Community Service

Sharing/Caring is a winning combination at SCTD

One man’s conviction has become a mission for the entire college! Craig Niemann, Chair of the Graphic Design and Web Development programs, believes service learning provides students with real work experience, and the satisfaction of helping address community needs. The work students provide means that non-profit agencies can offer more services to their clients; he believes service learning is a winning choice for everyone. Now, SCTD has taken service learning to a new level with its Center of Hope partnership. The Center, a homeless shelter affiliated with the Salvation Army, is also a food bank, a one-stop center for access to a complete array of services, an educational facility, and a clothes closet. Sullivan’s students and programs have all contributed to improve conditions there.

Much has accomplished in a few months:

The College collected and delivered multiple carloads of clothing and shoes, kitchen and cleaning supplies, and provided 134 blankets for clients • participated in a candlelight vigil for shelter awareness • provided Christmas gifts for 14 Angels, all clients of the shelter • designed and implemented a unique website for the Center, centerofhopelouisville.org, previously serviced only by a link on the Salvation Army website • developed a logo and branded materials for the Center, giving the Center of Hope a specific identity and increasing public recognition of the Center and its mission • created drawings for renovations planned for a reception and office area • designed and space-planned a small office, completed painting of some of the shelter areas, and removed broken surveillance equipment throughout the Center: Students Yohance Henry, Andrew Robbins and Isaac Kennedy, all SkillsUSA students, repaired the equipment and will reinstall and network it so activity can be observed on a computer linked to the system. • Four computers were provided for use at the Center and made capable of meeting the Center’s needs. • Twelve women, clients of the Center, attended a computer applications workshop at SCTD where they learned how to do a resume, received e-mail addresses and learned how to use them. • Skills USA and ASID student chapter members sponsored a Christmas tree at SCTD and everyone helped decorate it with hats, gloves, mittens and scarves. Students from both organizations, including Tony Jackson, Robert Thompson and Laura Thompson, traveled with Instructor Carla Wallace to deliver the tree to the Center.

Sullivan College of Technology and Design is proud to partner with the Center of Hope. The partnership benefits students by providing opportunities to practice skills they learn in class and strengthen their commitment to the community, and their leadership skills in the process. The Center of Hope benefits by the improvements students have made with respect to equipment, space renovation, and training. Director Matt Yates stated, that “the work went way beyond my expectations. I can’t begin to express my thanks to the College for all it has done so far.”

Now, the College can do even more!

As Techniques goes to press, it has learned that, thanks to Lowe’s, and it’s partnership with the national SkillsUSA chapter, the College has just been awarded a $10,000 service learning grant.

The College hopes to use the funds to correct some of the structural issues at the Center. Watch for an update in the next issue of Techniques.