

# COMMUNITY IMPACT

Making impact on the communities Moraine Park serves is a strategic priority and goal.

Connecting the college and community for the goals of fostering collaboration and connectivity among business, alumni and community partners increases the visibility of the college impact to the communities we serve. Moraine Park students and employees are also helping fulfill community needs, sharing their time and talent, connecting and volunteering to help and improve the communities where we live, work and go to school.

## Why Should Students Participate in Community Impact?

- Increases understanding of what you are learning in your program courses.
- Gain hands-on experience.
- The possibility of leading to an internship or job.
- Explore and act on your values and beliefs to make a difference in your community.
- Develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills.
- Grow your understanding of diverse cultures and communities.
- Learn more about community issues and their root causes.
- Improve your ability to adapt to change; become more flexible.
- Develop or enhance your skills in communication, collaboration and leadership.
- Test out your skills and interests in your career path field.
- Connect with professionals and community members who you will learn from and might be able to use a reference.
- Looks GREAT on a resume.
- Earn an MPTC Community Impact Award! This Award is something you are encouraged to add to your resume/portfolio.
  - 25 hours – Bronze Award
  - 50 hours – Silver Award
  - 100 hours – Gold Award
  - 200 hours – President's Award

## Ways to Participate

### Service Learning

- Moraine Park Technical College is committed to community engagement and student success. The College supports these commitments through the opportunity for students to participate in service learning and apply their classroom knowledge to an applicable, real-world environment.
- Service learning is defined as a method of teaching characterized by student participation in an organized service project that meets an identified community need and is connected to course content-specific learning outcomes with structured reflection relating to the service activity.
- Service learning gives students the opportunity to volunteer their time and skills to meet a community need as a team member on a project that is meaningful and relative to their area of study.

- For more information on service learning, contact **Iolanda Oliva, Social and Behavioral Sciences Instructor** at: [ioliva@morainepark.edu](mailto:ioliva@morainepark.edu) or 262-335-5747.

### Student Volunteers

- We encourage our students and staff to share their time and talent, connecting and volunteering to help and improve the communities where they live, work and go to school.
- We find opportunities, track hours and reflections through NobleHour: <https://volunteer.morainepark.edu> ([https://volunteer.morainepark.edu/?\\_gl=1\\*1fzac64\\*\\_gcl\\_au\\*Mzc1NzQ4NTk0LjE3NDQzMDIyMDE.\\*\\_ga\\*Mzg0Mj...](https://volunteer.morainepark.edu/?_gl=1*1fzac64*_gcl_au*Mzc1NzQ4NTk0LjE3NDQzMDIyMDE.*_ga*Mzg0Mj...))
- View our ([https://volunteer.morainepark.edu/?\\_gl=1\\*1fzac64\\*\\_gcl\\_au\\*Mzc1NzQ4NTk0LjE3NDQzMDIyMDE.\\*\\_ga\\*Mzg0Mj...](https://volunteer.morainepark.edu/?_gl=1*1fzac64*_gcl_au*Mzc1NzQ4NTk0LjE3NDQzMDIyMDE.*_ga*Mzg0Mj...)) Student Community Impact Handbook (<https://libs.morainepark.edu/docs/academic-affairs/experiential-learning/student-community-impact-handbook.pdf>) for directions and more information.