

Educational Puppet Show

Morgan Watkins hosted a nutritional puppet show on March 22 at the Starkville Public Library to encourage local children to play outside and eat healthy. Along with the puppet show, she included a craft activity for the children to create their own puppet. About 12-15 children attended with their parents.

Fundraiser to fund scholarships to study abroad

Francesca Wadlington worked together with the Study Abroad Ambassadors, and raised over \$2000 throughout the semester in order to fund scholarships to help MSU students study abroad during the summer. The CMLL department awarded 12 outstanding students, who received their scholarships at an Awards Ceremony organized in their honor by our organization on March 25th, at the Grill in Starkville. Over 40 people between students, families, and faculty joined the ceremony to celebrate their achievement and their upcoming experience studying abroad in either Spain or Germany.



Campus Community Event

Michael Montalvo facilitated a structured game day for the surrounding Starkville elementary kids with special needs. Had over 35 volunteers helping out with 45 elementary students that attended the event on Friday March 31st. With this structured game day, students with special needs and MSU volunteers were able to interact and communicate more meaningfully and effectively.



The Princess Project

Victoria Nielsen and Maggie Davis hosted a girl-empowerment mini-seminar. They went into two different schools, The Child Development Center and Palmer Home, to present The Princess Project. There were two seminars for lower elementary girls and one seminar for middle school girls. The Princess Project featured live princess interaction with Rapunzel to help girls learn about what it means to be a princess-beyond the dresses and tiaras. In addition to the live princess interaction, the girls participated in activities to help them learn special lessons. Each girl was encouraged to be herself, follow her dreams, put her best foot forward, and be kind to all around her. Participants also did pre- and post-survey in relate to self-awareness and self-confidence.

College Tour

Nick Harris arranged a campus tour to MSU for students from Armstrong Middle school to empower students to work hard and set goal to attend college. Total of 12 students participated, and students gained interactive experience with college students with leadership positions. Students were able to visit administrative offices, dining facilities, dormitories while taking the tour.

Self-defense Seminar

Jennifer Dominguez and Forrest Wright recruited the Starkville Fire Dept, No Limit Starkville Jiu Jitsu, Downtown Martial Arts Academy, MSU PD, and T3 (Trust the Training) to assist in hosting a self-defense seminar. These organization provided demonstrations, taught self-preservation movements, as well as have possible handout to help people better prepare to be safe. Door prizes that included flashlights and mace was available for participants in a raffle contest. Approximately 40 people attend to the event.



Sweet Tea Fundraising

Shelbie Dalton and Hannah Whitlock were passionate with helping children with medical needs. They hosted a free tea night on March 24th at 8 local restaurants for donating the tea sales to LeBonheur Children's Hospital, and raised \$1940.25. The top 2 restaurants that had the most tea sales will be awarded with plaques provided by LeBonheur, and their picture will be put in their local paper.

Empowering & Equipping Families

A'Kecianna Thornton facilitated a community connection resource fair which was a fun and informative event for families to talk to local service providers and learn about the services and programs they offer on poverty education. The event was held on April 8, 2017 at J.L King Memorial Park, and served about 30 families within Brooksville's Garden and surrounding communities.



Supply Drive for Mrs. Smith Tutoring Center

Emily Humphrey and Alexis Sanders collected supplies for Mrs. Smith's tutoring center, which serves children from kindergarten to 12th grade. Total about \$800 supplies were collected, and will be delivered to the tutoring center, so students will be able to have their own supplies. Emily and Alexis practiced their leadership skills while working on their project.

Custodian Appreciation Week

Tonie Williams and Roger Davis, Jr. held Custodian Appreciation Week in April. During this week, students who currently live within one of the 17 residence halls on campus, or once lived in one of those residence halls were given the opportunity to paint coffee mugs for the custodial staff. The students were also allowed to write personal "thank you" notes to the custodians. A total of 71 mugs were painted, along with hand written note cards. With the help of MSU Housing Facilities and the Department of Housing & Residence Life, we were able to show gratitude to the custodial staff who do so much for students and other staff on a day-to-day basis. Tonie and Roger demonstrate the core philosophy of MLP which is the Social Change Leadership model by having a community worked together to make better future.

Paws for the Cause

Hannah Ryes collaborated with the Cotton District Arts Festival Pet Parade and set up a booth to bring awareness about animal adoption as well as raise funds for the Oktibbeha County Humane Society! In her booth, she provided supplies for participants to create personalized dog treat for their own dog. Participants were able to play and pat dogs for spiritual comfort. She raised almost \$100 and helped get 3 out of the 4 showcased dogs adopted!

Harassment Awareness Seminar

Haley Herndon hosted a psychology/counseling services fair on the Drill Field at 6pm on April 10 that focused on harassment and its effects. She invited staff members and research assistant from Psychology Dept. and the Counseling Services Dept. at MSU to come and speak at the event. Guest speakers provided students valuable information regarding the issue, and students then had the option to write a positive word against harassment on the sidewalk of the Drill Field. Total about 45-50 students attended the event.

Fundraising for Oktibbeha County Humane Society

Anna K. Merwin with the help of her husband, Harrison Merwin, built a dog house to raise money for the Oktibbeha County Humane Society. With the help of her MLP fellows, she sold raffle tickets outside of local stores in the Starkville area, and drew the name of winner on May. The dog house includes amenities such as a fan and lighting. She donated all of the proceeds to the Humane Society for their basic needs. Anna worked with the Humane Society when she first joined MLP in 2016, and she has been passionate with helping those dogs and cats ever since.

Fundraising for Epidermolysis Bullosa Research Partnership

Brendan Jones and Beler Watts arranged a 5k run inspired by a local child, Gabe Valentine, who has a skin condition called Epidermolysis Bullosa (EB), which causes abrasions on the skin and causes Gabe to wrapped head to toe in bandages also confining him to a wheelchair. 400 people signed up for the run, and 300+ showed up for the run. Over of \$11,000 was raised and will be donated to the EB Research Partnership. Brendan and Beler exemplified effective leadership during their capstone project with their persistence and hardworking.

Fundraising for MSU Autism Clinic

Mary Frances and Katie McLemore partnered with the Autism and Developmental Disabilities Clinic of MSU to help plan their annual Bully's Autism Spectrum Glow Run. They served as the main contact for sponsorships. They together executed a successful raffle, designed the race banner, and carried out food stations duties. Overall the race was successful, with over three hundred participants and \$6,000 dollars raised. Katie and Mary Frances demonstrated good communication skills by getting all the sponsorships.

MSU Collegiate Leadership Conference

Jennifer Darce took a big role in planning the inaugural MSU Collegiate Leadership Conference which took place on March 24-25. One hundred thirty students attended from MSU and 15 students came from other universities. With a total spending of \$21,000, the conference was free of charge to MSU students and \$40 for non-MSU students. There were two keynote speakers, 19 session speakers, networking opportunities, three meals and promotional items for each attendee, and various prizes. Jennifer has put in about 80 hours to this project and demonstrated lots of growth in leadership area. She is a good example of dreaming something big, and utilizing resources to make her dream comes true.



Food drive

Ayanna Hill partnered with the MS Food Network and Holmes Culture Diversity Center, and did one week food drive on campus and in Starkville community. Collected total of 2,286 meals and donated back to Peter's Rock Food Pantry, Pine lake Care Center, and Beth-el Food Center. Ayanna displayed servant leadership and situational leadership style throughout her project.

Gymnastics Club

Mikhaila Selby successfully spearheaded the first collegiate gymnastics team in the state of Mississippi. The team is approved as a student organization, and are waiting to be confirmed as

a club sport. They currently have four consistent members with the hopes of recruiting more through organization fairs this summer. The team will begin competing through the National Association of Intercollegiate Gymnastics Clubs come fall. As the program grows, their ultimate goal is to be accepted as the next women's NCAA sport at Mississippi State allowing native gymnasts the opportunity to compete in state.

Studio Based Undergraduate Course

Hamsini Balaji created a studio based undergraduate course that incorporates healthcare and servant leadership with an emphasis on physician patient interaction. This course will cover the basic concepts of leadership, servant based leadership, various healthcare professions and patient interaction through shadowing opportunities. Guest speakers from various departments will provide their insights on the different perspectives of patient interactions in differing healthcare fields. This course will expose students to various aspects of different healthcare fields that they aspire to be. This course is intended to trigger critical thinking and reasoning skills through a service-learning approach. Students will also enhance their written and verbal skills necessary for their success as a health care professional.

MSU Extension Equine Assisted Therapy Program

Beth Baugh's capstone project centered around assisting with the MSU Extension Equine Assisted Therapy Programs' spring showcase. This organization provides riding lessons to individuals who have a disability, and the showcase is a celebration of their accomplishments over the last year. Riders dressed up and rode their horses through an obstacle course while their names were announced by a rodeo announcer at the MSU Horse Park. Overall, the showcase had around 30 riders, 80 volunteers, and raised over \$900 in sponsorships for the event.

More than a Brunch Women's Leadership Conference

Shawanda Brooks' More Than a Brunch Women's Leadership Conference was designed to inspire and foster the growth of high school and college women. The conference focused on confidence- building, enriched leadership, and professional development. It hosted 65-70 attendees who traveled from Starkville, Columbus, Tupelo, and Hamilton. Several leaders at MSU led workshops pertaining to the topics of focus. In addition, the young ladies socialized and networked over free brunch. WCBI News and the Reflector publicized the event, sharing its importance and its continuance. In support, many departments on campus sponsored it: Office of the President, Division of Student Affairs, Residence Hall Association, Office of Admissions and Scholarships, G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery Leadership Program, President's Commission on the Status of Women, President's Commission on the Status of Minorities. In addition to on-campus departments, The American Association for University Women (AAUW) and Ms. Donna Reese provided financial assistance as well. Aaliyah Gaston and Shawanda fundraised roughly \$2,300 in sponsorships for the event.

Humane Society group

Jojo Burnett's team partnered with the Oktibbeha County Humane Society helped them in several ways. First, the manager of the shelter wanted a sign that documented how many adoptions they had for the year. We coordinated planning and paying for the sign. Second, we also coordinated a supply drive that would benefit the shelter. The drive was held at Tractor Supply in Starkville on April 21 from 1-6. We collected about \$87 at the drive, but we also collected a large amount of animal supplies that totaled a value of \$150-\$200. Finally, we assisted an older MLP fellow with her final service project on April 8 at the Cotton District Arts Festival. We walked dogs around at the festival and talked with people about adoption of the pups.

Transformers Group

Alexis Sessions' group worked with Transformers tutoring program at Henderson- Ward-Stewart. At least once a week each of us would tutor a classroom of kids after school. Our service project was a science demonstration for the 2nd and 3rd graders participating in the transformers program. Each of us prepared 2 science projects each and let the kids go from table to table and watch the demonstrations. In some cases, they were able to help with the experiments and take some home with them. Roughly 40- 50 kids attended and it took place at the elementary school in late April. Members of this group were Chris, Gill, Hannah, Katie, and Alexis Sessions.

The Claiborne Senior Prom

Over the course of the semester, Brian Harris, Ben Mackin, Aaron Mathis, and Mukhunth Raghavan worked with the residents at the Claiborne Retirement Living and Care Community in Starkville, MS. Their project was a 40's and 50's themed senior prom that was put on April 29th, 2017. This gave the residents something new and exciting to do, while the MLP students were able to engage with the residents and gave them a chance to make friends across different generations. Overall the teams goal was to give the residents a fun and exciting event that promoted the quality and integrity that the Claiborne Retirement Living and Care Community has offered the Starkville area for years.

The Big Event: Starkville

Madelyn Barr, Kenneth Groce, Megill Imes, and Amy Schemitsch worked alongside the ACCESS Program for the semester. They became mentors to five students from the ACCESS program with a universal goal to teach their mentees how to become well-rounded, young adults through community service and consistent encouragement. Through the semester, by being their friends, in addition to being their mentors, they built trust with each student and constantly encouraged them to reach their goals. The five mentees and their mentors successfully participated in The Big Event Starkville at Moncrief Park where they cleaned around the community. By combining all of the team's leadership abilities, they reached their goal of motivating the ACCESS students to become their better self through serving their community.

Oktibbeha County Humane Society

Michael Whelan, Tiffani Allen, Carly Dickerson, Jojo Burnett, and Whitney Littlejohn volunteered at the Oktibbeha County Humane Society all throughout the spring semester. The team planned a supply drive for the Oktibbeha County Humane Society at Tractor supply on April 21, 2017. This drive was to help with their universal goal of supplying the humane society basic needs for their animals. The team also created a sign that for the humane society that documented their yearly adoptions. The team believes that their exposure to OCHS positively promotes the community partner that will provide it with their basic needs.

Sudduth Elementary

Kayla Davis, Townes Miller, Jessica Morris, Stephen Owen, and Jailand Williams worked with Sudduth Elementary. Each member of the team worked with a group of first graders from eight different classrooms; the groups consisted of about four to five children. The team's primary goal was to encourage the students to read more often. To accomplish this goal the team read with the students during each visit in a way that was intentionally making reading fun. They incorporated laughter, excitement, and thrill into the stories to create a unique learning experience for the young students. The team believes they made a positive impact as well as developed personal relationships with the teachers and students at Sudduth. 40 to 50 young students positively benefitted from the team's efforts in creating a fun and exciting way to read.

Noxubee Wildlife Refuge

Team members worked with the Noxubee Wildlife Refuge with the aim of addressing the future development of the Refuge. The team members noted that their work with the Refuge is especially important because it is operated by federal funds to conserve endangered species and their natural habitats. The team states that the Refuge is underfunded and needs more revenue to upkeep the park. The team's greatest goal was to raise awareness about what the Refuge offered and how to utilize the entry fee that most guests do not know about. The team raised awareness by creating a portable sign that is used seasonally to promote events going on at the site and participated in canoe days.

East Alternative Educational Proposal

Fefe Brown, Kendall Comish, Alex Hammett, and Nana Kumi worked with the East Alternative School to tutor and mentor young students. The group set out with a mission to empower their students with the skills necessary to foster their own growth, success, and personal development. By instilling good study habits and discipline, the team hoped that the children would not only aspire to attend college, but put forth the effort needed to promote a positive course of study. The team felt as if they accomplished many of their goals by helping students understand their work and how it is important for them to stay encouraged. The team's final project was bringing the students to MSU's campus to show them what a university setting is like. The team believes

they made a lasting impact on the students they worked with and are hopeful that they will continue to progress throughout their academic careers.