

# Colorado Service-Learning Council

## 2014-2015 Year-in-Review & Council Accomplishments

Below we outline some accomplishments in the past year and a half that indicate how we are working to fulfill our mission.

**Promote** – To promote service learning in the state, the CSLC has facilitated **networking** between local service learning partners, practitioners and facilitators.

- Hosted three successful professional networking events in 2014-2015 leading to productive partnerships and connections among CSLC members. These outcomes include:
  - A partnership between George Washington High School and the University of Denver to support mentorship opportunities and service learning in fifteen 9<sup>th</sup> grade advisory classes.
  - Connecting the Toyota Family Learning Program (which was operating at Metropolitan State University of Denver) with MSU Denver's Service Learning Program. This partnership has led to additional service learning connections for the Family Learning Program.
- Partnered with the Colorado Civic Health Network (<https://www.facebook.com/Colorado-Civic-Health-Network-388995571272624/>), which released the Colorado Civic Health Index in September 2014 (<http://ncoc.net/COCHI2013>). The council has served as a key contributor to networking events, leading roundtable discussions, and contributing to event design.
- Co-promoted workshops on service learning at the 2015 American Anthropological Association conference, which was held in Denver. CSLC was recognized as a local expert in service-learning including recruitment, content development, etc. and was contacted by a session organizer to support the conference workshops. Council members provided additional networking to an attendee from New Zealand interested in exploring how to grow service-learning in her country.
- In addition to in-person events, the CSLC has established an online presence including a website (<http://www.coloradoservicelearning.org/>), social media (LinkedIn - <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/6613780>), and a membership database that all can access to facilitate connections between practitioners (see the membership page of the website).

***The mission of the Colorado Service-Learning Council (CSLC) is to promote, advance, and institutionalize high quality service-learning through innovative collaboration among P-20 institutions, government agencies, nonprofit agencies, and the private sector throughout Colorado.***

**(continued)**

**Advance** – To advance service-learning in the state and beyond, the council has supported/facilitated **research** informing the field around how service learning impacts practice.

- In partnership with Dr. Cara DiEnno, council members assisted with recruitment, development of interview questions, publications and presentations related to a research study exploring the impacts of service-learning on practitioners. The council's wide network of practitioners contributed to the success of the study. Research was conducted during the 2014-2015 academic year. Outputs of this research include a research presentation in April 2015 at the Continuums of Service conference, a webinar presentation on the research in November 2015, and a book chapter (in press), which will be published in Fall 2016.

**Institutionalize** – To institutionalize service-learning, the CSLC has **advocated** for service learning through presentations, workshops and meaningful partnerships. Examples of such events include:

- In August 2015, the CSLC was invited by the Boys and Girls Clubs of Colorado to facilitate a workshop on implementing service-learning programming for staff from Clubs across the State.

## Challenges

We are somewhat limited by our inability to accept donations. Going forward we will pursue fiscal agency with a partner organization. This partnership will allow us to collect funds for networking events, website, and marketing materials.

**Want to learn more about the CSLC?**

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