



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 18, 2010

## **More than 200 expected to volunteer for 'Spirit of Service Day'**

For the 12<sup>th</sup> straight year, College of Saint Mary (CSM) students, faculty and staff will come together to give back to the Omaha community through CSM 'Spirit of Service Day' on Thursday, March 25.

This annual effort follows the example of the University's founders, the Sisters of Mercy, and embraces the CSM mission which encourages regard for the dignity of each person and compassionate service to others.



"Education for service is the foundation of who we are at CSM," said Katty Petak, assistant dean of students. "This project gets the entire campus community involved in the outreach of giving back and helping others."

On March 25, the volunteers will gather for a kickoff breakfast at 8 a.m. in the Hixson-Lied Commons and then they will fan out to locations across Omaha (listed below) for either a half-day or full-day of service.

Most of the University's classes are canceled for the day to allow students to volunteer, and no student can be penalized for missing a class to participate.

### **CSM Spirit of Service Day locations:**

- 1) Catholic Charities
  - Campus for Hope ( 9 a.m.- 1 p.m., 1490 N. 16<sup>th</sup> St.)
  - Juan Diego Center (1-4 p.m., 5211 S. 31<sup>st</sup> St.)
- 2) Food Bank of the Heartland (9 a.m. – noon, 6824 J St.)
- 3) Girls, Inc. of Omaha (9 a.m. – noon, 2811 N. 45<sup>th</sup> St.)
- 4) Ted E. Bear Hollow (9 a.m. – noon, 347 N. 76<sup>th</sup> St.)
- 5) American Cancer Society (1-4 p.m., 9850 Nicholas St.)
- 6) Essential Pregnancy Services (9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., 6220 Maple St.)

- 7) Heartland Family Services (9 a.m. – noon, 2101 S. 42<sup>nd</sup> St.)
- 8) Micah House (9 a.m. – noon & 1-4 p.m., 1415 Ave. J, Council Bluffs)
- 9) Ronald McDonald House (1-4 p.m., 620 S. 38<sup>th</sup> Ave.)
- 10) Arthritis Foundation (9 a.m. – noon & 1-4 p.m., 600 N. 93<sup>rd</sup> St.)
- 11) Stephens Center (9 a.m. – noon, 2723 Q St.)
- 12) Mercy Villa (1845 S. 72<sup>nd</sup> St.)
- 13) Habitat for Humanity (9 a.m. – noon & 1-4 p.m., North Omaha)
- 14) Kids Can Community Center (1-4 p.m., 4860 Q St.)
- 15) Open Door Mission (9 a.m. – noon & 1-4 p.m., 2828 N. 23<sup>rd</sup> St. East)

Additionally, there will be three groups of volunteers on campus: 1) Technology Tutoring – Volunteers will work with the Sisters of Mercy teaching them how to navigate the Internet, set-up a Facebook account, etc.; 2) Amanda’s Alligators – Volunteers will help SOTA (Student Occupational Therapy Association) construct a number of Amanda’s Alligators; 3) ENCORE – Volunteers will sort recycled paper & deliver it to the ENCORE site.

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*College of Saint Mary, founded in Omaha in 1923, is the region's only Catholic college for women. With approximately 1,000 students, CSM is dedicated to the education of women in an environment that calls forth potential and fosters leadership. For more information on CSM, visit [www.csm.edu](http://www.csm.edu).*

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