

MOHAWK COLLEGE'S CAMPUS TO COMMUNITY SEEKING SIX MORE PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

Mohawk College is growing its highly successful Campus to Community volunteer outreach program by onboarding six more non-profit partners for the upcoming academic year.

Mohawk students volunteered with 12 community partners in 2018-2019 and the program will grow to 18 partners for 2019-2020 and 24 by the end of 2021.

"Campus to Community demonstrates Mohawk's commitment to community leadership through providing our students with the opportunities to develop their philanthropic abilities and foster the giving of their time, talent and treasure," said Rochelle Reid, director, student life.

"We know many non-profit organizations struggle with resources, whether financial or human, so this helps to close that gap, while introducing these groups to all the resources available to them at Mohawk College."

Partnerships were launched this year with: Mission Services of Hamilton, Special Olympics Hamilton, Boys and Girls Clubs of Hamilton, Native Women's Centre, St. Peter's Residence at Chedoke, and the North Hamilton Community Health Centre.

They joined previous partners: Ronald McDonald House, Eva Rothwell Centre, Habitat for Humanity Hamilton, Neighbour to Neighbour Centre, Wesley Urban Ministries, and Stewards of Cootes Watershed.

Campus to Community also illustrates Mohawk's commitment to creating pathways to education among under-served populations, says Reid.

"Any time we are in the community, we are building the awareness of the opportunity to access education at the College for anyone who wants to do so. That is a key strategic priority for us at Mohawk."

Prospective partners are asked to complete an online application that explains how Mohawk students could positively impact the communities they serve, and how a partnership with Campus to Community could offer an enriched experience to the College's students.

"We really welcome out-of-the-box thinking. Our students have tremendous capacity, so we are open to big ideas," said Claire Webber, Campus to Community Liaison.

Each partner organization is matched with a student lead who is the point person for program facilitation,

event planning, and student recruitment and transportation. That sets Mohawk's program apart from other college volunteer outreach programs, says Webber.

"The Campus to Community program turbocharges a connection between students and the community. Students get practical experience and the satisfaction that comes with contributing, and non-profits get the help they need"

– Alan Hansell, founder and executive director, Stewards of Cootes Watershed

Allison Lucido, a student lead with Special Olympics and Wesley Urban Ministries, says her goal is to make the process easy and rewarding for both student volunteers and her community partners.

"Our partners are so appreciative of the support from Mohawk College, and thankful for the students who are spending time with them," she said.

"I was born and raised in Hamilton, but I have learned so much about what is happening in the city and the incredible work these organizations do."



Campus to Community volunteers clearing out garbage and debris with Stewards of Cootes Watershed in September 2018

Creating connections between
community organizations and students.



May 1, 2018 - April 29, 2019



To apply for a Campus to Community partnership, or to learn more visit

mohawkcollege.ca/campustocommunity

Applications opened May 1 and will close May 24.

