts, Dan Hart and Katie Rogers served as the trip leaders.

April 15, 2010

Philanthropic Chef Glenn McClure and crew prepared the second Gumbo to Go Take home dinner at St. Mary's Parish Hall as a fundraiser for Livingston CARES. Over 200 tickets were sold and generated over \$2,000.00 income to CARES.

April 26, 2010

The Livingston CARES Board of Directors held its April meeting at the Interfaith Center prior to the Volunteer and Donor Recognition Dinner. Students from Women's Action Coalition and GSTV requested and the board approved an El Sauce Fund to assist volunteers with projects in Nicaragua. The board also approved \$1575.00 from the Haiti Relief Fund to assist two families to resettle from Port au Prince to Borgne, Haiti. Kevin Felter was elected to serve as a student seat on the board of directors. Fly reported that the first Geneseo Goes to Town volunteer day involved seven student groups who worked on projects in seven Livingston County towns. The Volunteer and Donor Recognition Dinner included over 100 participants from work trip volunteers, donors, and board members. Representatives from each of the four Mississippi trips and Give Kids the World shared stories about their experiences. Humanitarian Awards were presented to the trip leaders: Marissa Evarts, Dan Young, Dave Parfitt, Dan Hart, Katie Rogers, and Trevor Ramsey-Macomber. Participants in the dinner contributed \$691.00 to Livingston CARES.

April 27-29, 2010

Livingston CARES student volunteers canvassed faculty, staff, and students to get friends out of jail by contributing to the Jailbreak fundraiser on the College Green.

May 16-22, 2010

Twenty-one volunteers participated in the 19th CARES work trip to Mississippi. Ken Kallio served as trip leader and Amanda Leonard was the student coordinator. During the week, volunteers were split up into three teams. Team one helped to renovate a stucco-sided home located on Division Street. Teams two and three spent the week working on a new build on Roy Street.

June 23, 2010

Board members approved budgets for 2011 Mississippi trips and established per person rates of \$225.00 plus airfare for all participants. All future trips to Mississippi will utilize plane travel; March trips will no longer use a bus. The board also approved the creation of a HEROS project account to serve as a custodial account for donations and expenses associated with the mentoring program coordinated through the Center for Community. The board approved donations from the Haiti Relief Fund for two projects supported by the H.O.P.E. Foundation and Dr. Rose-Marie Chierici. The funds will go help establish a nursery for reforestation and to purchase three teacher boxes to assist teachers who move from village to village educating students in the rural Borgne area of Haiti.

September 15, 2010

The board elected Matt Jordan for a one-year term and Philip Natoli and Lisa Burns to three-year terms on the Board of Directors.

October 15, 2010

Livingston CARES sponsored the third Gumbo to Go Dinner at Central Presbyterian Church and sold 201 tickets and raised \$2,100.00. Chef Glenn McClure supervised the volunteer kitchen staff.

November 17, 2010

Andrew Demonsthenous reported on the Nunda trailer insulation project he supervised under our agreement with Catholic Charities. Board members agreed that all future projects must include waivers and supervision from Catholic Charities. The board approved a special appeal for additional funds to combat the cholera epidemic in Haiti and voted to contribute all remaining funds to purchase water purification kits for the Borgne area of Haiti.

January 9-15, 2011

Twenty-one volunteers participated in the 20th CARES work trip to Mississippi. Tom Matthews served as trip leader. The volunteers were split into four groups. Two groups worked on lead abatement (scrapping and painting in white suits) on one house. The other two groups painted the exterior of a house and another worked on interior demolition of a house and removal of removal. One group also did outside cleanup and two groups worked for two days at a new house painting the entire interior with two coats of paint and installing flooring in the kitchen and two bathrooms.

January 10, 2011

The *SUNY Geneseo* website featured a news brief by David Irwin entitled "Livingston CARES Group on 20th Trip to Gulf Coast for Hurricane Relief Work."

January 10-16, 2011

Twelve volunteers participated in the Give Kids the World trip in Orlando, Florida. Dave Parfitt served as trip leader. Students worked two shifts a day at the Give Kids the World Village with families staying there. During the day, students served meals to families in the Gingerbread House, made banana splits and milkshakes in the Ice Cream Palace, and delivered continental breakfast, sandwiches for lunch, and pizza dinners on a special cart. In addition to serving food, the students participated in all sorts of entertainment activities in the Village including: providing train rides, taking photos with Disney, Universal, and SeaWorld characters, giving makeovers to

children in the spa, and playing with kids and locating stars in the Castle of Miracles. In the evening, students helped in the Kids' Night Out Program. Wish Families drop their children off who are then paired with a volunteer for the evening.

January 27, 2011

The *Lamron* published a news brief by Susan Kaczmarczyk titled "Livingston C.A.R.E.S. sends Volunteers to Gulf Coast for 20th Trip since Katrina." The SUNY.edu website featured the news brief published on SUNY Geneseo's website on January 10th with the title "SUNY Geneseo Group Continues Hurricane Katrina Relief Effort."

February 1, 2011

The *ENCOMPASS* published a news brief entitled "Twenty Volunteer Trips- and Still Going." It includes a photo by Kris Dreessen of Samantha Hatz '12 and Bill Gurtowski '12 helping to build and access ramp for a couple in Biloxi, Mississippi.

February 15, 2011

The *Democrat and Chronicle* gave SUNY Geneseo and Livingston CARES a "Thumbs Up" for completing its 20th trip to the Biloxi/Gulfport, Mississippi area to continue Hurricane Katrina relief work.

February 16, 2011

Updated Livingston CARES governance by-laws and policy statements on whistle blowers, conflicts of interest, annual audit review, and acknowledgement of contribution were approved.

February 24, 2011

The *Lamron* featured an article on a panel discussion hosted by Geneseo's Ghana Project. The discussion featured faculty fellow for international studies Wes Kennison and education professor Glenn McClure. The discussion examined the political and social realities of modern-day Ghana.

March 13-19, 2011

Twenty-eight Livingston CARES volunteers, including 24 students and four staff members participated in the 21st CARES work trip to Mississippi. Matthew Jordan (staff) and Dan Hart (student) served as trip leaders. Team leaders included Theresa Montenarello, Larry Bellamo, Loryn Royer, and Lizzy Johnson. Two groups worked on lead abatement on a house in Moss Point and two groups constructed a backyard fence at a home in D'Iberville.

March 30, 2011

The CARES board approved tax documents prepared by volunteer Julie Matthews for January to June 2010. This was an interim step in the change to a new July 1-June 30 fiscal year. The board also agreed to establish a Japan Relief Fund pending agreement with students from the Japanese Cultural Club at SUNY Geneseo. The fund was established and announced to the faculty, staff and students at the College.

March 31, 2011

The *Lamron* featured a news brief on the Third Annual Ghana Gala that was held March 21, 2011. The event included actors and dancers who brought to life the traditions of Ghanaian culture. This year the Gala raised over \$600.00 dollars.

April 7, 2011

The *Lamron* featured an article by Rebecca Smarcz titled "Livingston CARES to Raise Money with Gumbo Dinner".

April 10, 2011

The *Livingston County News* and the *Genesee Valley Penny Saver* (Livingston Edition) featured advertisements related to the Gumbo to Go dinner on April 15, 2011.

April 14, 2011

The *Lamron* printed a news brief about the Gumbo to Go dinner in their "Goings-On" section. It included information on the purpose of the event and where you can purchase tickets and pick-up your meal.

April 15, 2011

CARES sponsored the fourth Gumbo to Go Dinner and a special a capella concert featuring the Southside Boys at the Central Presbyterian Church. The Gumbo dinner sold 207 tickets and raised \$2,073.00 and the concert raised \$106.50. Chef Glenn McClure prepared the meal and supervised the kitchen staff.

April 26-28, 2011

Student volunteers headed by Dan Hart organized the Jailbreak fundraiser at the College to raise money for Livingston CARES.

May 2, 2011

The annual Livingston CARES Volunteer Thank You Dinner was held at the Interfaith Center. The program included a few stories from each of the last four trips and recognition of volunteers. Gary Towsley and the Geneseo Philanthropic Chefs prepared the meal.

May 15-21, 2011

Twenty-eight volunteers participated in the 22nd work trip to Biloxi. Ken Kallio was the trip leader assisted by students Amanda Leonard and Bennett Marano.

July 8-9, 2011

Livingston CARES participated in the Geneseo Summer Festival with an information table on Main Street.

July 27, 2011

CARES Board voted to expand the board seats from 17 to 19 directors. Erin Bills was elected for a three-year term to represent the Livingston County Coalition of Churches and Brenda Donahue was elected for a three-year term to represent the Livingston County Board of Supervisors.

July 2011

Student Association approved a grant of \$2100.00 to assist students with financial grants for CARES trips to Biloxi.

September 21, 2011

CARES Board approved Flood Relief Fund to assist recovery efforts in the Southern Tier. Twenty-two students in a Saturday work trip to Owego to assist in the cleanup efforts from Tropical Storm Lee. Amy Sheldon from the Geology department and Sean Phillips from InterVarsity Christian Fellowship organized the bus trip in conjunction with Livonia Central School.

November 3, 2011

The Gumbo to Go Dinner at Central Presbyterian Church raised \$2200.00.

November 16, 2011

Board received report on the Gumbo to Go Dinner and the October trips to Owego for Flood Relief. Twenty-two students participated in the bus trip held in conjunction with Livonia Central School.

January 8-15, 2012

Twenty-eight volunteers participated in the 23rd work trip to Mississippi. Tom Matthews and Kevin Felter were the trip leaders. The volunteers worked on two houses in Biloxi, one in Ocean Springs and a fourth in Gulfport.

January 21, 2012

CARES Board approved an application to be an approved non-profit agency for the State Employees Federated Appeal.

March 11-17, 2012

Twenty-eight volunteers participated in the 24th work trip to Mississippi. Luke Haumesser and Lizzy Johnson were the trip leaders. The teams worked on two houses in Biloxi and one team worked at a soup kitchen during a down day with construction.

March 11-17, 2012

Fourteen volunteers from Geneseo and one from Alfred State spent a week working with families at Give Kids the World Village in Orlando. Dave Parfitt and Mindy Benamati were the trip leaders. This was the third Livingston CARES trip to Give Kids the World.

March 22, 2012

The Gumbo to Go Dinner at Central Presbyterian Church raised approximately \$2,000.00.

March 29, 2012

Lamron reporter Chelsea Butkowski reviewed the March spring break trip to Biloxi and shared reflections from students on their volunteer work.

April 16, 2012

The Livingston CARES Annual Corporate Meeting was held in conjunction with the April Meeting of the Board of Directors and the Annual Volunteer Thank You Dinner at the Interfaith Center. Philanthropic Chef Gary Towsley served the traditional Jambalaya Dinner. Dave Parfitt, Joan Ellison and Dan Dimpfl were re-elected for 3-year terms and Chris Crocker was elected for a one-year term on the Livingston CARES Board of Directors. At the dinner, Humanitarian Awards were presented to Larry Bellomo, Mindy Benamati, Kevin Felter, Amanda Leonard, Kellan Morgan and Sean Phillips for their work on trips and projects supported by Livingston CARES.

May 13-19, 2012

Twenty-eight Livingston CARES volunteers on the 25th workweek to Biloxi, Mississippi worked on

four houses and projects. Board member Ken Kallio served as the trip leader.

September 12, 2012

The SUNY Geneseo college race team in the JP Morgan Chase Corporate Challenge at RIT won first place in t-shirt design and donated their \$1,000.00 prize to Livingston CARES.

November 2, 2012

By electronic vote, the board approved the establishment of a Hurricane Sandy Relief and Recovery Fund, working with the Geneseo Foundation and the Chamber of Commerce to assist in the Red Hook area and authorized the board president to negotiate projects and work trips to help in recovery efforts in the New York City area.

November 3, 2012

President Christopher Dahl announced the Hurricane Sandy Fund and invited students, alumni and parents to support the relief and recovery efforts.

November 8, 2012

Gumbo to Go Dinner prepared by Philanthropic Chef Glenn McClure at Central Presbyterian Church raised approximately \$2,000.00.

November 9, 2012

CARES hosted two interest meetings for students interested in volunteering for work trips. Over thirty students expressed interest at the meetings.

November 14, 2012

The board accepted, with regret, the resignations of Cynthia Oswald and Dan Dimpfl from seats on the board of directors. The CARES Board confirmed the electronic vote to establish Hurricane Sandy Relief Fund and authorized the president to move forward with planning of Hurricane Sandy work trips in January and March of 2013.

December 2012

A CARES work trip for the week of January 13-19, 2013 on Staten Island was negotiated with the Jewish Community Center and the Bethel United Methodist Church on Staten Island. Alyssa Stefanese, student GOLD Leader Mentor whose family home on Staten Island was severely damaged, helped organize the trip that was announced in early December. Volunteers were recruited during the last week of classes and finals week.

January 3, 2013

Tools for Red Hook collected at the December retirement party for Chamber of Commerce President Cynthia Oswald were delivered to Greg O'Connell for use in the recovery work in the Red Hook area of Brooklyn. Due to the lack of accommodations and work site supervision in the Red Hook area, the tools were one way that CARES could provide some assistance in lieu of an actual volunteer work week.

January 11, 2013

Board President Matthews and student Alyssa Stefanese met Pastor Matt Schaeffer at the Bethel United Methodist Church and Glenn Wechsler and Hiam Kay at the Jewish Community Center on Staten Island to finalize arrangements for upcoming volunteer work week.

January 13-19, 2013

Nineteen volunteers worked on eight homes devastated by Hurricane Sandy in the New Dorp Beach and Oak Beach area of Staten Island. CARES student board members Matt Bower and Chris Crocker and Alyssa Stefanese assisted Chuck Reyes, trip coordinator. A cover story on the trip appeared in *The Scene* alumni magazine published in late January 2013.

January 13-19, 2013

Twenty-one Livingston CARES volunteers on the 26th work week in Biloxi worked on three houses and assisted HOPE CDA with moving a warehouse and building a float for the Biloxi Mardi Gras parade. Tom Matthews and Zach Bodenweber served as trip coordinators.

January 30, 2013

The board of directors allocated an additional \$1,000.00 to supplement the Student Association Financial grants to be used to assist volunteers with travel expenses and approved a request from Kellan Morgan in El Sauce to fund the building of the La For school from donations received from local contributors during the last several months. The board also approved moving the tornado relief funds to the new Hurricane Sandy Relief Fund.

March 13, 2013

The board of directors approved granting \$1500.00 from the Ghana Project fund to assist in the building a school in Besease, Ghana. The school is a project supported by Dr. Jennifer Rogalsky from the Geography Department at SUNY Geneseo. The board also approved forwarding the \$1440.00 balance in the Nicaragua Microfinance Loan Fund to assist with small business loans in

El Sauce. Funds were collected from the sale of baskets made in El Sauce and sold on campus. The board continued a discussion on appropriate projects or agencies for the Hurricane Sandy Relief funds.

March 17-23, 2013

Twenty-eight volunteers traveled to Biloxi on the 27th Livingston CARES work trip. Luke Haumesser served as the returning veteran trip leader and student board member Matt Andrews served as the student trip coordinator.

March 17-23, 2013

Sixteen volunteers participated in the 2nd Livingston CARES Hurricane Sandy Recovery trip. The volunteers traveled in three vans from Geneseo to Long Island. The teams stayed at the Hicksville United Methodist Church.

April 18, 2013

Gumbo to Go Dinner prepared by Geneseo Philanthropic Chef Glenn McClure was held at Central Presbyterian Church. All proceeds went to Livingston CARES.

April 22, 2013

Livingston CARES Annual Corporate Meeting and April Board of Directors Meeting at the Geneseo Interfaith Center followed by the Annual Spring Volunteer Thank You Dinner. President Dahl was elected as an Honorary Member of the Livingston CARES Board of Directors to honor his strong support and advocacy for CARES programs. Humanitarian Awards for service were approved by the board and presented to Matthew Andrews, Matthew Bower, Josephine Champlin and Lizzy Johnson for their strong commitment and leadership on Livingston CARES trips. Livingston CARES board approved Karen Bailey, Kathleen Jones, Tom Matthews, and Tamara Kenney for three-year terms. Livingston CARES board also approved Phil Natoli for a two year term and one year terms for students: Alyssa Stefanese, Diana Castro, Dan Martin, Christopher Crocker, Zachary Bodenweber, and Kyle Kelschenbach.

April 22, 2013

A Resolution to honor Christopher Dahl was presented to college's president by Livingston CARES board members present at the 2013 Annual Leadership Awards and Recognition Ceremony.

May 19-25, 2013

Fourteen volunteers traveled to Biloxi on the 28th Livingston CARES work trip. Ken Kallio served as the returning veteran trip leader. David Baker and Kelsey Romanowski served as student trip leaders.

May 19-25, 2013

Seven volunteers traveled to Staten Island on the 3rd Livingston CARES Hurricane Sandy Recovery trip. Tim Lowmaster served as the trip leader. The team stayed at Bethel United Methodist Church and worked on the interior reconstruction of a family's home.

June 13, 2013

Livingston County News reporter Howard W. Appell featured Livingston County CARES in an editorial.

September 18, 2013

CARES Board voted to offset the costs for volunteers of the January, March, and May work trips to Biloxi and the January work trip to Staten Island with funds from Livingston CARES' Gumbo to Go and donations from Kiwanis and Student Association. The Board also approved the liability insurance premium payment.

September 25, 2013

Student Association approved Livingston CARES' request and donated \$2100.00 for financial grants and an additional \$90.00 to help reduce the cost of the March work trip to Biloxi. Dave Parfitt hosted a Give Kids the World informational meeting for students interested in the March 2014 trip to Orlando.

October 2, 2013

Livingston CARES Board approved the following policy statement; the officers are authorized to create restricted Livingston CARES charitable gift accounts to accept donations from College departments and make donations to non-profit public charities. All transactions from each specific charitable gift account will be reported to the board of directors on a regular basis and reviewed at each meeting of the board of directors.

October 23, 2013

CARES Board voted to change the volunteer fees for all three Biloxi trips to \$551.60 to help volunteers with travel expenses. Livingston CARES offset these costs with the additional donation

from Student Association and a donation of \$2100.00 from Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society. CARES Board approved a motion to donate \$1500.00 for cots and housing supplies to the Hicksville Church on Long Island, which houses our March work trip volunteers, and \$2500.00 to the Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church to be used for purchasing tools and other supplies to be used by volunteers working on Sandy recovery efforts. The CARES Board approved the filing of the 2012-2013 tax forms.

November 7, 2013

Philanthropic Chef, Glenn McClure, and a dozen other volunteers worked all day at the Central Presbyterian kitchen making Gumbo to Go as a fundraiser for Livingston CARES.

January 12-18, 2014

Twenty volunteers traveled to Biloxi on the 29th Livingston CARES Hurricane Katrina work trip. Tom Matthews served as the returning veteran trip leader and board member Zach Bodenweber served as the student trip leader. The volunteers stayed at Camp SUMA and worked with the HOPE Community Development Agency in Biloxi.

January 12-18, 2014

Seven volunteers traveled to Staten Island on the 4th Livingston CARES Hurricane Sandy Recovery trip. Holly Harvey served as the trip leader and board member Alyssa Stefanese served as the student trip leader. The team stayed at Bethel United Methodist Church and worked with Tunnel to Towers Foundation to renovate three different homes that were severely damaged by Hurricane Sandy.

January 22, 2014

CARES Board voted to donate \$1000.00 to the United Methodist Annual Conference for the Bethel United Methodist Church on Staten Island for the purchase of cots to be used by Hurricane Sandy work trip volunteers on future work trips. CARES voted to support the March 2014 Weekend of Service in Rochester Project proposed by Lynn Horowitz. CARES allocated up to \$25.00 per student participant to assist with housing and other expenses.

January 30, 2014

Lamron reporter Maya Lucyshyn interviewed student board member Alyssa Stefanese about Livingston CARES' volunteer work on Staten Island.

March 16-22, 2014

Twenty-one volunteers traveled to Biloxi on the thirtieth Livingston CARES Hurricane Katrina work trip. Neal Brooks served as the trip leader and student board member Chris Crocker served as the student trip leader.

March 16-22, 2014

Seven volunteers traveled to Long Island on the fifth Livingston CARES Hurricane Sandy Recovery trip. Board member Eddie Lee served as the returning veteran trip leader. Seven volunteers from Logom Landing, a local alternative vocational program, also participated in the trip. Laurel Nelson assisted Eddie Lee in managing the trip.

April 10, 2014

Gumbo to Go Dinner prepared by Geneseo Philanthropic Chef Glenn McClure held at Central Presbyterian Church with proceeds to Livingston CARES.

April 28, 2014

Livingston CARES Annual Corporate Meeting and April Board of Directors Meeting at the Geneseo Interfaith Center followed by the Annual Spring Volunteer Thank You Dinner. Humanitarian Awards for service were approved by the board and presented to Zach Bodenweber, Diana Castro, Chris Crocker, and Kyle Kelschenbach for their strong commitment and leadership on Livingston CARES trips. Livingston CARES board approved Erin Bills, Brenda Donohue, Ken Kallio, Wes Kennison, and Lyle Lehman for three-year terms. Livingston CARES board also approved Holly Harvey for a two year term and one year terms for Eddie Lee and students: Katie Baum, Diana Castro, Dan Martin, Alyssa Stefanese, and Austin Stone. Livingston CARES board also approved 1-year terms for officers: President Tom Matthews Treasurer Lyle Lehman and Secretary Kay Fly. The board accepted Ben Gajewski's letter of resignation with regret and thanks for his service.

May 18-24, 2014

Thirteen volunteers traveled to Biloxi on the 31st Livingston CARES Hurricane Katrina work trip. Board member, Ken Kallio, served as the trip leader.

May 18-24, 2014

Seven volunteers traveled to Staten Island on the 6th Livingston CARES Hurricane Sandy Recovery trip. Peggy Wirth served as the trip leader.

September 9, 2014

The CARES board elected Jon Macko as a new member and the new Secretary of the Board. The CARES Board voted to establish the volunteer fees for the January and May Biloxi trip at \$550.00 and the March Biloxi trip at \$600.00 and to help volunteers on a need basis with travel expenses. The Board also voted to establish the fees for the February Weekend of Service in Rochester at \$20.00 per volunteer. The CARES board also authorized payment of liability insurance.

September 17, 2014

President of the CARES Board, Tom Matthews, and student board member Alyssa Stefanese, presented a reading requesting a \$3000.00 donation from Student Association to offset the cost to Livingston CARES' student volunteers. The first of two readings passed.

September 24, 2014

Student Association approved Livingston CARES' request and donated \$3000.00 for financial grants to help students needing assistance with travel expenses on the Biloxi service trips.

October 21, 2014

The CARES Board approved and appointed trip leaders for the 2015 work trips. The Board also voted to confirm an electronic vote on the October financial report.

November 6, 2014

Philanthropic Chef, Glenn McClure, prepared the semi-annual Gumbo to Go Dinner at Central Presbyterian Church.

January 11-17, 2015

Twenty-one volunteers traveled to Biloxi on the 32nd Livingston CARES Hurricane Katrina work trip. Board President, Tom Matthews, served as trip leader and student board member Austin Stone served as student trip leader.

January 11-17, 2015

Seven volunteers traveled to Staten Island on the 7th Livingston CARES Hurricane Sandy work trip. Tim Lowmaster served as the trip leader.

January 20, 2015

The board appointed Diana Castro as supervising accountant. The Board confirmed an electronic vote approving a proposal from Lagom Landing to collaborate with CARES on a service trip to the Stony Point Conference Center on the Hudson River as another option for students during March

spring break and set the fee at \$100.00 per person. The Board also approved the 2014 tax documents for filing with the IRS. Standing and Ad Hoc Committee appointments were reviewed and approved. Standing Committee Members are as follows. Compliance included Lyle Lehman, Wes Kennison, Joan Ellison and Eddie Lee; Finance and Audit included Lyle Lehman, Jon Macko, and Diana Castro. Scholarship included Tom Matthews and Jon Macko. Nominating included Tamara Kenney, Phil Natoli, Austin Stone, Karen Bailey, and Holly Harvey. Strategic Planning included Ken Kallio, Kathy Jones, Eddie Lee, Dave Parfitt, Brenda Donohue, Dan Martin, Tom Matthews, Tamara Kenney and Holly Harvey; Gumbo to Go included Brenda Donohue and Katie Baum. Annual Dinner included Alyssa Stefanese, Dan Martin, and Erin Bills.

February 20-22, 2015

Seven volunteers participated in the 2nd annual Livingston CARES Weekend of Service in Rochester. Victoria Morales served as student trip coordinator.

March 10, 2015

The CARES Board reviewed the strategic planning committee verbal report on the future of service trips to Mississippi and concurred that CARES should continue our work on the Gulf Coast helping families and communities in the state with the lowest per capita income. Recovery from Katrina will not be the focus of future trips to Biloxi. The fall 2014 SUNY Geneseo SEFA campaign was successful and Livingston CARES will be receiving donations from 22 donors from employees during 2015. Eleven donors were anonymous and eleven were a combination of previous and new donors. The total gift amount of \$1952.00 minus 15% overhead to United Way will be \$1659.20. The Board approved an allocation of \$400.00 to provide CARES t-shirts for the Geneseo Goes to Town service day in April.

March 15-20, 2015

Lagom Landing and five Livingston CARES volunteers teamed up for the first five-day volunteer trip to the Stony Point retreat center. Laurel Nelson served as trip leader.

March 15-21, 2015

Twenty-one volunteers traveled to Biloxi on the 33rd Livingston CARES Hurricane Katrina work trip. Neal Brooks served as the veteran trip leader and student board members Dan Martin and Katie Baum served as the student trip leaders. Seven volunteers traveled to Long Island on the 8th Livingston CARES Hurricane Sandy work trip. Board member Eddie Lee served as the staff trip leader and Brandon Gaylord served as student coordinator.

April 2, 2015

Livingston County News carried a story under their Fundraiser Column, "Gumbo to Go Inspired by Gulf Coast Outreach."

April 9, 2015

Philanthropic Chef, Glenn McClure and fifteen volunteers prepared the twelfth annual Gumbo to Go Dinner. They worked all day at the Central Presbyterian Church. They wore new CARES Gumbo to Go t-shirts. The sell-out dinner raised over \$2,400.00 for Livingston CARES.

April 10, 2015

College photographer, Keith Walters, did an all-day photo shoot at the Gumbo-To-Go dinner and created a photo-essay and YouTube video that was posted as "Gumbo To Go Supports Livingston CARES" on the College website.

April 27, 2015

Livingston CARES Annual Corporate Meeting and April Board of Directors Meeting scheduled at the Geneseo Interfaith Center to be followed by the Annual Spring Volunteer Thank You Dinner.

May 17-23, 2015

Fourteen volunteers travelled to Mississippi for a weeklong service trip after the spring semester had ended. Sam Cardamone served as the leader of the group. Peggy Wirth led a team of six students on a weeklong work trip to Staten Island. Volunteers worked on numerous homes in the borough throughout the week.

July 2015

Student Association approved a grant of \$3,000.00 to offer financial assistance to students participating in service trips with Livingston CARES.

September 2015

Samantha Hebel, Coordinator of Student Leadership, Volunteerism and Service, was appointed as the board's new secretary.

November 12, 2015

Livingston CARES held its annual Gumbo to Go fundraiser at Central Presbyterian Church. Roughly \$2,000.00 was raised and all funds went to supporting CARES.

January 2016

The board approved an account for the Home Away from Home Respite Center project started up by VISTA Alyssa Penn. The board also approved an account for the Bike and Build program that Aiden Cropsey will be participating in this coming summer.

January 10-16, 2016

Livingston CARES celebrated ten years of service in its thirty-fifth trip to Biloxi in January. Tom Matthews and Sam Hebel led a group of twenty-one volunteers to Mississippi. Connie Rocko and the Harrison County Board of Supervisors presented CARES with a plaque and a resolution congratulating and honoring CARES on its tenth anniversary. Lisa Burns led six students on a work trip to Brooklyn over winter break. The group worked closely with Rebuilding Together NYC.

February 19-21, 2016

Student trip leader Rachel Campbell led seven students on the third annual Weekend of Service in Rochester.

March 13-19, 2016

Samantha Hebel led six student volunteers on a service trip to Brooklyn over spring break. Neal Brooks led a group of twenty volunteers on a weeklong service trip to Biloxi and Sarah Yo served as the student trip coordinator.

April 7, 2016

Livingston CARES hosted its yearly Gumbo to Go fundraiser at Central Presbyterian Church. Over 200 dinners were sold at the event.

April 19, 2016

Livingston CARES board members hosted Connie Rockco for a special appreciation dinner at the Big Tree Inn. We presented her with a plaque celebrating the ten years of partnership with Harrison County, Mississippi.

April 25, 2016

The Livingston CARES Annual Corporate Meeting, the April Board of Directors Meeting and the Annual Volunteer Thank You Dinner are scheduled to occur at the Interfaith Center. Philanthropic Chef Gary Towsley prepared the meal for the attendees.

Ten Years of Service

As a recognition and celebration of Livingston CARES' continued service and commitment to Biloxi, Mississippi, the Harrison County Board of Supervisors presented a resolution of thanks to volunteers of Livingston CARES on January 11, 2016.

A RESOLUTION OF THE HARRISON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CONGRATULATING AND HONORING LIVINGSTON COUNTY CARES, INC. ON ITS TENTH ANNIVERSARY

WHEREAS, on September 28, 2005, the Livingston County, New York Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution No. 2005 endorsing the formation of Livingston County Cares, Inc. to assist the citizens of Harrison County in recovery and relief efforts in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina; and

WHEREAS, Livingston County CARES, Inc. is a collaborative effort of groups and organizations throughout the State University of New York at Geneseo, the City of Geneseo and Livingston County, New York; and

WHEREAS, Livingston County CARES is comprised 100% by volunteers; and

WHEREAS, the mission of Livingston County CARES is to help communities and individuals locally, regionally, nationally and globally in humanitarian projects either directly or as a central repository for resources and information for others wishing to contribute to disaster relief; and

WHEREAS, since January 2006, Livingston County CARES has sent approximately 882 volunteers on thirty-four (34) service trips to work on the rehabilitation and reconstruction of homes within the area; and

WHEREAS, the total estimated value of Livingston County CARES volunteer efforts in the community is \$1,115,132.00; and

WHEREAS, in addition to helping residents reestablish their homes, Livingston County Cares has provided immeasurable assistance to the citizens of Harrison County through its participation and assistance in the Livingston County Coalition of Churches Tools for Katrina Project, the Woolmarket Youth Football League, ARC Connection to the Gulf Coast, the Woolmarket Youth Recreation Complex Project, and the Moore Community House; and

WHEREAS, while the stories of Hurricane Katrina have faded, Livingston County CARES continues to provide assistance to those less fortunate in Harrison County; and

WHEREAS, on the tenth anniversary of Livingston County CARES, it is fitting and appropriate that

Harrison County and its citizens express their sincere congratulations and grateful appreciation for Livingston County CARES' unwavering support and continued friendship.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF HARRISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION I. Upon adoption of this Resolution, the Harrison County Board of Supervisors, on behalf of the citizens of Harrison County, expresses its sincere congratulations and grateful appreciation to Livingston County CARES, Inc., on its tenth anniversary for its unwavering support and assistance in recovery efforts in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

SECTION II. A certified copy of this Resolution shall be spread upon the official minutes of Harrison County there to remain as a testament to the many outstanding achievements of Livingston County CARES, Inc.

This all ordered and done this the 11thth day of January, 2016.



Update for El Sauce, Nicaragua Project | *Prepared by Robert Lupisella*

Over the past five years, approximately \$70,000 has been raised by the non-profit organization Linking Hands for Learning, which has resulted in the construction of six elementary schools and one pre-school in the community of El Sauce, Nicaragua. Linking Hands for Learning appreciates the hard work of its numerous partners, including The Enlace Project and Livingston County Cares. All the money that has been donated to the organization has been used to hire masons, purchase building materials, school equipment, and supplies for children.

Linking Hands for Learning recently focused their attention on the mountain community of Las Mercedes, which has approximately one hundred students in their pre-school and elementary grades. Numerous Las Mercedes elementary students attended school in a dilapidated structure which had a failing roof. No preschool building existed, and these children received their instruction in a private home. This project, like the previous projects, was a collaborative effort with the Nicaraguan Ministry of Education (MINED). They pay the salaries of the teachers, and for the construction and installation of the roof. MINED representative Johana Gámez asked Linking Hands for Learning to build a two-room addition for the school in Las Mercedes, a room for the elementary students and a second room for the pre-school students. A contingent of twenty-two volunteers traveled to Nicaragua this past March, and assisted with the construction efforts. At the conclusion of their time there, a special celebration was held. The mayor of El Sauce spoke about how Linking Hands for Learning is making a difference in their community, and how much the efforts to improve basic education are appreciated.



Report on Livingston CARES May 2015

Work Trip to Staten Island | *Prepared by Peggy Wirth*

The May group consisted of six students from SUNY Geneseo and one staff member. The students consisted of three males and three females; the small size of the group led to a great sense of community and camaraderie amongst the members. On Sunday, May 17th, a van departed from Rochester with three students; two of the students had met prior to the trip and the third was an International student from South Korea, who we all met for the first time. The remaining students lived in close proximity to Staten Island and had gone home after classes, so met us at our lodging site. We arrived in Staten Island late in the evening. The group stayed at a Moravian church in the neighborhood of New Dorp. The sight of the church was very impressive to approach; it was a gated group of beautiful buildings, up on a small hill surrounded by a beautifully landscaped cemetery. We stayed in a congregation hall that had a large kitchen and several small upstairs rooms that we used as our bedrooms. The adult leader had her own room, while the students chose to group together in a female and male room. We were provided with cots and some brought air mattresses. The accommodations were great! Meals were prepared by the group in the kitchen after a shopping trip to a local grocery store. Breakfast was usually cereal, we packed lunches each day for our outings on the worksites, and dinners were a wide variety, with individuals sharing their specialties at times. There were times that we stopped and had breakfast or snacks at local delis.

We were under the guidance of Samantha Christian from the New York Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. Our main job was at the home of a mom and her young daughter. We had to demolish an old garage that had been weakened by Hurricane Sandy and was a danger of collapsing. In addition to just removing the garage, we also filled in a large area near their house with gravel and cleaned and landscaped the yard to the best of our abilities. A very rewarding part of this job was the little girl who lived there would often bring us treats at the end of the day. In addition to this job, some of the team went to another house to help sort household belongings. The woman had been living in the house after the hurricane but toxic mold started to grow and she was finally forced to leave. Her belongings were also affected by the water and mold and it was our job to help sort the things she wanted to keep and remove the things she did not. Hazmat suits and masks were used for this job due to the risk of mold exposure at the site. This was a very difficult job because the homeowner was there and very emotional and attached to many possessions she realized she could no longer keep. We had a

third site that some of our workers went to for a few hours but that was mostly yard clean up. We were led during our week by another volunteer named Ben Governale. He was the brother of one of the rescue agency employees and he was very knowledgeable about construction and safety and he was tons of fun!

The trip was wonderful! We worked very hard and we also found some time in the evening to go explore the neighborhood, the cemetery, enjoy ice cream and take a trip to Manhattan. But the best was bonding as a group and knowing we were able to make a little dent in relieving some of the homeowner's worries and frustrations of the devastation Hurricane Sandy brought to them.

Trip Participants

Giovannina Bruno
Danelle Dryden
Sarah Yo

Julianne DeSilva
Daeseok Seo

Andre Doeman
Peggy Wirth*

*Denotes a faculty member/staff member/alumni/community member

Report on Livingston CARES May 2015

Work Trip to Biloxi | *Prepared by Samuel Cardamone*

Thirteen Livingston CARES volunteers met up for a week of recovery work in Biloxi, Mississippi early on Sunday morning. The group flew into New Orleans, Louisiana, where all attendees enjoyed an afternoon of fun in the French Quarter. Following exploring New Orleans, the group arrived at the Back Bay Mission in Biloxi about seven in the evening. The staff at Back Bay Mission were well-prepared for our arrival and we immediately took residence in their beautiful facility. The Livingston CARES group shared the facility with the United Church of Christ (UCC) congregational group from Arlington Heights, Illinois. The accommodations at Back Bay Mission were immaculate with more than enough beds, a washer and dryer, clean bathrooms, and a fully accessible kitchen.

On Monday morning, we received a comprehensive and organized orientation educating the Livingston CARES group as well as the UCC group about the history, facilities, and projects of Back Bay Mission. Our work for the week concentrated on one major construction project and multiple Back Bay Mission local projects. Daily, Back Bay Mission runs the Micah Day Center

which provides a safe and hospitable place for homeless and low-income people to connect to vital services as well as an emergency assistance program which offers financial and material help to people in need. Students each signed up to rotate to assist at the Micah Day Center and to volunteer with the emergency assistance program to complement their work at the construction site. The construction site project involved painting the full exterior of the home, laying flooring throughout, painting all interior walls and ceilings, and bringing the home as close to livable by the time of our departure as possible. The family had been sleeping in their family room for about two weeks when we arrived, and our job was to allow them to resettle into their bedrooms. The story on this house was that the owner, a retired military veteran, had the home repaired in the aftermath of Katrina. The repair work was completed in a shoddy manner and, consequently, needed to be repaired again. Specifically, mold had formed in the walls and under the flooring and needed to be replaced. Overall, the group had a successful and service-filled week in Biloxi.

Trip Participants

Sarah Anstett

Rachel Campbell

Jay Davine

Maydelis Minaya

Katherine Schulz

Craig Bolesky*

Samuel Cardamone*

Kelsey Gramlich

Grey Musilli

Mallory Warner

Brittany Brown

Mary Carroll

Alexis Irwin

Carlos Abreu Santos

*Denotes a faculty member/staff member/alumni/community member

Report on Livingston CARES January 2016

Work Trip to Brooklyn | *Prepared by Lisa Burns*

In January 2016, seven Livingston CARES volunteers travelled to Brooklyn, New York for a week of service. Rebuilding Together NYC, a non-profit dedicated to providing safe and healthy housing options, hosted the projects that the volunteers would be doing that week. The Sheepshead Bay United Methodist Church provided housing accommodations for the group. The team's worksite was located in a home in the Canarsie neighborhood of the borough. They were led by an Americorps leader, a construction foreman and a site supervisor. The basement of the house had dried out after severe flooding and needed to be completely rebuilt. The volunteers

put insulation in the ceiling, pulled nails and staples, mopped up excess water, tore down old wood slats, sheetrocked the walls, removed floor tiles and put up new metal over the course of five days. The volunteers set a fine example for the college in their service and contribution to the borough. It was both a great learning and bonding experience for everyone on the trip.

Trip Participants

Lisa Burns*

Hannah Chase

Abigail Fordyce

Ayano Miki

Phuong Nguyen

Hoang Phuong

Nicole Rowe

*Denotes a faculty member/staff member/alumni/community member

Report on Livingston CARES January 2016

Work Trip to Biloxi | *Prepared by Tom Matthews, Samantha Hebel and Dan Martin*

On Sunday, January 10, 2016, twenty-one volunteers from SUNY Geneseo traveled on Southwest Airlines from Rochester to New Orleans and then by vans to Biloxi, Mississippi. Drivers included Mike Sauter, Samantha Hebel and Tom Matthews. Traveling with the volunteers were two staff members, Kris Dreessen, Manager of Editorial Services for College Advancement and Keith Walters, College Photographer, who were on assignment to document the Livingston CARES 35th service week trip and the 10th anniversary of humanitarian work in Mississippi since Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

All three van teams went grocery shopping at Walmart in Diberville and enjoyed a quick meal at a local popular Sonic restaurant before arriving around 8:30 pm at 1012 Division Street and the Back Bay Mission that would be our home for the week. Alumnus Dan Ward, Class of 1987, traveled separately from Charlotte, North Carolina and joined us for the first night orientation with the Back Bay Mission volunteer coordinator, Jeanette Tangeman. Our 35th trip was the fifth time that CARES volunteers stayed at the Back Bay Mission. There were no other groups in residence that week which enabled us to plan meals and activities more easily throughout the week. Everyone pitched in to make our first breakfast on Monday morning in time to meet with Craig Steenkamp and the staff supersizing the projects for the week.

Later in the morning, we drove over to the Harrison County Court House in Biloxi to attend a meeting of the Harrison County Board of Supervisors. In 2006, our very first team of volunteers attended that same meeting to present a resolution stating our commitment to offer help for 10 years to the people of Harrison County in the recovery efforts from Hurricane Katrina. Connie Rocko, one of the five supervisors who was also at the 2006 meeting, read a resolution of thanks for the ten years of service that Livingston CARES has provided to residents of Harrison County. We accepted the framed resolution and shared with the audience that Livingston CARES and SUNY Geneseo will continue our annual service trips to help low-income families in Biloxi. The local media reported the event on two local television stations and student trip leader Dan Martin and Tom Matthews appeared on the Wednesday afternoon news show with Natalie Campen at WLOX, the local NBC/Fox affiliate, to briefly share the Livingston CARES story.

After the ceremony at the Court House, the teams returned to the Back Bay Mission to help clear an area of small trees and brush since the cold weather precluded a scheduled house painting project. Later in the afternoon, we spent a couple of hours at the Biloxi Museum learning about Biloxi and viewing a film on Hurricane Katrina.

Our host, the Back Bay Mission has existed for over ninety years and has been serving low income families and engaged in social justice issues throughout its existence. Our volunteers were able to take turns throughout the week working in the Micah Day Center for the homeless that provides weekday services such as meals, showers, access to washers and driers to do laundry, and assistance with job applications to nearly seventy homeless men and women in Biloxi. Volunteers also had opportunities to work in the Back Bay food pantry that is managed by a former Livingston County, New York employee. Each morning volunteers also helped prepare and serve breakfast and lunch at Loaves and Fishes at 610 Water Street that serves low-income and homeless people in Biloxi. Virtually every one of our volunteers commented on how much these experiences affected their perspective and understanding of poverty issues.

On day two, the entire group worked on Dolores Barra's home at 344 Porter Avenue, just a couple of blocks from Back Bay Mission. The entire one story house was given two complete coats of paint during this one day project. After work on Tuesday, all the volunteers met with Reverend Dr. Alice Graham, Executive Director of Back Bay Mission and several department heads to learn about the history and the work of Back Bay Mission. The next day, the group worked on Karen Dronet's home at 340 Heise Street. The project included removing siding and old insulation. On Wednesday night, all three vans competed to see who could get the highest and lowest combined scores at a local bowling alley. On Thursday, we returned to the house with the intention of installing new insulation and siding but the city inspector had put a hold on that

work until plumbers and electricians could fix some problems with the house. The remainder of the morning was spent wrapping the outside of the house in Tyvek to prevent moisture damage until the next team of volunteers arrive to work on the house. We took the afternoon off to visit the Jefferson Davis House and Museum to learn about the Confederacy as well as other local attractions. On Thursday evening, supervisor Connie Rockco hosted our group at a delicious traditional southern fried dinner at the Woolmarket Recreational Complex. Friday was our final day of work at Back Bay Mission that involved moving furniture, taping fixtures and giving the men's and women's bunk rooms two complete coats of fresh paint. That night, we drove over to Ocean Springs to enjoy a delicious southern barbeque meal at The Shed. Later in the evening, we enjoyed stories and reflections on the week at the traditional bonfire on the Biloxi Beach.

On Saturday morning, we were up early to pack the cars and get on the road to New Orleans to enjoy a couple of hours at Jackson Square and the French Quarter and some beignets and coffee. Then it was back to the airport and a long day of travel back to Rochester and Geneseo. It was a great ending for the 35th Livingston CARES service trip to Biloxi.

Trip Participants

James Arcidiacono
Kris Dreessen*
Nicole Hazlett
Alycia Langworthy
Kathleen O'Brien
Nicole Ralbovsky
Evan Walsh
Kristin Youngs

William Blasland
Mitchell Gillard
Samantha Hebel*
Daniel Martin
Nicole Peinkofer
Michael Sauter*
Keith Walters*

Rebecca Caracciolo
Catherine Griffin
Ayako Kaneko
Tom Matthews*
Taylor Powers
Carly Tribby
Daniel Ward*

*Denotes a faculty member/staff member/alumni/community member

Dan Martin reflected on his volunteer experience during his undergraduate years. He said, "Livingston CARES has truly been life changing for me. As I wrapped up my last of three trips to Biloxi, I thought about the experience that I have had, being able to open myself up to a whole new world and way of living. It has truly been an honor to be able to give back to such a great community and organization. I've been able to grow as a person and find a passion. I hope that I can continue my work with Livingston CARES as an alumni and stay connected to an organization and area that has given me so much."

Report on February 2016 Weekend of Service in Rochester | *Prepared by Rachel Campbell*

The Rochester Weekend Retreat was not merely an ordinary service trip and an unforgettable experience, but it was also a time of self-reflection. As soon as we arrived, the Sisters of St. Joseph welcomed us with open arms, and we all had the chance to get to know one another over a warm pasta dinner. After supper, we headed to a little chapel room where we participated in an open reflection time where we contemplated our reasons for going on the trip and what our hopes and expectations were. This meditative time helped shed light on our purpose for being there, and also prepared us for the service work we were about to perform.

The second day was spent mainly at the service sites; two volunteers headed off to Morningstar, a home for disabled and hard-to-place children, while the rest of us went to Bethany House, a home for women and their children who are homeless or abused. At Bethany House we were given an introduction into the purpose of the home and how it functioned, and then we jumped right into work from cleaning the attic to organizing the back porch pantry. This may seem like menial labor, but it was work that needed to be done and the women were so thankful and overjoyed that the volunteers came to help make their friendly abode a little bit homier. One of the highlights of the trip was sitting down to tea and cookies at the end of our shift and having the opportunity to talk with and hear the stories of some of the women at the shelter. It was truly a heartfelt and enlightening moment, and many of the volunteers expressed desires to return in the future.

On the last day of the retreat, the Sisters sent us out with a hearty breakfast, and we spent one last time together in fellowship. We had a religiously and non-religiously inclusive reflection time to remind us of the reason for coming on the trip, to discuss our personal experiences and what we received from the trip, along with what we are going to do with that insight after we leave. We also discussed the string that connects the world's religions, mainly the emphasis on justice and kindness to others, and we focused on how we can become more united as human beings in such a very chaotic and divided world. With the devotion time over, it was time to head back to SUNY Geneseo; even though it was only one brief weekend, it was one that we all will surely hold very dear to our hearts.

Trip Participants

Alison Baker

Rachel Campbell

Scott Cassidy

Abigail Fordyce

Stephanie Jacob

Joseph Kim

Ayano Miki

Maria Remillard

Udeshi Seneviratne

Elizabeth Spizuoco

Colleen Steward

Report on Give Kids the World March 2016

Alternative Break Trip | *Prepared by Dave Parfitt*

Give Kids The World (GKTW) is the whimsical, non-profit resort in Kissimmee, Florida where children with life-threatening illnesses stay with their families when they have a wish to visit Walt Disney World, Universal Studios, SeaWorld, or anything related to Central Florida. Founded in 1986 by Holocaust survivor Henri Landwirth, GKTW allows families to escape for one week on a cost-free restorative vacation.

After seven years, the excitement for our annual trip to GKTW Village is just as strong as ever, not an itch in site. Our trip ran from March 12 – 20, and each day 13 college students and myself worked as hard as we could to bring a smile or two to children’s faces. Arriving in Orlando, we headed to GKTW for a tour and to learn about the history of the Village. A couple of the students who had been on the trip in previous years were a bit emotional to be back, and everyone was excited to get started with our work in the Village the next day. After meeting their shuttle to the airport at 3:45am, flying to Orlando, visiting GKTW, etc., the group crashed hard Saturday night, and were asleep by 9:00pm (if not earlier). How’s that for breaking college spring breaker stereotypes? Our first volunteer shift on Sunday, March 13 started before 8:00am, and we lost an hour for daylight savings time as well. However, there were no complaints about piling into the vans at 7:20am to head to the Village. We were spread throughout GKTW our first morning, some in the Castle of Miracles, a couple on the carousel, a few on Lori’s Magical Flight, and myself – I drove J.J.’s Express.

One of the last families to ride the train that first morning was an alumni family. Mom and Dad were returning with their little boy, perhaps 6 years old, and they were showing him where they had come for a special vacation with their daughter. “Sissy rode this train too,” Mom said to the son as he rang the bell in the train engine. You could tell this was an emotional journey for mom. After the ride was over, she thanked me, and the son reached out his hand and gave me a

quarter. My first-ever tip in all my years of volunteering at GKTW! I thanked him, but asked him to keep his quarter.

Monday, March 14 we pulled double shifts at Give Kids The World. In the morning we assisted families with character photos, carousel rides, and the best shift of all... the Castle of Miracles. The Castle of Miracles is one of the most impactful venues at GKTW. It's attached to the carousel, and contains a ceiling adorned with thousands of twinkling golden stars. Each star for one of the wish children that has stayed at the Village, and volunteers help wish children receive their stars as well as returning alumni families find previous stars placed on the ceiling.

After spending all morning at the Village, we were back at it that evening for Mayor Clayton's Hare-Raising Halloween Party. Wish kids dressed up to trick-or-treat, played games, and there were even special appearances by Star Wars characters and animals from SeaWorld. Our group got into the Halloween spirit with a group costume, Things 1 - 14. The morning of Tuesday, March 15, we had a team-building activity at Orlando Tree Trek - three hours spent of climbing, swinging, and zip-lining through the Kissimmee canopy. After a quick change, it was back to the Village to staff venues such as the La Ti Da Spa, Ice Cream Palace, and more. Wish families started to recognize us, and we were developing a connection with them as well. After a free day on Wednesday to play in the parks, we headed back to the Village on a 90 degree St. Patrick's Day for Winter Wonderland - GKTW's weekly Christmas celebration. Our last "official" shift at GKTW was a service project where we washed the cars and golf carts for the Village, but first we presented a special gift for our friends. Not only did the students donate their time over spring break to work in the Village, but they also raised money and presented a check for \$622.00 to Give Kids The World. On Saturday, March 19, it was time to say good-bye to GKTW. Quite a few tears were shed as we shared our final reflections on the week, and as we drove through the gate, it started to rain for the first time all week. Perhaps the Village was sad to see us go too?

Trip Participants

Anna Biuso
Salmata Kaba
Maria Panzetta
Alyssa Signor
Travis Wheeler

Ashley Buttice
Ryan Kirrane
Stephanie Resila
Alicia Skowronski
Jia Wen Zhu

Apaula Islam
David Parfitt*
Brittney Richardson
Victoria Starr

*Denotes a faculty member/staff member/alumni/community member

Report on Livingston CARES March 2016

Work Trip to Brooklyn | *Prepared by Samantha Hebel*

On Sunday, March 13, 2016, four students and the trip leader drove from Geneseo down to the Junction in Brooklyn. A student traveling from Plattsburgh and a student traveling from her family home in Long Island met the team in Brooklyn. In the Junction area of Brooklyn, we met our housing coordinator, Gillian Prince. Gillian is part of NYAC Disaster Recovery Ministries. We did not work with their organization, but they provided us housing. Our original housing option fell through so we were sent to stay at Vanderveer Park United Methodist Church. The church secretary, Gail, also met us at the church and showed us around our home for the week. Our group was staying in the Vanderveer gym on cots and had access to a fully stocked kitchen to prepare meals as well as our own bathroom and shower area. The best part of the location was a Target located just a block away, which made daily shopping trips an easy task.

Our work site for a majority of the week was 8616 Avenue N in Canarsie. Our partner for our service projects was Rebuilding Together NYC, and we had a great time working with them. Our group worked on the same house as the January Livingston Cares group so it was exciting to see their progress and to be able to add to what had been done by our groups a couple months prior. The home had been damaged in Hurricane Sandy so the basement had been gutted and most of the support beams had become moldy so the walls had to be replaced. Our team was primarily working on placing drywall. We were able to finish putting up drywall in almost the entire basement. We left one partial wall clear to check for a dripping issue as well as another short wall that was forming the bathroom so the contractors would be able to replace the toilet and sink and fix plumbing. In addition, we were able to build two partial walls from nothing and spent time taping and mudding all of the walls. The group developed a great relationship with the staff at Rebuilding Together. Monday through Thursday, we worked with Jim Ryan, Site Supervisor, as well as Asea Thompson, an AmeriCorps VISTA and Project Coordinator.

Wednesday was a half-day so the group went to the Red Hook neighborhood of Brooklyn to meet with Maddy Smith, Project Coordinator of the Red Hook Development Program. Maddy spoke with the group about the new relationship with Geneseo and what opportunities are and will be available in Red Hook. She also took the time to show us around Red Hook and chatted with the students over dinner. Unfortunately, Thursday also became a fairly short day. The homeowners forgot to unlock their basement for us to get to work and no one was able to connect with the owners. We waited outside the house for two hours then were released. To

make the best of our day, the group chose to walk along the boardwalk at Coney Island then went to Manhattan. The group was disappointed we were unable to finish all of our incredible progress on the house, but they enjoyed having some time to explore the city a little more.

Our final day of service was not spent working on the house. Instead, the group focused on the Light It Up program that Rebuilding Together has established. For Friday, we were able to work with two other Rebuilding Together staff members: Terry Scott, Director of Construction, and Laura Christensen-Garcia, AmeriCorps VISTA and Program Coordinator. Rebuilding Together has a mission for safe and healthy homes and neighborhoods. The Light It Up program offers free solar-powered lights to anyone who would like one. These lights are intended to illuminate dark corners or entryways of homes and porches to increase safety of homes and neighborhoods. After being trained on the program and installation of the lights, our group was able to install lights on 9 homes in Canarsie. The group had a really great experience and loved the work we were able to do on the house and in the neighborhood. We had the ability to meet many individuals in the community and learned a lot about the area as well as Hurricane Sandy. Unanimously, the group decided to travel back to Geneseo on Friday after work instead of traveling back Saturday morning. After dropping three students at the station for their own individual travel plans, the remaining group of four made it back to Geneseo safely. Everyone had a highly positive experience and some students are even trying to connect with Rebuilding Together to volunteer over the summer or on other breaks.

Trip Participants

Parvina Amirkulova

Samantha Hebel*

Stephanie Jacob

Hang Nguyen

Amanda Paratore

Udeshi Seneviratne

Phuong Ta

*Denotes a faculty member/staff member/alumni/community member

Report on Livingston CARES March 2016

Work Trip to Biloxi | *Prepared by Neal Brooks*

Early on Sunday, March 13th, twenty-one eager participants in the Livingston County CARES trip to Biloxi, Mississippi met at the Rochester airport. The service group looked a bit somber as they boarded the plane from an early departure and from upstate New York.

Fortunately, our long day of travel to Biloxi greeted us with beautiful sunshine, a comfortable breeze, and warm temperatures. The warm weather and ocean breeze seemed to invigorate the group, setting a welcomed pace for our entire week of service. Our first step in Biloxi was spent acclimating and exploring the Back Bay Mission facilities. The first night was filled with warm greetings from the staff of Back Bay Mission and even more so from a United Church of Christ group joining us for the week from Michigan. Our orientation included a glimpse into opportunities to volunteer at the mission's homeless center as well as their food bank and a local soup kitchen.

The first morning we started our day with some stretching and yoga led by Corrin Spallone and Lexi Sammler. After loading up the work trucks we learned that we would be spending the week as a large group all working at the same house. We arrived at 340 Haise Street to see a house in need of a new roof, a fresh coat of paint, removing and rebuilding a large shed, and removing a considerable amount of debris on the property. Our first day of work left a strong impression with Back Bay in addition to the other group. Our students enthusiastically and efficiently cleared out the debris and old shed that morning, clearing the site for construction. Through the course of the week we were able to see the house transform with a clean yard, a fresh coat of "dried thyme" colored paint, a brand new shed, and roof. For a day and a half later that week, our group also had the opportunity to visit and prep a house that Back Bay was building to be sold to low-income families. Our students were tasked with finishing up some framing, roof preparation, and organizing the site.

In addition to our work on Haise Street, each day we had a handful of student volunteers who remained at Back Bay to work in their food pantry and the Micah Day Center, which provides a safe place for the homeless population to shower and receive mail. In addition to the Micah Day Center and food pantry, we also sent several volunteers to Loaves and Fishes to help prepare and distribute meals to the homeless population of Biloxi. The volunteers who worked these shifts said that the opportunity and experience of speaking with the mission's patrons was amazing and impactful. They shared with the rest of the team the great conversations and interactions that they had shared with the locals.

While we worked each day, the students also had an opportunity to spend each night exploring the beaches, museums, and sites around Biloxi. Our first night we held a walking tour of the Hurricane Katrina and Camille monuments. As our group walked, they took in the monuments and many remaining vacant lots where houses had once stood. After a long but extremely productive first day, the walk seemed to solidify the group's passion to make a difference in their time at Biloxi. While the first night set a serious tone for the mission behind

the trip, the remainder of the week allowed for more time relaxing after the workday with time spent at the beach, local shops and museums. We were even fortunate enough to have a free Saturday that we spent in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Our group spent a considerable amount of time reflecting as a group on the week. Sharing discoveries, insights, interactions, and gratitude, this group found one element above everything else to “make” their trip. This week of service was spent side-by-side with the Michigan United Church of Christ group, a collection of ten retirees on a mission trip. Within the first day together, our groups were inseparable. Our group viewed them as the experienced and spirited support and they affectionately referred to our group as their grandchildren. Already, this week of work together has become a lasting connection with continued talk via Facebook and email.

Trip Participants

| | | |
|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Kailah Andersen | Janna Babad | Lawrence Bean |
| Bridget Beermann | Neal Brooks* | Emily Collyns |
| Hannah Fabiny | Chloe Forsell | Kathryn Geen* |
| Kayleigh Jones | Jamie Keel | Courtney Owen* |
| Alexis Quinones | Alexis Sammler | Taylor Smithers |
| Corrin Spallone | Fabian Thompson | Xavier Vargas |
| Adam Wegman | Nicholas Whittel | Sarah Yo |

*Denotes a faculty member/staff member/alumni/community member

Shortly after returning to Geneseo, Livingston CARES received an email from two of the volunteers from the United Church of Christ group, whom the CARES group was joined by in March.

Dear Dr. Thomas Matthews and Dr. Leonard Sancilio,

Several weeks ago, while my wife and I were participating in the various volunteer programs at Back Bay Mission in Biloxi, we came into contact with 24 students and their advisors from Geneseo. We shared with them both on the various work sites as well as interacting with them during meals and other times in the volunteer center. We were very impressed with this group of young persons. They were diligent in working together, doing their best to help and eager to learn new skills. They never complained about how dirty nor about the degree of difficulty of the tasks they faced. Even when they discovered a snake and a large nest of obnoxious critters

(roaches) as they were removing junk from a shed they eventually tore down, they continued the task at hand. Beyond all that, and even more impressive, was how well they shared with each other, never used offensive language and were polite with those with whom they came into contact. We often heard the words please and thank you. It was our joy to share and work with them during the week. These are the kind of young persons we seldom hear about even though we believe they are a distinct majority among the late teen and early twenty age group. We left Back Bay Mission reassured of our faith in the youth of today. Blessings to you and your staff.

-The Rev. Dr. Doyle and Marian Luckenbaugh

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| Benjamin & Jeanette Atkinson | Chris Leforce | Edward J. & Linda L. Kappen |
| Bert A. Brinkerhoff | Christina Consas | Edward Lepokowski |
| Betsy L. Colon | Christopher D. & Melissa C. Jacobs | Elizabeth & Gary Albert |
| | Clipson & Melinda Class | Elizabeth & Michael Pollard |
| | Coler Natural Insulation | |

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Elizabeth Henderson | James E. & Jean E. Vokes | Tompsett |
| Ellen Weber | James P. & Nancy R. | Kimberly Van Camp |
| Employees of the Don Allen Agency | Morgan | Kirk & Karen Vanderbilt |
| Eric & Erin Leuschner | Jane E. Matejck | Kiwanis Club of Geneseo |
| Erin Lupisella | Janet Bird | Kristal Mosher |
| Fire Station Service | Janet S. Meaney | Kristen A. & Michael Murphy |
| Frank & Cathleen Lupisella | Janet Somes | Kristin M. & Shawn P. Hughes |
| Frank Csapo | Janna Wilber | Laura & Chris Bond |
| Franklynn M. & Carole S. Stephenson | Jaunita Sinisgalli | Laura Barcos |
| Gardner & Molly Low | Jeanne & Whitney Abbot | Laura H. & Samuel J. Villanti |
| Geneseo Rotary Club Inc. | Jen Beaven | Laurel D. Nelson |
| Glenda Nothnagle | Jennifer & Brian Shannon | Leslie Barkin |
| Glenn N. & Maria L. Clark | Jennifer M. Robie | LindaBeth Nichols |
| Gregoria Lopez | Jeremy A. Stillman | Lisa A. Bouchard |
| Gregory & Tonia Borrosch | Jerome D. & Kimberly A. Dougherty | Lisa Leonard |
| Guy & Isabelle Lupisella | Jessica M. Pierce | Lorie & Frederick Helmbold |
| Harold & Mary F. Cole | Jessica Scannell | Manor School |
| Harvey Davidson Sales 52 | John & Beth Kingston | Margery Saunders |
| Helen A. Zamboni | John & Mary McDonald | Margery Wilkie |
| Holly Mullin | Joyce R. & Calvin A. Lathan | Marie C. Fitzsimmons |
| Holly Zehns | Juanita Sinisgalli | Mark D. Evans DBA |
| Honeoye Falls Lima Central School | Judith & John Averill | Mark Lupisella |
| Honeoye Falls Lima Manor School | Judy Brie | Marlene Hamilton |
| Honeoye Falls Mendon Rotary | Kara Purcell Walsh | Mary Ann Fink |
| Hurricane Technologies Inc. | Kara Walsh | Mary Ann J. & Robert S. Thompson |
| Jacqueline C. Lum | Karen L. Parkhurst | Mary Averill |
| James & Rebecca Corcoran | Katherine M. & Harold C. Joint | Mary Averill |
| James A. & Joan Reynolds | Katie Ellsworth | Jason & Audrey Taylor |
| | Keith W. Baker | Mary E. & Richard J. Stanton |
| | Kelley Tonra | |
| | Kelli H. & David C. Conner | |
| | Kevin W. & Susan E. | |

| | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Marybeth & Paul Then | Pat & Sandra Argentieri | Rode Homes, Inc. |
| Matthew & Shauna Decker | Patricia & William | Rodger & Nancy Boone |
| Matthew H. & Donna B. Getchell | Christiano | Roger D. & Nicole Stewart |
| Maureen & Eugene O'Connor | Patricia L. Conrad | Roger S. & Margaret M. Converse |
| Maureen Coen | Patrick J. & Barbara A. McCormick | Ron & Joyce Peterson |
| Melissa & Chris Arber | Paul & Margaret Wutz | Rosemary McEwen |
| Melissa Marquez | Paul M. & Erinna Kowhai Chen | Rosemary Wahl |
| Michael & Jean Arlauckas | Paul T. & Michele Kavanaugh | Russell & Kathleen Thomas |
| Michael Anuszkiewicz | Peter H. & Eri H. Spaulding | S C. & M S. Pilotte |
| Michael F. Decillis | Phil Palumbo | Samantha J. Durfee |
| Michael R. & Annie M. Shannon | Philip P. & Jeanne G. Carlivati | Sara E. Kuehl |
| Michele C. Brothers | Phyllis & James Hagen | Scott S. & Kathleen A. Converse |
| Michelle & Chris Vincent | Raeil Barlow | Scott Zollon |
| Michelle Cosner | Ray Cook | Shannon Richmond |
| Michelle s. Doreen | Rebecca & Thomas Stewart | Skaneateles Rotary Foundation |
| Michelle Short | Richard Gagnier, M.D | St. Catherine's Church |
| Mickey Greenwich | Richard J. & Deborah L. Oberhhofer | St. Pius Tenth Community |
| Mike Zuber | Rick & Jennifer Boor | Stephanie A. & Timothy C. Heywood |
| Milagros Olivo Oette | Rikki Van Camp | Stephanie A. Livingston-Heywood |
| Mildred Dobbs Zemans | Rob Sanford | Steven E. Durfee |
| Monique Liberti | Robert G. & Virginia A. House | Student Association |
| Mr. & Mrs. Aaron Naber | Robert L. & Sandra A. DeBruycker | Susan B. Allison |
| Mr. & Mrs. Corey | Robert M. & Margaret A. Doggett | Susan C. Parker |
| Mr. & Mrs. Trubisky | Robert T. & Jeanine S. Lupisella | Sylvia & Patrick Quinn |
| Nader & Jila Asgary | Robin W. Hall & Bruce Hall | Sylvia Schaller |
| Nancy & Kevin Bellimer | | Tammy & Greg Brown |
| Nancy J. Chirico | | The Parker Guest House |
| Nancy Marquez | | The Smile Exchange |
| Nipa & Mark E. Armbruster | | Theresa M. McGrath |
| Olivia MacDonald | | |
| Parent Teacher Association | | |

Thomas & Elizabeth
Matthews

Thomas J. & Laurie A.

Vonglis

Thomas Joslin

Thomas Lagrou

Tim & Erika O'Brien

Timothy & Mary McMahon

Timothy L. & Kathleen E.

Wahl

Timothy P. & Mary R.

McMahon

Todd E. & Joanne M. Weber

Tracey Rose Cook

Tracy Stoltz

Tristar Flooring Group, Inc.

Vanetta Parshall

Virginia & Dennie Floss

Warren & Kelly Geiger

Webster Central School
District

William Brower

William C. Stock

William G. & Debra Cook

William Vergo

Board of Directors 2015-2016

Tom Matthews, President
Samantha Hebel, Secretary
Lyle Lehman, Treasurer
Karen Bailey
Erin Bills
Brenda Donohue
Joan Ellison
Brandon Gaylord
Mitchell Gillard
Holly Harvey
Kenneth Kallio
Tamara Kenney
Wes Kennison
Eddie Lee
Daniel Martin
Victoria Morales
Phil Natoli
David Parfitt
Sarah Yo

Livingston CARES Trips History

| Livingston CARES Trips | | | | | |
|---|------------------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| Hurricane Katrina Trips | | | | | |
| Dates | # of Participants | # of Students | # of Community | # of Faculty/ Staff/ Alumni | |
| January 4-10, 2006 | 33 | 14 | 15 | 4 | |
| March 10-18, 2006 | 55 | 51 | 0 | 4 | |
| May 21-27, 2006 | 8 | 5 | 2 | 1 | |
| January 7-13, 2007 | 20 | 13 | 4 | 3 | |
| February 18-24, 2007 | 23 | 0 | 23 | 0 | |
| March 10-17, 2007 | 49 | 44 | 1 | 4 | |
| May 16-23, 2007 | 16 | 10 | 0 | 6 | |
| January 5-12, 2008 | 25 | 19 | 3 | 3 | |
| February 16-23, 2008 | 10 | 0 | 9 | 1 | |
| March 14-22, 2008 | 55 | 51 | 0 | 4 | |
| May 18-24, 2008 | 15 | 8 | 5 | 2 | |
| January 3-10, 2009 | 25 | 13 | 6 | 6 | |
| February 15-21, 2009 | 11 | 0 | 11 | 0 | |
| March 14-21, 2009 | 55 | 52 | 0 | 3 | |
| May 17-23 2009 | 28 | 23 | 2 | 3 | |
| January 3-10, 2010 | 29 | 18 | 6 | 5 | |
| February 12-16, 2010 | 8 | 0 | 9 | 8 | |
| March 13-20, 2010 | 59 | 54 | 0 | 5 | |
| May 16-22, 2010 | 20 | 17 | 1 | 2 | |
| January 9-15, 2011 | 27 | 20 | 3 | 4 | |
| March 13-19, 2011 | 28 | 24 | 0 | 4 | |
| May 15-21, 2011 | 27 | 20 | 2 | 5 | |
| January 8-15, 2012 | 28 | 23 | 3 | 2 | |
| March 13-19, 2012 | 28 | 24 | 0 | 4 | |
| May 13-19, 2012 | 27 | 22 | 3 | 2 | |
| January 13-19, 2013 | 21 | 18 | 2 | 1 | |
| March 11-17, 2013 | 28 | 24 | 0 | 4 | |
| May 19-25, 2013 | 14 | 12 | 0 | 2 | |
| January 12-18, 2014 | 20 | 18 | 0 | 2 | |
| March 16-22, 2014 | 21 | 17 | 0 | 3 | |
| May 19-24, 2014 | 13 | 12 | 1 | 1 | |
| January 11-17, 2015 | 21 | 16 | 1 | 4 | |
| March 15-21, 2015 | 21 | 18 | 1 | 2 | |
| May 17-23, 2015 | 13 | 11 | 1 | 1 | |
| January 10-19, 2016 | 23 | 17 | 0 | 6 | |
| March 13-19, 2016 | 21 | 18 | 0 | 3 | |
| May 15-21, 2016 | 14 | 12 | 1 | 1 | |
| Summary: 37 Trips | 939 | 718 | 105 | 115 | |
| Hurricane Sandy Trips to Staten Island/Long Island/Brooklyn | | | | | |
| | # of Participants | # of Students | # of Community | # of Faculty/ Staff/ Alumni | |
| January 13-19, 2013 | 19 | 12 | 2 | 3 | |
| March 12-17, 2013 | 16 | 8 | 6 | 2 | |
| May 19-25, 2013 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 1 | |
| January 12-18, 2014 | 7 | 6 | 1 | 0 | |
| March 16-22, 2014 | 14 | 7 | 6 | 1 | |
| May 18-24, 2014 | 7 | 6 | 0 | 1 | |
| January 11-17, 2015 | 7 | 6 | 0 | 1 | |
| March 15-21, 2015 | 7 | 6 | 1 | 0 | |
| May 17-23, 2015 | 6 | 5 | 0 | 1 | |
| January 10-19, 2016 | 7 | 6 | 0 | 1 | |
| March 13-19, 2016 | 7 | 6 | 0 | 1 | |
| May 15-21, 2016 | 5 | 4 | 0 | 1 | |
| Summary: 12 Trips | 102 | 71 | 17 | 13 | |
| Give Kids the World | | | | | |
| | # of Participants | # of Students | # of Community | # of Faculty/ Staff/ Alumni | |
| January 10-16, 2010 | 13 | 12 | 1 | 1 | |
| January 10-16, 2011 | 13 | 12 | 1 | 1 | |
| March 11-17, 2012 | 14 | 13 | 0 | 1 | |
| March 11-17, 2013 | 14 | 13 | 0 | 1 | |
| March 16-22, 2014 | 14 | 13 | 0 | 1 | |
| March 14-21, 2015 | 14 | 14 | 0 | 0 | |
| March 13-19, 2016 | 14 | 13 | 0 | 1 | |
| Summary: 7 Trips | 96 | 90 | 2 | 6 | |
| Other Trips | | | | | |
| | # of Participants | # of Students | # of Community | # of Faculty/ Staff/ Alumni | |
| 2008 March Ohio River Outing Club Trip | 20 | 20 | 0 | 0 | |
| 2012 September Southern Tier Flood Relief | 24 | 22 | 0 | 2 | |
| 2014 Weekend of Service in Rochester | 10 | 10 | 0 | 0 | |
| 2015 March Stony Point Trip | 5 | 5 | 0 | 0 | |
| 2015 February Weekend of Service in Rochester | 7 | 7 | 0 | 0 | |
| 2016 February Weekend of Service in Rochester | 8 | 8 | 0 | 0 | |
| Summary: 6 Trips | 74 | 72 | 0 | 2 | |
| Summary of All Livingston Cares Trips January, 2006 - May 2016 | TOTAL: 62 Trips | 1211 | 951 | 124 | 136 |

Livingston CARES Financial Information

| | | |
|--|---------------------------------|-----------|
| LC Donations (3/31/16) | Individuals and Organizations | \$ 50,805 |
| LC Government Grants | Government | 20,000 |
| LC Trips Fees | Income | 409,317 |
| LC Trip Scholarships | Scholarships from CARES | 21,362 |
| Fundraising Events | Income from Dinners & Jailbreak | 32,983 |
| LC Trip Expenses | | 466,742 |
| Program Projects | | |
| Athletic Department Flow-Through | Donations Received | 4,537 |
| General Disaster Relief Fund | Donations Received | 1,217 |
| Ghana Project | Donations Received | 7,434 |
| Haiti Relief Fund | Donations Received | 8,255 |
| HEROS Project | Donations Received | 1,130 |
| Hurricane Sandy Fund | Donations Received | 11,007 |
| Japan Relief Fund | Donations Received | 682 |
| MLK Day of Service | Donations Received | 3,086 |
| Nicaragua Project | Donations Received | 68,772 |
| Respite Program | Donations Received | 575 |
| Typhoon Haiyan Relief Fund | Donations Received | 1,962 |
| LC Projects | | |
| Athletic Department Flow Through | CARES Donations Paid Out | 4,536 |
| Hurricane Katrina Donations and Grants | CARES Donations Paid Out | 10,405 |
| Hurricane Sandy Donations and Grants | CARES Donations Paid Out | 7,800 |
| River Clean-Up Project | CARES Donations Paid Out | 400 |
| LC Special Projects | | |
| General Disaster Relief Fund | CARES Expense | 644 |
| Ghana Project | CARES Expense | 7,389 |
| Haiti Relief Fund | CARES Expense | 8,130 |
| HEROS Project | CARES Expense | 1,057 |
| Hurricane Sandy Fund | CARES Expense | 2,085 |

| | | |
|---------------------|---------------|--------|
| Japan Relief Fund | CARES Expense | 1,000 |
| MLK Day of Service | CARES Expense | 3,479 |
| Nicaragua Project | CARES Expense | 66,753 |
| Typhoon Haiyan Fund | CARES Expense | 2,000 |
| Respite Program | CARES Expense | 51 |

| Volunteer Contributions | Calculation | Amount |
|---|--|------------------|
| Work Trip Volunteers | 1,137 trip fees (\$200-\$600) | \$ 409,317 |
| Donated Volunteer Hours | 1137 x 40 hours = 45,480 hours x \$26.45/hour | 1,202,946 |
| Total LC Volunteer Contributions | | 1,612,263 |

Kudos and Thanks

Livingston CARES wishes to thank the following individuals and organizations for their special contributions and assistance with the trips, projects, programs, and the Volunteer Thank You Dinner.

- Neal Brooks, Sarah Yo, Courtney Owen and Kat Geen, for leading the March 2016 service week trip to Biloxi.
- Lisa Burns for leading the January 2016 Hurricane Sandy service trip to Brooklyn.
- Peggy Wirth for leading the May 2014 and May 2015 Hurricane Sandy service trips to Staten Island.
- Sam Cardamone for leading the May 2015 service trip to Biloxi.
- Tom Matthews for leading the January Biloxi service trips from 2006 to 2015.
- Dave Parfitt for organizing and leading seven Give Kids the World Trips to Orlando.
- Sharyon Dueppengiesser for travel arrangements for our 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016 trips.
- Lyle Lehman for his continuing support and service as the Livingston CARES Treasurer.
- Geneseo Philanthropic Chefs (Gary Towsley, Lynn Kennison, Glenn McClure, Paula McClure, Donna Kennison, Dee Dee Rutigliano, Brenda Donohue, and Betsy Matthews) and numerous other volunteers for catering the Gumbo-to-Go Dinners and the Volunteer Recognition Dinner.
- Wegmans for supporting our volunteer and service programs.
- Stephanie Jacob for her work this year as our financial assistant for Livingston CARES.
- The Interfaith Center for making its facilities available for our dinners.
- President Denise Battles and the College for support of the Livingston CARES programs.
- Robert Bonfiglio, Vice President, Student & Campus Life for enabling CARES to do its work and for the support from the Division of Student & Campus Life.
- Leonard Sancilio and the Center for Community staff members for support and financial resources to help create and sustain CARES projects and programs.
- Julie Matthews for her advice and preparation of our tax documents.
- Central Presbyterian Church of Geneseo for financial contributions, work-trip volunteers, and the use of the kitchen for nine Gumbo-to-Go Dinners.
- Samantha Hebel for serving as CARES Secretary, participating in the January 2016 trip to Biloxi and leading the Brooklyn trip in March 2016.
- Keith Walters for amazing photo essays and videos of our special January 2016 Biloxi trip.

- Kris Dreessen for her upcoming story in *The Scene* about our work in Mississippi.
- Joanna Walters for her outstanding design work on our publications.
- Connie Rockco, Harrison County Supervisor, for her continued support of CARES and for always making us feel welcome in Mississippi.
- Back Bay Mission's staff for housing CARES volunteers and hosting our work projects.
- SUNY Geneseo and the surrounding community for supporting our mission.
- Individuals and community organizations for donating funds to CARES programs.
- Kellan Morgan, Robert Lupisella, Kris Dreessen, and all volunteers, donors, and service-learning students engaged in projects in building schools in Nicaragua.
- Special thank you to Kathleen Jones for service as a founding member of the Livingston CARES board of directors and continuous support for ten years as a board member.
- Brandon Gaylord, Mitch Gillard, Dan Martin, Victoria Morales and Sarah Yo for serving as active and engaged students on the Board of Directors.
- Best wishes to graduating seniors Mitch Gillard, Dan Martin and Sarah Yo.
- A special thanks to Student Association for their continued support of our volunteers with funding for grants to assist individual students as well as general support to our Biloxi trips.
- All of our 1,211 volunteers and student trip leaders who have participated in work trips.

Reflections and Quotes

"I think everyone enters a trip such as this one with their own preconceptions and I was obviously no different. And from this experience, my eyes have been opened to the reality of homelessness. As a result, I can now view the world, even back in Geneseo, with a new, more humble perspective."

"The trip opened my eyes to the need that exists in Mississippi but also the need that exists in our own area. It was also great to experience what it feels like to be part of an organization that is so much bigger than just our... group. It was nice to know that even though we alone weren't able to directly help every individual in need we were able to be a part of an organization that can."

"Damage from Katrina is still a long way from being finally rebuilt. I have a new appreciation for how a group can become a well-oiled machine to do service. Service work shouldn't be a chore; it can be rewarding and gratifying."

"It is great to be around... people that all want to do good and help others... You can come from different backgrounds... and have different opinions and still be able to come together to help those who need it. We all had such riveting conversations about the work we were doing, which I believe helped me to grow and make me want to make myself a better person."

"I helped a Micah Day Center client get food from the food pantry. As he was leaving, he quoted the proverb, "A journey of a thousand miles begins with just one step." He thanked me for the work we did for being just one step; for being the first step on a journey of improving his life and outlook for the future."

"Biloxi is still healing and in need of volunteerism and service."

"Even though Katrina may seem irrelevant to many people today, there are whole communities and populations still in need of help and assistance. Some evidence for this is direct such as abandoned houses, but others are much less direct as a result of 10 years passing since the disaster. By going on this trip, you are an individual helping to rebuild a community with still another 20 to 30 years to recover."