

THE WEEKLY UPDATE

THE NEWSLETTER OF OHIO UNIVERSITY
DEPT. OF SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM

May 26, 2009

Logan Food Bank Trip

On Friday, May 15, 2009, students from Integrative Seminar course (SW 694) and Dr. Carlson visited the Food Bank at Logan to help pack food boxes. The team packed food boxes between 15-17 skids, with 40 boxes per skid to complete the loading of one semi. Stacy Arbaugh and Nicole Pierson also presented \$500 to Linda at the Food Bank, with the idea that they could select the food pantry most in need. Well done Social Work students of 2009!

Top Chef Fundraising Event

Top chef competitors are needed for a fundraising event for UCM that will be held on Friday, June 5. Proceeds benefit Thursday Supper and Saturday Lunch, UCM's weekly meal programs. If you like to cook, please submit your dish for judging by local celebrity judges! Email Mike at mr117105@ohio.edu for details on submitting a dish. Please also contact Mike if you want to volunteer for set-up and clean-up during the event. For further information about the event, please see the attached flyer.

Looking for a Job?

AMERICORP group COMCORP is looking for members for next year for full-time and part-time positions. Great position for new grads! Please find the attached flyer for more information.

Jumping off Bridge

There will be a film screening on issues of suicide on Tuesday, May 26 at Ohio University Baker Center theatre. The event is open students and the public (Please find the attached flyer for detailed information).

Arabian Night

Saturday, May 30

6pm

Walter Hall Rotunda

An evening of dance, fashion and food from the Arabic world! Tickets on sale at International Student and Faculty Services (ISFS) office \$7.00
Contact mc302006@ohio.edu



College of Osteopathic Medicine
Office of Communication
326 Grosvenor Hall
Athens, Ohio 45701
(740) 593-2199 phone
(740) 593-0343 fax
www.oucom.ohiou.edu

PRESS RELEASE

May 18, 2009

AmeriCorps program provides health care assistance OU-COM branch seeks applicants for full- and part-time positions

By Richard Heck

Greta Black was unsure of her plans upon earning a bachelor's degree, but she knew she wanted to work in the health care field.

After nearly two years serving as member of the Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine (OU-COM) Community Health Program's ComCorps program, she now is looking at graduate programs in health care and at opportunities to become a physician assistant.

"I was prone to community service opportunities and health care, so this was a good opportunity," Black said. "It's been all really rewarding. Whether working with children or adults, I enjoyed giving them time and attention."

ComCorps is a branch of AmeriCorps, out of the Corporation for National and Community Service, an independent federal agency created to connect Americans of all ages and backgrounds with opportunities to give back to their communities and the nation. The goal of ComCorps, according to coordinator Nancy Schell, is to provide health education, access to health care and health screenings in Athens County. Recruiting community volunteers, mentoring and building ComCorps member skills are also important components of the program.

"Without the ComCorps program, it would be even more difficult for Athens County residents to find adequate health services," Schell said.

Black worked for OU-COM's Community Health Programs, helping to organize blood drives, assisting with patient intakes for the college's mobile health van and various other free clinics, and working with the breast and cervical cancer screening program.

"I would definitely recommend this to anyone, especially people in my age group who can take the time now to give back to their community," Black said.

Members also conduct health screenings for lice, vision, hearing, gross motor skills and immunizations. They provide access to health care by supporting partner site social

service programs, providing gas vouchers to community members to help them keep medical appointments, conducting home visits for families needing case management, and connecting families with health care resources and providers.

ComCorps members work in a variety of schools and agencies in Athens County, dealing with issues such as dental health, poison prevention, tobacco prevention, and breast and cervical health, Schell said. Some members include Athens, Alexander, Trimble, Nelsonville York and Federal Hocking schools; the Athens-based homeless shelter Good Works; the Athens County Board of Developmental Disabilities-Beacon School; ATCO; and OU-COM's Community Health Programs.

The Office of Community Health Programs currently is recruiting both full-time and part-time ComCorps members for next year, with service starting on Aug. 10. Those selected for full-time service receive a living allowance of \$11,400 and an education award of \$4,725. Part-time members receive an allowance of \$6,035 and an education award of \$2,362.

Applicants must be at least 17 years old, have at least a high school diploma or GED and have their own reliable, insured transportation.

“Never would I have thought that this opportunity to be an AmeriCorps volunteer would have made such a difference in my life,” said Emily Eschmeyer, a ComCorps member who worked for OU-COM's Community Health Programs. “It has opened my eyes to the people and the culture of Athens, Ohio, the place I have called home for the past five years. It has further developed my passion to help others and has opened my eyes to new experiences and opportunities.”

For further information, or to apply, contact Schell at 740-593-2293 or schelln@ohio.edu, or visit the ComCorps website at www.oucom.ohiou.edu/csp. Additional information and applications are also available at the AmeriCorps website at www.americorps.gov/for_individuals/ready/index.asp.

-30-

*Members of the media, please contact
Karoline Lane, Director of Communication, 740.593.2261,
with all inquiries.*

Benefit Dinner & Top Chef Competition

Enjoy a meal with dishes contributed
by the best chefs in Athens!



Friday June 5

6 - 9 p.m.

First Christian Church

24 W. State St., Athens

\$10 - \$20 requested donation

\$5 students & senior citizens

Non-perishable food item

donations are also appreciated

*All proceeds benefit UCM's Thursday
Supper and Saturday Lunch, two
weekly free meal programs.*

**For additional information contact:
Mike Risaliti at mr117105@ohio.edu**

Thursday Supper

Every Thursday 5:30 p.m.

Volunteers Needed 4 - 7 p.m.

Saturday Lunch

Every Saturday 1:15 p.m.

Volunteers Needed 11:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.



UCM:

*Center for Spiritual Growth
& Social Justice*

18 N. College St.
Athens, OH 45701
(740) 593 - 7301