



OFFICE OF CIVIC & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY PROGRAM GUIDE

Thousands of volunteers serving hundreds of organizations



THE OFFICE OF CIVIC & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

The Office of Civic & Social Responsibility is dedicated to developing students as engaged community citizens and leaders for positive social change.

Programs in the Office of Civic & Social Responsibility are designed to foster purpose and passion. Our office is student-centered and focuses on encouraging civic engagement to create positive social change in the Omaha metro area and beyond. We connect the UNO community with local nonprofits for the betterment of our society. Together, we are a force for positive social change.

WHO DO WE SERVE?

UNO STUDENTS

Students who participate in our programs will learn:

- leadership, teamwork, effective communication, and critical thinking skills
- social, emotional, and intercultural competencies
- about civic identity: a sense of purpose and leadership within the community

UNIVERSITY & COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

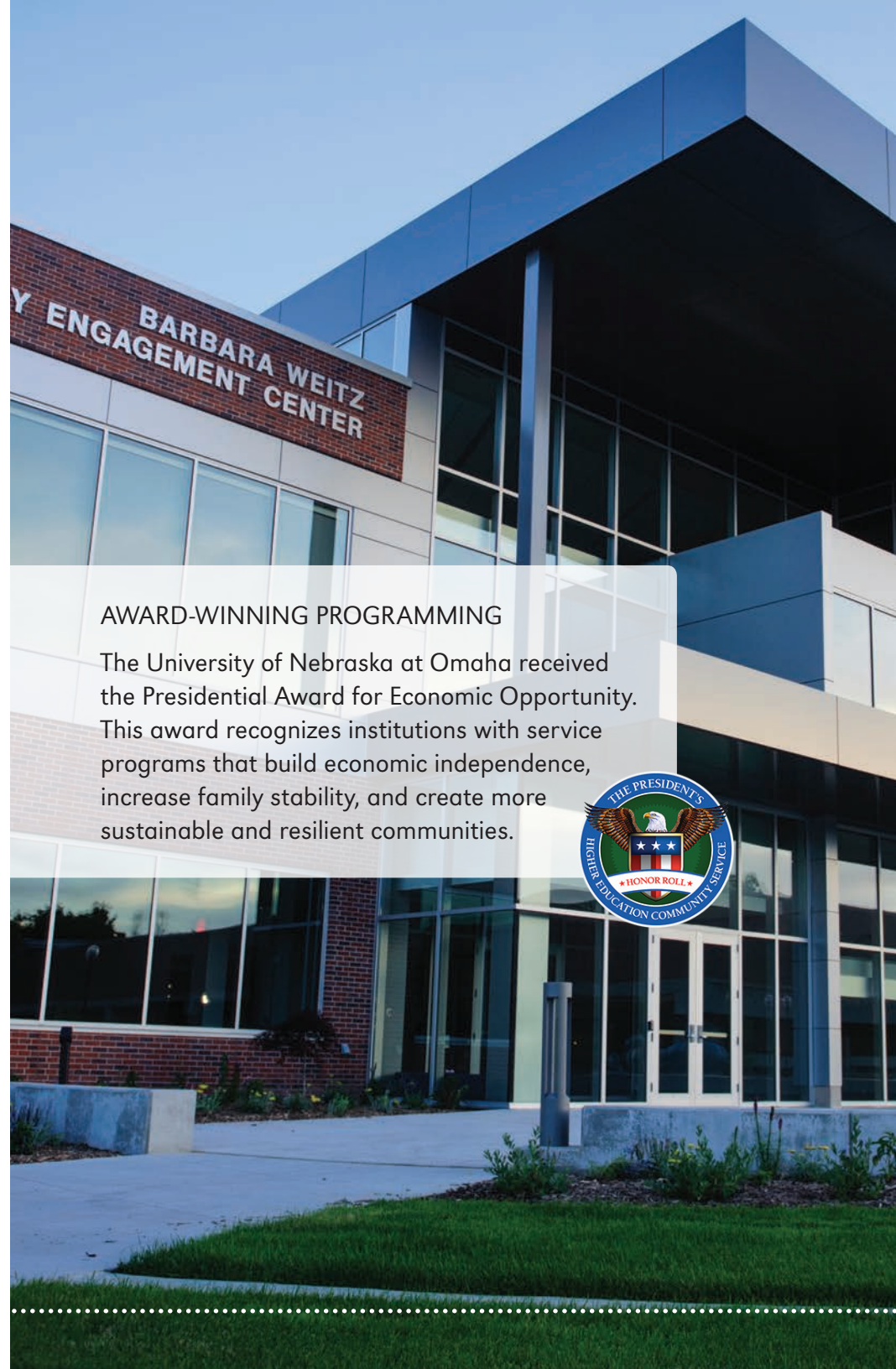
We connect the network of UNO alumni, faculty, staff, and community volunteers with meaningful and enriching service opportunities.

NONPROFIT & COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

Our partners receive ongoing support from the UNO community, opportunities to post service & volunteer events, and the opportunity to utilize UNO student volunteers.

THE GREATER METRO AREA & BEYOND

Our reach extends from the Omaha Metro Area to around the globe.



AWARD-WINNING PROGRAMMING

The University of Nebraska at Omaha received the Presidential Award for Economic Opportunity. This award recognizes institutions with service programs that build economic independence, increase family stability, and create more sustainable and resilient communities.





The Office of Civic & Social Responsibility organizes the volunteer opportunities into six Service Areas. Each Service Area encompasses awareness, education and action towards positive social change in the Omaha Metro Area and beyond.

THE SERVICE AREAS

Service Areas help UNO and community volunteers easily find service opportunities within their area of interest. Nonprofit organizations provide numerous opportunities to collaborate with other community partners.

ECONOMIC SUFFICIENCY

Economic Sufficiency addresses the causes, consequences, and solutions to poverty. Early childhood development and resource sustainability are also encompassed in this area.

EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT

Educational Support comprises the learning needs in the Omaha and global community. STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) initiatives, youth programs, and the arts also included in this area.

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Environmental Stewardship entails sustainability efforts to increase awareness, develop sustainable solutions, and engage the global community in the improvement of our environment.

HEALTH & WELLNESS

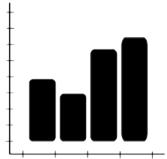
Health and Wellness advocates for healthy lifestyles and the wellness needs of all. Access to resources and other environmental factors are also encompassed in this area.

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

International Service understands the needs and concerns of Omaha's international population. This area leads global engagement and cooperation to address worldwide issues.

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Social Justice covers inequality, social structures, and the social needs of underprivileged populations. This includes gang and crime prevention, issues of equality, community, and advocacy.



THE COLLABORATIVE

The Collaborative aims to create programs that empower students to affect positive change within the community. The Collaborative is a program that connects UNO students with nonprofit organizations for an all-encompassing pre-professional experience during the academic year.

Each nonprofit that works with The Collaborative has a Service Manager who is dedicated to connecting the organization to the UNO community. Additionally, each Service Area has a Service Supervisor who supports the Service Managers.

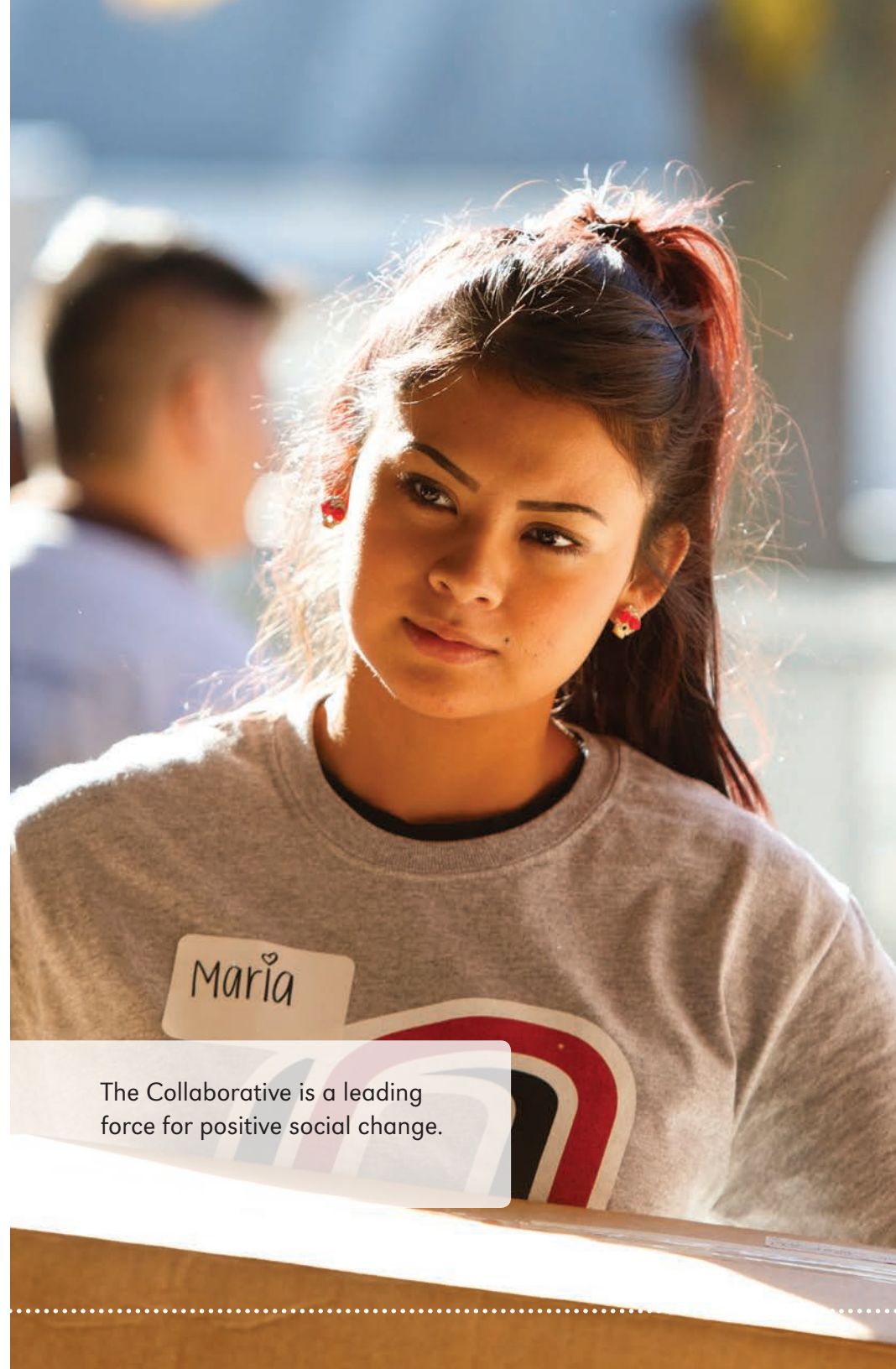
SERVICE SUPERVISORS

Service Supervisors are UNO students who are committed to the causes of their Service Area. Each month, The Collaborative highlights a specific Service Area and the Service Supervisor plans awareness events and service projects to support their Service Area. Additionally, the Service Supervisor supports the Service Managers to ensure a successful partnership between UNO and the nonprofit organization.

SERVICE MANAGERS

Service Managers are UNO students who are paired with a nonprofit organization for an academic year. They collaborate with the organization on event planning, volunteer recruitment, fundraising, and other aspects of the nonprofit sector. Service Managers facilitate other programming by helping their organization use Signature Service Days to complete a project of recruit volunteers through the Volunteer Connections Center.

Service Managers and Service Supervisors receive ongoing education on a variety of topics in the nonprofit sector: fundraising, issue awareness, promotions, event planning, community building, and more.



The Collaborative is a leading force for positive social change.

MAVERICK FOOD PANTRY

The Maverick Food Pantry provides food packages those in need. We serve the University family: UNO students, faculty, and staff.

UNO's Maverick Food Pantry contributes to UNO's culture of caring by providing food to those in immediate need and connecting them with resources in the greater Omaha area for long-term support. We are dedicated to eliminating hunger in the UNO community and increasing awareness of food insecurity and nutrition. UNO students, faculty, and staff can anonymously request a food package on MavSYNC and pick up the package in CEC 130. Maverick Food Pantry volunteers sort donations, assemble food packages, and assist those picking up packages.

If you would like to make a monetary or non perishable food donation, we welcome your participation.



SIGNATURE SERVICE DAYS

Each academic year, UNO sponsors multiple days of service in which volunteers engage in service projects around the community for a day.

Signature Service Days have expanded to over nineteen days dedicated to service throughout the academic year. On a Signature Service Day, UNO students, faculty, and staff, along with our K-12 partners, Metropolitan Community College, and community volunteers, come to the Community Engagement Center and are transported into the community to complete service projects.

VOLUNTEERS

All UNO and community members are invited to volunteer on Signature Service Days. To register as a volunteer, sign up on MavSYNC. Volunteers meet at the Community Engagement Center in the morning and are transported into the community to complete service projects. Volunteers receive complimentary:

- breakfast and lunch
- Signature Service Day t-shirt
- transportation to and from service project sites

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

If your organization provides the supplies, we provide the volunteers. We take on any project that the average group of high-spirited, civic-minded people can complete in a day's work.

- Does your organization need help preparing for an upcoming event? *We can do that.*
- Have a parking lot that needs the lines repainted? *We can do that, too.*
- Do you need envelopes stuffed or files sorted? *Send it to our office and we can complete the project here.*

If you can dream it (and provide the supplies), we can do it!

ANNUAL SIGNATURE SERVICE DAY EVENTS

- 9/11 Remembrance Day
- Fall Volunteer Fair
- Three Days of Service
- Make a Difference Day
- Veterans Day
- World AIDS Day
- Martin Luther King Day
- Spring Volunteer Fair
- Seven Days of Service
- Global Youth Service Day





SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

UNO students can start their own service project. UNO students who are interested in starting their own service project can do so through Clinton Global Initiative University (CGI U) or UNO Seed Projects.

ABOUT CGI U

President Clinton launched the Clinton Global Initiative University (CGI U) in 2007 to engage the next generation of leaders on college campuses around the world. Each year, CGI U hosts a meeting where students, university representatives, topic experts, and celebrities come together to discuss and develop innovative solutions to pressing global challenges.

But CGI U is more than just an event. It is a growing community of young leaders who don't just discuss global challenges - they take real, concrete steps toward solving them. Throughout the year, and as a prerequisite of attending the CGI U meeting, students develop their own Commitment to Action: new, specific, and measurable initiatives that address pressing challenges on campus, in local communities, or around the world. Commitments range from manufacturing wheelchairs for developing countries to establishing campus bike share programs, from creating free vision clinics to developing e-learning applications for mobile phones.

UNO SEED PROJECTS

UNO students can take the lead in making a difference in our community by starting a UNO Seed Project. Creating a UNO Seed Project gives students the opportunity to build their resume, learn new skills, and make a positive change in the community. The Office of Civic & Social Responsibility can help by providing a project stipend, advice, and guidance on how to make a service project come to life.

VOLUNTEER CONNECTION CENTER

The Volunteer Connections Center encourages UNO and community members to discover their passion and purpose through service opportunities.

ANNUAL VOLUNTEER FAIRS

The UNO community and other area volunteers are invited to attend the Fall and Spring Volunteer Fairs. Interested volunteers are able to meet face-to-face with representatives from over 30 nonprofit organizations. Volunteers learn about the organization's programs, services, and clients served. Additionally, they see how nonprofit organizations address community needs, and volunteers can explore opportunities available to make a positive impact within the community.

UNO SERVE

The Office of Civic & Social Responsibility sends out weekly emails from UNO Serve, which highlights service opportunities in the Omaha area. To receive emails from UNO Serve or to submit service opportunities for us to post, email: unoserve@unomaha.edu.

MavSYNC

UNO students can search opportunities by organization, service area, and time commitment on MavSYNC. The system also tracks students' service hours, which creates an invaluable co-curricular resume. Community nonprofits can update their MavSYNC page so students can learn about their organization and see their upcoming events and service opportunities.

For more information, visit mavsync.unomaha.edu



"We work with UNO students through the Volunteer Connections Center, and I have been extremely impressed. I couldn't have asked for a better fit. They were interested in the project, asked great questions, and offered valuable input. They were wonderful!"

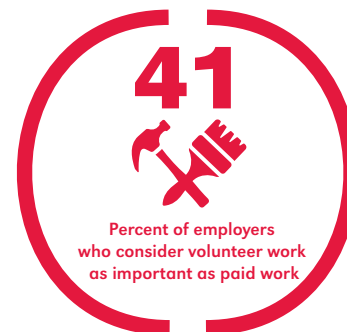
– Natalie Linstrom, WhyArts? Inc.



SERVICE MATTERS

Studies show volunteering is not only fun, but greatly contributes to overall student success.

- Those who volunteer are 27% more likely to find a job than those who do not volunteer (www.nationalservice.gov)
- Youth who volunteer are more likely to do well in school, graduate, vote, and be philanthropic. (UCLA/Higher Education Research Institute, 1991)
- According to the Corporation for National and Community Service, 61.8 million individuals in the United States contributed 8 billion hours of volunteerism in 2008 alone. The economic value of all this volunteering is \$162 billion.
- Youth who volunteer just one hour or more a week are 50% less likely to abuse alcohol, cigarettes, become pregnant, or engage other destructive behavior. (University of Nevada)
- Volunteering increases an individual's experience, education, skills, and training (Nonprofit Quarterly)





OFFICE OF CIVIC & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Barbara Weitz Community Engagement Center (CEC) 130
402.554.4083 | UNOserve@unomaha.edu | serve.unomaha.edu

The University of Nebraska at Omaha shall not discriminate based upon age, race, ethnicity, color, national origin, gender-identity, sex, pregnancy, disability, sexual orientation, genetic information, veteran's status, marital status, religion, or political affiliation.
