

Service-Learning enhances academic learning.

- Canisius professors understand the value of experiential education. Service-Learning (SL) is implemented in all three Canisius schools: Arts and Sciences, Business, and Education and Human Services.
- SL compliments traditional academic methods and challenges students to put their course curriculum into practice.
- Educational institutions are currently seeking to increase civic engagement because employers are looking for graduates with more real-world experiences. SL is a valuable way for students to familiarize themselves with their community.



We have a diverse array of community partners.

We offer partners in the following areas:

- |                                   |                         |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| • Animals                         | • Healthcare            |
| • Communication & Digital Arts    | • Hunger & Homelessness |
| • Cultural Diversity              | • LGBT                  |
| • Education, Mentoring & Tutoring | • Music and the Arts    |
| • Elderly                         | • Poverty               |
| • ESL & Languages                 | • Refugee Assistance    |
| • Environment                     | • Religious Education   |
| • Financial Literacy              | • Veterans              |

# Learning Goals

- Goal 1: Enhanced understanding of the course material through Community-Based Learning
- Goal 2: Incorporation of Jesuit mission and values into academic experiences
- Goal 3: Make a positive impact in the world
- Goal 4: Undergo transformative experiences that foster personal growth and development



Community-Based Learning  
Canisius College and Buffalo:  
Hope for the Future through Service



Use this QR code to easily access our website.

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# What is Community-Based Learning?



## Community-Based Learning

In Community-Based Learning, students learn how to apply ideas, theories, and models to social issues in a practical context while gaining insights from practitioners in community-based organizations.

## Service-Learning

Service-Learning is a pedagogical method that enables students to apply course concepts to a “real life” experience that meets a community need and to reflect upon all aspects. It involves student work generally with disadvantaged and under-served individuals or groups. Course objectives and student community work are fundamentally integrated throughout the semester.

The basic aim of Service-Learning is two-fold: first, that students’ service will heighten the understanding of central academic themes, goals, or subject matter in their courses; second, that the academic course content will facilitate students’ ability to reflect in deep and meaningful ways on their experiences as agents of social justice.

## Our Jesuit Cornerstones

### MAGIS MEANS MORE

We allow ourselves to dream and to want, even at the risk of failure. Magis then is a challenge to spiritual as well as intellectual excellence. *It is a call to do, feel, and be more for those in need.*

### SOCIAL JUSTICE

We want to promote equal justice in all aspects of society. We want to grow in faith and have that faith reflected in our actions to change unjust social structures. *We want to make a positive impact on the world.*

### DISCERNMENT AND REFLECTION

Reflection is a core principle of Jesuit education, and when reflection becomes a staple of one’s life the answers to life’s questions become more clear. *We are able to discern the best choice for all.*

### CARE OF THE PERSON (CURA PERSONALIS)

Caring for the individual extends beyond yourself to caring for those around you—to caring for the “other”. Caring for another can be as simple as offering a listening ear, sharing stories, giving advice, or brightening a day with kind words or a helping hand. *Service is the very embodiment of our human capacity for empathy and compassion.*

### MEN AND WOMEN WITH AND FOR OTHERS

We generously serve others. We care about the world around us and strive to make a difference. In order to be a man or woman for others *we try to be selfless and take action to help those in need.*

### FINDING GOD IN ALL

Ignatian spirituality invites a person to *search for and find God in every circumstance of life.* We ask ourselves how this search affects our approach to our education, as well as research and work in our field of interest.



## Our Mission

The mission of the Office for Community-Based Learning is to incorporate direct community service within the academic experience at Canisius, principally through the pedagogical method of service-learning. Through service, students are given the opportunity to live out the cornerstones of the Jesuit mission and values.



## Our Vision

Canisius students will be transformed by a meaningful service-learning experience to become men and women with and for others, striving to do more (magis), and to promote social justice. Students will be able to reflect upon and express how the reciprocal relationships between academics and service experiences have helped them to increase their awareness of the needs of others.