

# UNIFIED WE SERVE

## THE VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

### 2012-2013 One Amazing Community

**2012-2013 Service Theme:** One Amazing Community

**Freshman Common Reading Influence:** *One Amazing Thing* by Chitra Divakaruni

**Campus Collaboration with:** Unified We Serve, Community Engagement, & Academic First Year Experiences

**Overall Goal:** To engage the CSUN community in experiencing *One Amazing Thing* through serving our community. Our goal is to help the CSUN community gain One Amazing Thing through learning about One Amazing Thing in the lives of our community members.

**Potential service events relating to theme:**

**1. Oviatt Library Display**

- a. Documenting 6-8 stories centering on the theme of one amazing thing that influenced the participant's life.
- b. Interviews will be conducted over the summer with representatives from the following groups: Veteran, Cancer Survivor, Disabled, Holocaust/Genocide Survivor, Foster Youth, Elderly, Formerly Homeless, First Generation College Students.
- c. Transcript/story and memorabilia/archives will be displayed of each participant in the entryway display cases of the Oviatt Library from end of August to end of September.
- d. At the end of September, we will host a commemoration for these participants in the Oviatt Library Presentation Room, in which participants will share their stories publicly.
- e. This event will launch the One Amazing Community year-long campaign.

**2. Ongoing Visits with Community Members: Group Service Days**

- a. CSUN students, faculty, and staff will have the opportunity to visit community members from the aforementioned constituents (i.e., Veterans' Hospitals, Hospices, Children's Hospitals, Food Kitchens, etc.), as a day of service.
- b. Dates will be plotted on the calendar and sign-ups will be offered on the Unified We Serve website ([www.csun.edu/unifiedweserve](http://www.csun.edu/unifiedweserve)).

**3. Natural Disaster Simulation (Optional)**

- a. Unified We Serve is willing to host an event for up to 100 UNIV 100 students that will simulate the experience of living through a natural disaster and having to survive.

- b. Simulation consists of a three hour long event that will place students in groups that represent different socio-economic status after a disaster. Simulation involves four 15-minute intervals, which simulate four weeks of trying to maintain their households.
- c. Issues relating to the book *One Amazing Thing* will be discussed and additional volunteer events will be offered.

**4. Mentorship Program (Spring 2013)**

- a. In partnership with the PARTI Program (a mentorship nonprofit organization), students will mentor youth at local high schools and middle schools.
- b. Program runs 4-6 weeks, twice-a-week. CSUN students will mentor youth after school and develop a fashion/talent show as a way to teach leadership and life skills.
- c. Program will culminate with a fashion/talent show at CSUN at the end of March 2013 that will bring all the participants from the various schools together to celebrate their accomplishments.
- d. A major focus at the schools will be helping the youth to identify “One Amazing Thing” that they will strive for in their life.

**5. One Amazing Community Display Board on CSUN Campus**

- a. Throughout the academic year, various display boards will be set up around the CSUN campus where CSUN students, faculty, and staff can write in their One Amazing Thing for the campus to share.
- b. The [Unified We Serve website](#) will also be utilized as a posting station where CSUN students, faculty, staff and community members will post their One Amazing Thing stories as part of an internet collage.

**6. Habitat for Humanity Builds (Tentative)**

- a. CSUN students, faculty and staff will build homes for families in Sylmar, CA.
- b. Build dates will be plotted on Unified We Serve calendar.

**Annual Events: 2012-2013 Dates**

1. **Zumbathon:** Oct. 4 (Thursday), 6-8 pm, Matadome (Tentative)
2. **AIDS Walk:** Oct. 14 (Sunday), 7 am-2 pm, Hollywood
3. **MEND Super Saturday:**, Oct. 27 (Saturday), 7 am-1 pm, Pacoima
4. **4<sup>th</sup> Annual CSUN Campus Clothing & Food Drive:** Oct. 29 (Monday)-Nov. 14 (Wednesday).
5. **4<sup>th</sup> Annual CSUN Campus Clothing & Food Drive Display:** Nov. 14 (Wednesday)
6. **Veterans Day Letter Writing Campaign:** Nov. 8 (Thursday), 11 am-2 pm, USU
7. **Relay for Life:** Mar. 23-24 (Saturday-Sunday), 12 pm (Sat.)-12 pm (Sun.), CSUN
8. **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Cesar Chavez Service Fair:** Mar. 26 (Tuesday), 11 am-2 pm, Cleary Walk West