The Center for Community and Civic Engagement (CCCE) at Carleton is a dynamic hub that connects the college to local community partners in Minnesota and to national and international organizations, engaging in shared projects that foster mutually beneficial learning and positive social change. Our strands of work include curricular and co-curricular programming, community-engaged fellowships and community-based work study placements.

CCCE helps deepen students’ learning and develop their professional, civic, and leadership skills through meaningful projects and collaborations that respond to community needs. Each strand of our work contributes to the College’s strategic goal of preparing students for life as engaged citizens after Carleton while helping fulfill its public role as a place-based institution.

**CCCE BY THE NUMBERS**

1,023 students are engaged with our office.

CBWS 5%

Program 26%

ACE 69%

Our longest standing community partnership began in 1965 with Project Friendship.

CCCE fundraisers brought in $45,100 for community partners.

Lighten Up Garage Sale 80%

Empty Bowls 18%

Other Fundraisers 2%

**STRANDS OF WORK**

**Academic Civic Engagement (ACE):** CCCE supports faculty to develop course-based projects done in collaboration with community partners. These ACE courses have reached an all-time record of 90 courses this academic year, up from an average of 45 per year, as more faculty incorporate this high-impact pedagogy into their teaching. ACE courses intersect with each of CCCE’s co-curricular focus areas. To see one example of ACE coursework, click on this link to a video created for a Northfield non-profit, Believer. This video is one of many impressive short films created by students in Media and Cinema studies Professor Laska Jimsen’s “Non-Fiction” course.

**Co-Curricular Programs:** Co-Curricular programs in CCCE connect student volunteers in 40 volunteer programs with local community partner organizations, promoting positive social change in the focus areas of Education, Environmental Systems, Health and Wellbeing, and Peace and Conflict. CCCE Fellows and volunteer Program Directors recruit, coordinate, and manage their peers to fulfill community-expressed needs.

**Fellowships:** During summer and winter breaks, students join partner organizations as short-term team members, and receive stipends from CCCE thanks to our generous donors. The stipends make these valuable experiences possible for students regardless of their family financial circumstances. Examples of recent fellowships include diversity and equity work for the City of Northfield, research for the Center for Victims of Torture in Minneapolis, and workers’ rights campaigns in Miami.

**Community-Based Work Study:** CCCE also facilitates community engagement through community-based work study opportunities. Around 30 students each year earn their work study awards with local schools and non-profit organizations. This diverse group of students assists school teachers with one-on-one support for students in math and literacy, advocates for public policies concerning adults with disabilities, and plans Spanish language programming at the public library. This benefits our local partners as they are are able to hire students to boost their organization’s capacity at a very affordable cost while helping students develop professional skills in a real world setting with the support of both the College and community.

**Student Leadership:** Student Leadership development occurs in multiple ways. 30 student Fellows, all part of Carleton’s Peer Leader collaborative, coordinate and support CCCE and Public Scholarship work, as well as promote an ethic of life-long service, emergent leadership, and civic engagement broadly in the Carleton student body. 74 student program directors coordinate peer volunteers in our co-curricular programs.
The **Environmental Systems** cohort aims to promote sustainable initiatives through community activism, engagement, and collaboration. Areas of focus include mitigation of food insecurity, education and practice of sustainable agriculture, and diversion of food and consumer waste from landfills.

One example of programming in this focus area includes the Food Recovery Network (FRN). Started in 2014, this network builds bridges between dining hall staff, students and community partners. FRN student volunteer hours have doubled each year over the last three years. They recover food six days a week with an average of 300 pounds a week, that is distributed to organizations serving food-insecure communities such as Greenvale Community School, Northfield Food Shelf, Area Learning Center, The Key, St. Dominic’s Church, Faribault Adult learning Center, and Laura Baker Services.

Further, CCCE has collaborated with Carleton’s Sustainability Office, the City of Northfield and the Community Action Center of Northfield (CAC) to develop a community-wide response to food insecurity. The CAC is transforming to a SuperShelf model, creating welcoming environments to access appealing, healthy food. We are combining this SuperShelf model with Carleton’s food recovery volunteer base and the City of Northfield’s infrastructure to address food recovery at the community level.

**Education** programs focus on students in the Northfield and Faribault public school districts. Both districts are striving to improve the equity of their schools in the context of rapidly changing demographics and the welcoming of thousands of new citizens and residents. CCCE Fellows and Carleton volunteers actively tutor and mentor students across college access programs, homework help, after-school, community school, and community college collaborative programming.

**Health and Wellbeing** is the focus area that connects students to local organizations working to better the physical, mental and/or emotional health of our communities. These programs support community-based efforts ranging from providing healthcare to under-and uninsured families, to building lasting relationships with youth and seniors, to supporting survivors of gender-based violence.

**Peace and Conflict** is a new focus area that seeks to engender conversation about the root causes of inequality, injustice and violence. We address current local and global issues through lectures, community conversations, film screenings and podcast listening and discussion sessions. One major theme within this focus area is migration, which cuts across many aspects of the CCCE’s work. Paper Airplanes, a CCCE program created by then-student Bailey Albricht ’15 that provides virtual tutoring to Syrian refugees, has spread to over 60 Colleges.

---

**Co-Curricular Focus Areas**

**Education** programs focus on students in the Northfield and Faribault public school districts. Both districts are striving to improve the equity of their schools in the context of rapidly changing demographics and the welcoming of thousands of new citizens and residents. CCCE Fellows and Carleton volunteers actively tutor and mentor students across college access programs, homework help, after-school, community school, and community college collaborative programming.

**Health and Wellbeing** is the focus area that connects students to local organizations working to better the physical, mental and/or emotional health of our communities. These programs support community-based efforts ranging from providing healthcare to under-and uninsured families, to building lasting relationships with youth and seniors, to supporting survivors of gender-based violence.

**Peace and Conflict** is a new focus area that seeks to engender conversation about the root causes of inequality, injustice and violence. We address current local and global issues through lectures, community conversations, film screenings and podcast listening and discussion sessions. One major theme within this focus area is migration, which cuts across many aspects of the CCCE’s work. Paper Airplanes, a CCCE program created by then-student Bailey Albricht ’15 that provides virtual tutoring to Syrian refugees, has spread to over 60 Colleges.

---

**CCCE Initiatives**

**Participatory Action Research (PAR):** Carleton was awarded a $100,000 grant from the Corporation for National and Community Service to conduct a PAR project about the educational experiences of Somali and Latinx families in Faribault, MN. The project, co-directed by Education faculty Anita Chikkatur and CCCE director Amel Gorani, is done in deep collaboration with the Faribault school district and two community organizations, all with the support of CCCE staff and students. Thirty community researchers (high school students, parents of high schoolers, and teachers) will be trained in PAR methodology to conduct research on what is working and what can be improved. The project leverages the knowledge and expertise of the community to examine and address concerns. PAR exemplifies Carleton’s desire to utilize more egalitarian models of community-based work.

**Public Works:** CCCE has collaborated closely with Carleton’s Public Works Initiative supported by the Mellon grant. CCCE has supported faculty applying for Public Works grants with developing and implementing their projects. As part of a surge in our public programming in the arts and humanities, we hosted Civic Poetics events with prominent Minnesotan poets from around the state as well as a poetry slam featuring Northfield high school students in collaboration with non-profit TruArtSpeaks and the Northfield Poet Laureate.

We are grateful for the investments of time and trust from community partners who serve as co-educators for our students, faculty, and staff, and have welcomed us into their organizations. We are equally grateful for the generosity of Carleton alumni and Carleton’s investment in CCCE as a vital function of the College. This work would not be possible without all your support!