

## **Common Pathways for St. Olaf Student Engagement with Local Organizations**

St. Olaf College is eager to partner with local organizations and businesses to facilitate opportunities for students to both learn and contribute. We know that students benefit from opportunities to apply learning and gain "real world" experience, and that organizations can benefit from the skills, ideas, and enthusiasm of St. Olaf students.

### **Internships**

An internship is a structured opportunity to learn, grow and contribute in a professional setting and generally requires a commitment of at least 50 hours. Students often seek part-time internships anytime in the year (2-10 hours/week) and some are interested in full-time internships in January (Interim term) or summer. Students can apply for internship funding to help support unpaid or underpaid internships over Interim (minimum 4 weeks and 150 hours) or summer (minimum 8 weeks and 240 hours). Students have the option of pursuing academic credit for an internship. See [Hosting an Internship](#) website resource for information on promoting an internship (including a position description template) and working with the St. Olaf calendar. If you would like to promote a specific internship position, please post to [Handshake](#), our new (and improved) job and internship database.

*Contact:* Thando Kunene <kunene@stolaf.edu>, Assistant Director, Piper Center for Vocation & Career

### **Community-Based Work Study**

Community Based Work Study (CBWS) allows students with Federal or State financial funding to earn their work study awards working off campus at local non-profit organizations or in preK-8 classrooms. Community non-profit organizations employ student workers for 8-10 hours per week. Both the organization and institution contribute to the work study wage. The program provides the opportunity for students to devote a significant amount of work study time to a local project. Students develop transitional skills while learning about community issues and services. All CBWS students are required to attend a workshop each term that targets issues relevant to the work off campus and skill building techniques. All work takes place off the St Olaf campus. The College does provide transportation for students that leave campus for work study.

*Contact:* Audrey Turner <turner6@stolaf.edu>, Student and Staff Employment Specialist

### **Academic Civic Engagement**

Academic civic engagement courses involve students working with the community as a means of achieving the learning goals of the course. Students interact with, and in some cases, provide a "product" to a community partner. Project goals are determined by a combination of community needs and the learning outcomes of the course. Examples of interactions with the community include service-related activities such as tutoring, volunteering, and providing enrichment experiences. Examples of products students have created include marketing plans, grant proposals, statistical research, public art, videos, photo collections, and outreach/educational materials. If you have a project in mind, contact Alyssa Herzog Melby who will meet with you to discuss your organization's needs and help identify faculty teaching courses that would be a good fit for the project.

*Contact:* Alyssa Herzog Melby <melby1@stolaf.edu>, Academic Civic Engagement

### **Volunteer Network** (student organization)

The St. Olaf College Volunteer Network is committed to providing volunteer opportunities for students that benefit both St. Olaf and the larger community. As a student organization, its goal is to make a variety of volunteer programs available to students; from one-time events to those that will provide for lasting participation. VN supports projects that provide a wide range of services for children, the elderly, individuals with special needs, pets, and more. Contact the VN coordinator if you are interested starting a volunteer program and they will assist in reaching out to the St. Olaf student community.

*Contact:* Kris Vatter <vatter@stolaf.edu>, Director of Student Activities

Becca Person <person1@stolaf.edu>, VN Coordinator 2018-19