

Center for Community-Based Learning and Action



evergreen

Seminar II E 2125, 2700 Evergreen Parkway NW; Olympia, WA 98505

www.evergreen.edu/communitybasedlearning

ANNUAL REPORT 2020-21

“A Place for the Community to Engage”

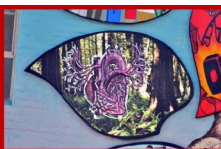
~Jacinta McKoy, Center Visionary

Message from Therese Saliba, Interim Vice President Inclusive Excellence and Student Success

Without community, there is no liberation. This quote from African American feminist Audre Lorde has been my mantra throughout the long months of the Covid pandemic. As we emerge from our separation, I want to applaud the work of the Center for Community-Based Learning (CCBLA), which remained at the heart of Evergreen’s community support throughout these challenging days. While the pandemic limited some direct community engagement, we learned that community-based learning is not only relevant, but also essential to providing our community with basic needs, strategic support, justice, and care—the ingredients for our collective liberation.

This past year, we’ve forged some exciting cross-divisional community alliances between CCBLA, Student Activities, academic programs, and Inclusive Excellence and Student Success. From the Pop-Up Food Bank to the Advocacy Resource Center (ARC), we’ve been working together to foster the well-being of our students and community members.

As we return to our campuses this fall, we look forward to continued collaboration to strengthen our community support and partnerships. Our grant award for the WSAC Homeless College Student Pilot Program (2021-2023) includes funding for a caseload manager at Olympia’s new Advocacy Resource Center and our Tacoma campus, as well as direct assistance to students experiencing homelessness. With CCBLA’s leadership, Evergreen also received a full scholarship to Temple University’s Hope Center Institutional Capacity-Building Cohort. Through extensive training and work sessions, Evergreen will continue to build collaborative ecosystems to meet students’ basic needs and promote their academic success. Additionally, CCBLA continues to lead important initiatives in racial and social justice, from Gateways for Incarcerated Youth to Farmworker Justice Day. Special thanks to CCBLA Director, Ellen Shortt Sanchez, and all the dedicated and visionary students, staff and faculty who place community at the heart of Evergreen’s liberatory education.



Theory to Practice: Homegrown Community Based Learning and Action for Equity and Justice

Summer Institute 2021

Ellen Shortt-Sanchez (Director) & Savvina Chowdhury (Faculty)
The Evergreen State College



“Community Based Learning enables students to apply their knowledge in concrete situations, to solve problems in partnership with the community...and gives faculty and staff the opportunity to build long-term community relationships which continually inform and strengthen the curriculum...and places the college as a progressive force deeply involved in community work.” ~ Evergreen DTF report (1997-1999)

Director’s Report

Ellen Shortt Sanchez

Higher Education has a mandate to serve our community and Evergreen must put this at the center of its road forward as an alternative, public, liberal arts college. Community Based Learning offers a vehicle to make this happen. Evergreen’s commitment to making a difference drives the Center for Community Based Learning and Action (CCBLA) to support curricular offerings that respond to emergent issues, following on the needs of local communities.

Connecting theory to practice in the name of service offers students opportunities for engaged and meaningful learning while responding to community needs. CCBLA supports staff and faculty to make students’ learning experience richer through engaging in community, using a hands-on approach to complex and “wicked” problems in U.S. society. CCBLA, an Evergreen public service center since 2004, provides a model of reciprocity, collaboration, and the integration of learning with community-determined solutions.

Community settings encourage students to learn across significant differences. Numerous Evergreen academic programs collaborate with CCBLA to build community partnerships into their learning and teaching.

CCBLA and Gateways Staff

CCBLA Director: Ellen Shortt Sanchez

Gateways Program Coordinator: Talib Williams

Gateways Faculty: Maria Isabel Morales

CAC AmeriCorps Gateways Coordinator: Kate Murphy

AmeriCorps VISTA: Joni Upman

Campus Food Bank Coordinator: JC Wortham

SOS: CCBLA Faculty: Kristina Ackley

Writing and Community Faculty:

Catalina Ocampo, Alice Nelson

Civic Engagement Fellows:

Andres Francisco Juan, Billy Sweetser, Carlos Del Angel Evans,

JC Wortham (summer)

CCBLA Dean: Karen Gaul

Center for Community-Based Learning and Action



88 PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS!

"I have had a wonderful experience volunteering with Just Housing Olympia thus far, and I am excited to continue to work with the organization [after the quarter is finished]. Through the organization, I have been able to build my community, gain professional skills, and assist an organization that I strongly believe in."

Emmett Reilly, Student in Learning and Teaching When the World is on Fire

Community Partners 20-21

- Books to Prisoners
- Boys and Girls Club
- Big Brothers Big Sisters
- Capital Recovery Center
- Central for Natural Lands Mgmt.
- Childcare Action Council
- CHOICE High School
- CIELO Project
- Community to Community Develop.
- Community Lifeline Shelton
- Community Youth Services
- Crisis Clinic of Thurston and Mason
- Dispute Resolution Center
- EGYHOP
- Elevate Mason County
- Emergency Food Network Pierce
- Evergreen Elementary Dual Lang.
- Evergreen Villages
- Familias Unidas Para la Justicia
- Family Support Center
- Fertile Ground Community Com.
- Freedom Farmers at Muirhead Farm
- Garfield Elementary School
- Green Hill School/JJ&RA DSHS
- GRuB (Garden Raised Bounty)
- Hands On Children Museum
- Heartsparkle Players
- Hispanic Roundtable of Thurston Co
- HOPE Garden Shelton
- Hummingbird Studio (Kokua)
- Interfaith Works Emergency Shelter
- Kiwanis Food Bank Garden
- Kokua/ LEAD (Literacy and Education for Adults with Disabilities)
- Lincoln School Garden
- Mason Co. Consort. Student Success
- Mason Matters
- Mentor Washington
- Native Plant Salvage
- Nature Nurtures Farm
- Nisqually Land Trust
- Northwest Cooperative Develop. ctr.
- Northwest Eco-Building Guild
- Olympia Food Co-Op
- Olympia Free Clinic
- Olympia-Rafah Solidarity Mural
- Olympia Seed Exchange
- Olympia Senior Center
- Panhandle Lake 4H camp
- People for Puget Sound
- Pear Blossom Shelter, FSSC



Joni Upman at ARC Basic Needs Center

New Advocacy and Resource Center (ARC) supports Basic Needs

AmeriCorps VISTA Joni Upman built capacity and developed the new center, thanks to a \$12,500 MultiCare grant & GSU support. Visit the website to learn more! <https://www.evergreen.edu/care/advocacy-and-resource-center-arc-basic-needs-center>

TCFB Satellite Food Distribution- Olympia Evergreen Campus

WACC AmeriCorps VISTA Joni Upman and Work Study student JC Wortham coordinated the Thurston County Food Bank (TCFB) Satellite Campus food distribution 2nd and 4th Tuesdays in C-LOT with support from Civic Engagement fellow Carlos Del Angel Evans and CSSC AmeriCorps Sarah Ahrens-Balwit. **619 students & 161 community members received food. Thanks to 6 student volunteers who served 38 hrs.**

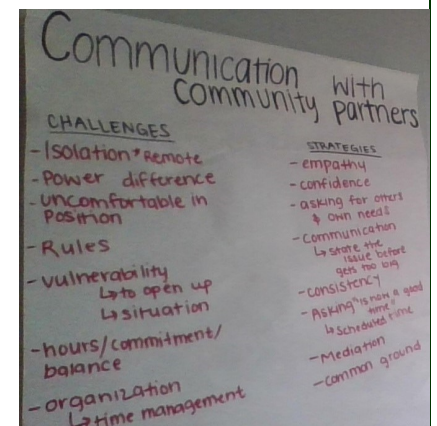
Community Service Through Work Study

Evergreen Work Study Community Service is a collaboration with Student Employment. **13** Evergreen students worked **2,466** hours supporting **11** local grassroots non profits, focusing on real community needs around fighting poverty, providing education to immigrant learners, confronting homelessness with innovative solutions, and offering crisis social services. Thanks to the following sites: **Hummingbird Studio Kokua, Family Support Center Pear Blossom Shelter, Crisis Clinic, Thurston County Food Bank Campus Distribution/ ARC Basic Needs Ctr, HOPE Garden, CIELO, GRuB, Olympia Free Clinic, Together! Clubhouse, Together! Community Schools, Elevate Mason County, and Sound Learning.**

AmeriCorps Tuition Awards

6 Students enrolled in WA Campus Compact College Support Services Corps through CCBLA; each earned a **\$1,300 tuition award for 300 community service hours**. Congrats to Sam Fry, Randy Pratt, Preshess Jones, Sarah Ahrens-Balwit, Billy Sweetser, and Gabrielle Personius contributed **1,800 hrs** in the community.

CCBLA Workshop with academic program Writing and Community Fall 2020



Gateways for Incarcerated Youth

College Access Corps AmeriCorps member Kate Murphy supported incarcerated youth during this challenging COVID year. *10 Evergreen college class students served as academic mentors to 27 incarcerated youth at Green Hill School, DCYF Juvenile Rehabilitation facility.* Mentor Washington provided Technical Assistance training for youth outcomes.



Last day of Gateways College Class 2020-21

The Gateways College Class

The Gateways College Class brings Evergreen campus-based students and faculty to Green Hill School to work collaboratively in a seminar style learning environment with youth. Gateways Program Coordinator Talib Williams supported faculty Maria Isabel Morales, who described the goal of Gateways: “to create an environment in which each person becomes empowered to share their knowledge, creativity, values, and goals by connecting respectfully with people from other cultural and sociopolitical backgrounds.” **16 incarcerated youth earned college credit in 2020-21; they also received Cares Act funds as enrolled students.**

“Working with the youth during a time of crisis gave us a unique opportunity to process questions around what we all need during times of isolation. Through collective engagement in learning and sharing, all of us Gateway students on both sides of the screen walked away from this program with newly found funds of knowledge.”

- Gateways Students Mahkyra A. Gaines and Samantha Luna-Patterson

Community Partners continued ...

- Pierce County AIDS Foundation
- Partners in Prevention Education (PIPE)
- Pizza Klatch
- Planned Parenthood
- POWER (Parents Organizing for Welfare and Economic Rights)
- Quixote Village
- Rachel Corrie Foundation
- Rebuilding Together Thurston Co.
- Regional Alliance for Youth (RALLY)
- ROOF
- Safeplace
- Saint Martins U Social Justice-Service
- Sidewalk
- Showing Up for Racial Justice Olympia
- South Sound Beach Naturalists
- Sound Learning
- South Sound Com. Farm Land Trust
- S. Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement
- Stonewall Youth
- Sustainability in Prisons
- The Bridge (CYS)
- Thurston Climate Action Team
- Tacoma Community House
- Thurston Community TV (TCTV)
- Thurston County Volunteer Legal sv
- Thurston Conservation District
- Thurston Co. Food Bank -5 programs
- Thurston County Syringe Exchange
- Together! Clubhouse
- Together! Community Schools
- United Communities AIDS Network
- United Way of Thurston County
- Veterans Ecological Trades Collect
- WashPIRG
- Works In Progress
- YouthBuild
- YWCA Olympia

José Gómez Farmworker Justice Day

Farmworkers Are Essential

<https://wordpress.evergreen.edu/farmworkerjusticeday/>

Evergreen students Maddi Parvankin & Grace McLarty designed this year’s WordPress site. See video presentations, history and more!

Evergreen’s eleventh annual Farmworker Justice Day included Familias Unidas por la Justicia (FUJ) and Tabajadores Unidas por la Justicia (TUJ) farmworker unions, as well as the Community to Community (C2C) Promotoras. From the onset of the pandemic, farmworker activists at FUJ and C2C have pointed out the cruelty of being deemed “essential” workers, while being denied basic human rights and dignity. Workers have been vocally resistant to the systemic injustice in the agriculture system and the unique risks they’ve faced due to unsafe pandemic conditions. Faculty Maria Isabel Morales facilitated the online presentation.

[After time with Kokua– Hummingbird Studios] “I have arrived at a new question: How can educators utilize creative spaces to open up conversations for social and environmental justice?”

Nicole Grubbe, Student in Learning and Teaching When the World is on Fire



2020-21 CCBLA Budget

Evergreen Institutional Funds		Direct to Student Funding		Gateways for Incarcerated Youth	
Salaries (CCBLA Director and Gateways Coordinator)	\$102,847	Community Service Work Study student earnings	\$36,993	Publications/Sales	\$385
Benefits	\$44,027	CSSC AmeriCorps Awards	\$7,800	Donations	\$2,419
Goods and Services, Travel	\$4,145	Civic Engagement Fellowships	\$12,250	Green Hill Contract	\$8,500
TOTAL	\$151,019	TOTAL	\$57,043	TOTAL	\$16,304

CONGRATS

WACC Civic Engagement Fellows
 EL Camino : Andres Francisco Juan
 School to Prison Pipeline: Billy Sweetser
 Food and Ag Path:
 Carlos Del Angel Evans and JC Wortham

Nationwide Newman Civic Fellow
 Joseph Utzler

WELCOME

New CCBLA AmeriCorps 2021-22
 JC Wortham, Advocacy and Resource Ctr.
 Basic Needs
 Isadora Colpo, Tutor Mentor Coordinator
 Charlie Greenhouse, Gateways



Thank you
 to WA
 Campus
 Compact
 AmeriCorps



**CCBLA SUPPORTED
 300 Evergreen Students in
 12 Academic Programs**

**Center for Community Based Learning and Action
 Advisory Committee 2020-21**

Community Partners: Charo Portaro, Kindra Galan (CIELO), Jenny Blumenstein (Sound Learning), Amanda King (Family Support Center), Randi Miller and Evageline Poulous (Kokua), Rachel Uberman (HOPE Garden), Rudi (Stonewall Youth)

Evergreen Faculty: Alice Nelson, Zoltan Grossman, Mukti Khanna, Lin Nelson, Savvina Chowdhury, Suree Towfighnia, Catalina Ocampo, Eirik Steinhoff, Kate Napolitan, Michael Bowman

Students: Andres Francisco Juan, Billy Sweetser, Carlos Del Angel Evans, JC Wortham, Sarah Ahrens-Balwit

Evergreen Staff: Jean Eberhardt, Talib Williams
 Joni Upman (AmeriCorps VISTA)

**Campus Wide, Evergreen
 Registered**

181 Internships

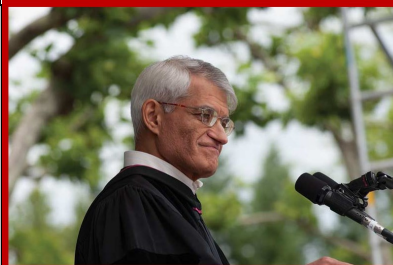
(During Pandemic)

**86 were In-Program
 Internships**

(Internships within Academic Programs)

**with 92 off campus
 organizations**

**82 were at Schools &
 Non-Profits**



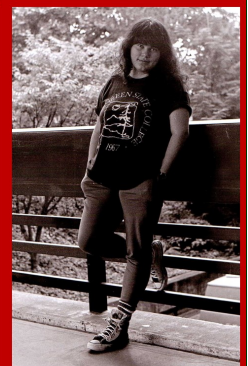
José Gómez (1943 – 2014) was an American labor and civil rights activist; fought for farmworker justice, LGBTQ justice and served as a faculty member at The Evergreen State College. He worked with Cesar Chavez and the United Farm Workers, and founded the Committee on Gay Legal Issues at Harvard Law School.

Making time
 to listen and to act



Stories Celebrating the Life and Work
 of Jacinta McKoy

Jacinta McKoy (August 1, 1959-
 March 19, 2004) coordinator for
 performing and media arts



Raquel Salinas '91, MIT '96 (1970 – 2018). Salinas served many roles in more than two decades at Evergreen. At the time of her death, she was a counselor and coordinator of First

**CCBLA was founded & nourished by a diversity
 of visionaries**