Stronger TOGETHER For Worcester

2018 – 2019 Community Benefits Report





ASSUMPTION COLLEGE

WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS | ROME, ITALY

Light the way.



ASSUMPTION COLLEGE

WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS | ROME, ITALY

Mission Statement

Assumption College, a Catholic institution sponsored by the Augustinians of the Assumption and rooted in the Catholic intellectual tradition, strives to form graduates known for critical intelligence, thoughtful citizenship, and compassionate service. We pursue these ambitious goals through a curriculum grounded in the liberal arts and extending to the domain of professional studies. Enlivened by the Catholic affirmation of the harmony of faith and reason, we aim, by the pursuit of the truth, to transform the minds and hearts of students. Assumption favors diversity and ecumenically welcomes all who share its goals.

CAMPUS COMMUNITY SERVICE GROUPS

Assumption Athletics **Campus Ministry** Community Service Learning Reach Out Center Student Government Association

The Community Benefits Report is produced by the Assumption College Office of Communications. For more information or questions regarding this issue, please contact:

Daniel F. DiTullio Executive Assistant for Government and Community Relations df.ditullio@assumption.edu

Michael Guilfoyle **Executive Director of Communications** mk.guilfoyle@assumption.edu

Kimberly Ruscitti Director of Public Affairs ke.ruscitti@assumption.edu

Assumption College 500 Salisbury Street Worcester, MA 01609 508.767.7478 www.assumption.edu/CBR

FAST facts: 2018-2019

FINANCIAL AID

:: 305

Number of students from Worcester

:: 592

Number of students from Worcester County

:: \$3,454,288 Amount of institutional aid

to students from Worcester

:: \$7,276,093

Amount of institutional aid to students from Worcester County

:: 99%

Undergraduates who receive some form of financial aid

EMPLOYMENT

:: \$7,510,183

Annual payroll for employees residing in the city of Worcester

:: \$10,386,248

Annual payroll for employees residing in Worcester County (excluding Worcester)

:: 263

Number of faculty/staff living in the city of Worcester and surrounding communities

PURCHASING

:: \$1.544.475

Total capital expenditures paid to vendors in Worcester County

:: \$1,709,407

Total capital expenditures paid to vendors in the city of Worcester

:: \$51,715,153

Total capital expenditures paid to vendors in Worcester County over the last 10 years

:: \$5.019.957

Total purchasing expenditures paid to vendors in the city of Worcester

:: \$5,742,924

Total purchasing expenditures paid to vendors in Worcester County (excluding Worcester)

COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS

- :: \$25,000 Annual commitment to The Hanover Theatre

Donations and in-kind gifts made to local nonprofits

Number of hours students contribute to community

:: 3,263

Number of student placements in organizations throughout Worcester County

INSTITUTIONAL FACTS

- :: 1904 Year Assumption College was Founded
- :: 1,869* Number of Undergraduates

:: 892* Number of Graduate Students

:: 141*

Number of Continuing **Education Students**

:: 33/49

Number of majors/minors * Reflective of full-time enrollment numbers

FEES/TAXES PAID TO THE CITY **OF WORCESTER**

:: \$336,346 Water and sewer taxes

:: \$12,424 Police Department coverage/costs

:: \$1,057 Fire Department fees

- :: \$42,225 Property taxes
- :: \$55,532 Other fees Parking lot license, certificates of inspection, plumbing fees, liquor license, filing fee, food permit, pool permit, lodging fee, and camp fees.

- :: \$56,675
- - :: 174.755

service

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Regardless of a student's chosen major at Assumption, inextricably weaved throughout all academic disciplines – and many co-curricular programs – is the importance of engagement within one's community. At Assumption, we shape students into being the best individuals and leaders that they can be; to set forth their innate passions to positively impact the world. Our commitment to community is a hallmark of our mission that calls for forming individuals who are known for critical intelligence, thoughtful citizenship and compassionate service.

The Venerable Father Emmanuel d'Alzon, who established the Augustinians of the Assumption, the sponsoring order of the College, once wrote in 1843, "Work in a way that raises people up, instructs them, helps them to lead a good life..." A lifetime committed to learning and service begins here on campus and is manifested throughout the city of Worcester. Our students are engaged in classrooms, reading to Worcester youth, or providing assistance during after-school programs; contributing to the burgeoning arts scene through the innovative POW! WOW! Worcester; volunteering with organizations that provide for those in the greatest need; and so much more. Through their engagement across the city, students are inspired by Fr. d'Alzon's mobilizing call to action shared 176 years ago.

Through the vision and arduous work of many, Worcester is experiencing a renaissance. Assumption is proud to serve as a partner in this renaissance, notably through a new partnership between the institution and the Worcester Red Sox. As one of the team's 21 founding partners, Assumption will have a very tangible and highly visible presence in the downtown area where we will develop an innovative community learning program in conjunction with the team and city. Through this partnership, Worcester students with financial need will also benefit from co-branded scholarships to be matched by Assumption.

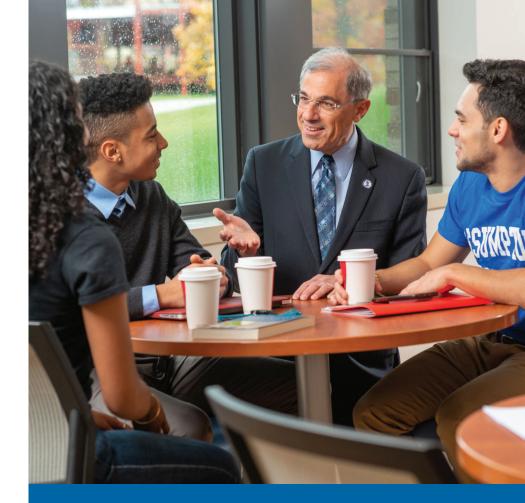
The ballpark and team will become an extension of the College's footprint and influence as it introduces the Assumption educational enterprise to downtown Worcester by utilizing the academic assets of the institution to provide unique learning opportunities to players, students and residents of the greater Worcester area.

I invite you to read through the pages of this Community Benefits Report for more examples of the meaningful contributions Assumption is making to the city, its revitalization, and its people.

Sincerely,

Francesco C. Cesareo

Francesco C. Cesareo, Ph.D. President



"Our students are engaged in classrooms, reading to Worcester youth, or providing assistance during after-school programs; contributing to the burgeoning arts scene through the innovative POW! WOW! Worcester; volunteering with organizations that provide for those in the greatest need; and so much more."

Francesco C. Cesareo, Ph.D. President Assumption College

WORCESTER HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS 'Experiment' with College

BY KAITLYN FRIEL '19

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS FROM ST. MARY'S SCHOOLS OF WORCESTER, A MULTI-ETHNIC, COEDUCATIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL OFFERING ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT FOR STUDENTS IN PRE-KINDERGARTEN THROUGH GRADE 12, RECENTLY EXPERIENCED LIFE AS SCIENCE MAJORS AT ASSUMPTION. Students spent the day conducting biology and chemistry experiments, received a tour of the College, and talked to Assumption students about what life is like in college.

Members of the Assumption Science Club organized the event because they wanted to share their experiences with the high school students firsthand. "We realized that we wanted to make more of an impact on the community and share science with more people," said biology major **Nicole Bramlitt '21**, who worked with classmate **Julianna Woods '21** on the event. "We just decided that a really great way to do that would be to reach out to high schools, since it's a great community to kind of share the love with."

Jackie Weiler '17, who teaches English and psychology at St. Mary's, worked with the club to arrange the visit. "I can tell [the students] are so engaged in this whole experience," she said. "They love this, they love getting out there, love doing things. Especially for prospective college students, this is so important."



Kelly Knutelski, senior class president at St. Mary's, explained that this unique, hands-on experience was an important opportunity for her to understand what college is really like. "We don't necessarily know how the classes are going to be, because they're very different from high school, especially the science classes," she said. "It's interesting because we're learning about these things at the moment, and this is more complex and more in depth."

Knutelski, who is planning to attend Assumption, was inspired by the Assumption students. "I think that if this carries on and they do this every single year, maybe I'll be doing this," she said of her future as a possible science major.

Monica Campbell, a teacher and vice principal at St. Mary's, was also grateful that the high school students had this exposure to the labs and college life in general. "I think the perspective can be very limited when you're in high school," she explained. "I'm very grateful for the opportunity ... to give [the students] the chance to experience something that may be out of the norm for them and open their eyes to possibilities for the world ahead."







As part of the HumanArts Series at Assumption, each year the Bach Consort of Worcester presents concerts such as those featuring the music of Corelli, Handel, and Vivaldi in the Jeanne Y. Curtis Performance Hall. The Bach Consort of Worcester is an ensemble of strings and harpsichord dedicated to the performance of the music of J. S. Bach and other composers of the Baroque period. Throughout the academic year, the HumanArts Series presents an array of lectures and concerts that are free and open to the public.

BRINGING COMMUNITIES Together Through Art

KEVIN LA '19 HAS ALWAYS HAD A PASSION FOR ART AND A DESIRE TO USE HIS TALENTS TO BENEFIT A LOCAL NONPROFIT. Through volunteering with POW! WOW! Worcester, he's accomplished both.

POW! WOW! is an international art festival that came to Worcester in 2016. Since then, local and international artists have painted more than 80 stunning murals throughout the city during the 10-day festival held each of the last four summers.

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ENHANCING WORCESTER'S ARTS SCENE

Art brings us together and helps us understand who we really are. Offering arts and cultural programming is an important part of Assumption's mission and contribution to the community.

Some of the programs and events that Assumption has offered to the community:*

Theatre Performances

A Gala Broadway Revue: Greatest Songs from 20th Century Broadway (Spring Musical Production)

Assumption College is proud to serve as the home of the Worcester Children's Chorus.

d'Alzon Arts Series Art Exhibitions

Immigrate Emigrate: Our Long Journeys Student Art & Design Show

Presidential Lecture Series

Sandra Keating, Ph.D.

Fr. David Meconi, SJ

HumanArts Series

The BACH Consort of Worcester

Common Hour Concert Music with: Faculty from Hartt College Susan Knapp Thomas, Harpist Haydn and Mozart Piano Trios Limburg Cathedral Boys Choir (Germany)

"Music for Classical Guitar" by John Muratore

"Passports Needed—A Musical World Tour" by Caroline Reiner-Williams (cello) and Monica Tessitore (piano) Renaissance Men

"War, Love, Victory: From Inanna/Ishtar to Venus Victoria" by Stephanie Lynn Budin, Ph.D.

Assumption College Performances Assumption College Band Assumption College Chorale Assumption College Jazz Ensemble Assumption College String Camerata Faculty Concerts Hound Sound a cappella group Lessons and Carols Sounds of the Season

Events Sponsored by Assumption College at The Hanover Theatre for the Performing Arts

2018 Presentation of A Christmas Carol

The Priests: 10th Anniversary Tour

Lectures and Performances Open to the Public

Assumption College Organ Scholar Concert featuring Christian Copeley '19

Assumption Professors Tyler Vance and Joseph Ray collaborative art exhibit, "Van Rance and Joe Bob Go to the Movies"

BACAP Boston Area Colloquium in Ancient Philosophy lecture, "Final Causality without Teleology in Aristotle"

BACAP Boston Area Colloquium in Ancient Philosophy seminar, "Aristotle's Critique of Natural Selection in Physics II.8"

Bishop Bernard Flanagan Ecumenical Lecture, "Introduction to Tibetan Buddhism," featuring Pema Wangdak, Karma Yangu Gurung, Thiley Chachung Gale, and Cheki Dorji.

Center for Global Studies lecture by College of the Holy Cross Professor Matthew Eggemeier, Ph.D., "A Politics of Mercy: Catholic Spirituality in a Suffering World"

Constitution Day Presentation by Michigan State University Professor Benjamin A. Kleinerman, Ph.D., "Hobbes, Locke, and Cake Decorators: Religious Liberty in the Constitution"

Core Texts & Enduring Questions Program Annual Brownson Roundtable Discussion, "Diversity and Higher Education" Daniel Patrick Moynihan Center for Scholarship and Statesmanship at Assumption College Inaugural Lecture by MSNBC's Lawrence O'Donnell, "A Personal Reflection on Daniel Patrick Moynihan: The Scholar and Statesman; and Inaugural Conference, "But not your Own Facts"

Department of Philosophy lecture by Boston College Professor Paul T. Wilford, Ph.D., "Hope and History in Kant, Hegel, and Marx"

Duo Recital for Piano and Voice featuring Christian Copeley '19 (piano) and Zachary Sneeringer '19 (voice)

Emmanuel d'Alzon Lecture by Assumption College Professor Daniel Mahoney, Ph.D., "The Idol of Our Age: How the Religion of Humanity Subverts Christianity"

Forsyth Lecture sponsored by the Archeological Institute of America by Charlotte Hedenstierna-Jonson, Ph.D., "Grave Bj 581: the Viking Warrior that was a woman"

Fortin/Gonthier Lecture by French Historian Rémi Brague, "From Humanism to Anti-Humanism: The Temptation of Suicide"

Rabbi Joseph Klein Lecture by Author James Carroll, "Jerusalem Re-imagined: The Holy City in War & Peace"

Saint Marie-Eugenie Milleret Lecture by Author and Historian Nicholas Fox Weber, "Le Corbusier: A Protestant in Catholic Dress with a Hindu Soul"

Samuel Beckett expert and Florida State University Professor S. E. Gontarski, Ph.D., lecture, "The Theater is Always Dying"

Worcester County Poetry Association Annual Gregory Stockmal Reading by Poet Eleanor Wilner, Ph.D.

*This is a partial list

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WARMING THE HEARTS of Worcester Youth in Need

BY KAITLYN FRIEL '19

FOR THE LAST SEVERAL YEARS, ASSUMPTION COLLEGE HAS PARTICIPATED IN THE WORCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS' (WPS) COATS FOR KIDS PROGRAM, WHICH PROVIDES WINTER OUTERWEAR TO CHILDREN IN NEED THROUGHOUT THE CITY. In December 2018, the Assumption community provided 40 coats with matching hats and mittens, the highest number among all local colleges and universities participating in the program.

A local nonprofit organization, the Coats for Kids program began over 25 years ago with a mission "to provide new warm outerwear to Worcester children in need to foster comfort and confidence in an effort to increase attendance and participation in school." Coats for Kids fulfills this mission by raising funds to purchase thousands of new winter outerwear items through help from higher education institutions such as Assumption. As of January 2019, nearly 3,000 children received new coats, hats, and mittens from the many supporting organizations, colleges, and institutions.

According to Program Coordinator Elizabeth Vecchio, the impact the program has on children in Worcester goes beyond providing the warmth and protection they need for winters and rainy days. "That coat can be so much more than just warmth," she said. "It can inspire happiness and improve peer acceptance, self-respect, and overall wellness. Having higher education institutions like Assumption College joining our efforts speaks volumes by echoing what we believe the program can do for a child."



Children attending 48 public schools as well as community programs, such as Worcester Head Start, Worcester Family Partnership, and several homeless shelters, benefit each year from this collection. The organization helps to transform the city's vacant storefronts into public art and brighten elementary schools through painting buildings and play areas.

"The work that POW! WOW! Worcester does is incredible," said La. "It is bringing a sense of hometown pride, hope, and love to one another. It's also awesome to see our communities interact with the artists who are from around the world and the U.S."

La has been involved with POW! WOW! Worcester since 2016, first as an avid fan and then as a volunteer on the marketing and design committee, applying the skills he has learned in the classroom to promote the organization. La reaches out to local colleges and serves as a consultant on the development of POW! WOW! Worcester merchandise. In his free time, he gives mural tours around the city to fellow classmates and even complete strangers.

"Volunteers like Kevin are the heart and soul of this project," said Che Anderson, project manager for the City of Worcester and artist lead at POW! WOW! Worcester, adding that it is rare to find someone as excited about both arts and the community as La. "People like Kevin who eat, breathe, and sleep this culture allow for us to be impactful, fun, and thoughtful in all that we try to do. Words don't quite capture what Kevin means to this project or to myself as one of the project leads. He is a special part of the team."

"POW! WOW! Worcester is important to me because it is a way to help bring the city together. To showcase the art to the city, we are helping the next generation of our city to be inspired," said La. "As a Worcester native, I am so happy about giving back to the community."

WORKING IN WORCESTER'S SCHOOLS

Assumption College students, faculty, and staff work with a variety of schools and educational programs, including Worcester Public Schools (WPS) and Catholic schools in the region, to enhance educational opportunities in both formal academic settings and after-school programs. In addition to offering space to community organizations for little to no cost, the College also offers professional development workshops and tuition discounts for WPS, Worcester Diocese, and Nativity School teachers.

Some of the schools and programs Assumption works with include:*

Abby Kelley Foster Charter	Mayo Element
	Melican Middl
ACCEPT Education Collaborative	Mill Swan B He
Auburn High School	Millbury Mem
Auburn Middle School	High School
Ayer Shirley Regional High School	Mulready Elen
Burncoat Elementary School	Nativity Schoo
Burncoat High School	Nelson Place S
Burncoat Middle School	New Citizens (
Central Massachusetts Collaborative	New England
The Darnell School	Norrback Aver
Dawson Elementary School	Raymond C. R
Devereux School	Elementary Sc
Diocese of Worcester Central	Saint Mary's So
Catholic Schools	Saint Peter Ma
Doherty Memorial High School	Union Hill Sch
Douglas Middle School	Wachusett Reg
Dudley Middle School	Woodland Aca
Dynamy Youth Academy	Worcester Arts
Flagg Street School	Worcester Eas
Forest Grove Middle School	Worcester Inst
Hillside School	Senior Educat
Houghton Elementary School	Worcester Pub Transition Proc
Latino Education Institute	*This is a parti

ary School e School ad Start orial Junior/Senior nentary School ol of Worcester School Center Center for Children nue School licher hool chool arian High School ool gional School District ademy Magnet School Middle School tute for ion lic Schools Iram

*This is a partial list

STUDENT-ATHLETES Share the Gift of Reading

Scores of Assumption student-athletes participated in Abby Kelley Foster Charter Public School's Community Reading Day in celebration of Dr. Seuss's birthday in March. Members of the Football team, Women's Golf team, and Women's Soccer team read to students in the elementary and middle schools along with many other community leaders, including first responders, elected officials, and representatives from each of the city's professional sports teams.

Throughout the academic year, Assumption student-athletes volunteer nearly 4,000 hours of service to the greater Worcester community, including its schools, where they serve as role models for future college students.



"Having student-athletes here from Assumption was a great addition to our Community Reading Day," said Amy Puliafico, principal of the middle school. "Middle-schoolers are really beginning to imagine what their future looks like, and to have local college students representing both the academics and athletics of college life can have an important impact. We were very fortunate to have Assumption read to our kids."

Emma Mailman '21, a business management major

and Women's Soccer player, was excited to volunteer, as she loves working with kids. "Participating in an event like today's shows kids that there's something they can aspire to be," she said. "We're examples that you can play sports and go to school and still have fun."

Christine Cutting '21, an accounting major and golfer, said one of the most rewarding parts of the day was being a positive influence in the community as she read to a class of kindergarteners. Her teammate, Samantha Leary '21, an elementary education and English major, agreed.

"It's nice to give back and show that even adults like reading, and that's very important to instill in students," she said.

COMBINING A PASSION for Law and Community Service

When **Kashmir Flood '20**, a sociology and psychology major from Cromwell, CT, decided she wanted to follow her passion for social justice, she knew an internship with the Worcester County District Attorney's Office would provide her the hands-on experience she'd need in her future career.

As an intern in the juvenile unit, Flood shadowed assistant district attorneys to meetings and in court, and assisted in cases and administrative tasks. Flood, who intends to pursue a law degree with a focus on either criminal or civil and human rights law, was able to learn "the real-world piece that you don't get a chance to see in a classroom setting."

"We are taught how the criminal justice system works through lectures, videos, and presentations, but it is always different when you immerse yourself and can see firsthand how it works within your own community," she said. "This experience meant a lot to me because I've always loved helping people. It is a rewarding and fulfilling feeling at the end of the day when you are working to bring justice to victims and



families who are deeply affected."

Flood is one of the many Assumption students making meaningful contributions to the Worcester community through internships and other community service endeavors. "We are fulfilling the Assumption College mission when we go out into our community to help others and bring justice," she said. "This service requirement, combined with a liberal arts education, allows us to be more well-rounded inside and outside of the classroom."

PARTNERING WITH THE WORCESTER COMMUNITY

Assumption proactively seeks to engage with the greater Worcester community and encourages city residents to visit campus for events and programs. The College is also proud to collaborate with numerous Worcester and Worcester County programs and to serve as host for a number of cultural and educational community events.

us of the Assumption

ary's Junior-Senior High School

ul Catholic School Consortium

hea Bowman Black Catholic

S. Green Awards Committee

Way of Central Massachusetts

ter Chamber of Commerce

ter Education Collaborative

ter Jewish Community Center

ter Regional Research Bureau

ter Public Schools Transition Program

ter Children's Chorus

tendents' Association

ter Public Schools

a partial list

ter Railers Hockey Club

ohn's High School

onal Foundation

ter Art Museum

ter County

ary's Parish

s Inc.

Radio

Some of the many local groups to which the College provides time, space, and assistance include:*

Adopt-A-Student Program	Religiou
African Community Education	Saint Jo
Ava Roy Fund	Saint M
City of Worcester	Saint M
Diocese of Worcester	Saint Pa
Diocese of Worcester Annual Men's Conference	Sister T Educati
Dismas House	Thomas
Easterseals Massachusetts	United '
Emmanuel Radio	Veteran
The Emerald Club of Worcester	WCUW
Higher Education Consortium of Central Massachusetts (HECCMA)	Worces
Hispanics Achieving and Celebrating Excellence	Worces ⁻ Worces ⁻
Holy Name Central Catholic Junior/Senior High School	Worces Superin
Martin Luther King Jr. Community Breakfast Committee	Worces ⁻ Worces
Mercy Centre	Worces
Nativity School of Worcester	Worces
Network for Good	Worces
Notre Dame Academy	Worces
Pernet Family Health Service	*This is
Regional Environmental Council	

THE POWER OF STUDENTS' Pens Supports Those in Need

IN SPRING 2019, A DEDICATED GROUP OF ASSUMPTION STUDENTS REFINED THEIR WRITING AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS AND EXPLORED A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF CHALLENGES FACED BY THOSE IN NEED throughout Worcester through a unique partnership with the Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN), an organization that provides temporary shelter to families who would otherwise be homeless.

Students enrolled in an English composition class with Professor James Lang, Ph.D., created materials that support the organization and the families it serves. They visited IHN to conduct group interviews with some of the residents, used what they learned to create beneficiary profiles for the IHN website, and created presentation materials that were used at a major IHN fundraiser.

According to Prof. Lang, their work generated awareness of the challenges faced by homeless

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GIVING BACK TO THOSE IN NEED

A key element of the Assumption College mission encourages students to engage in compassionate service during their time in Worcester and throughout their lives. Whether students volunteer via the Reach Out Center or Campus Ministry, as members of an intercollegiate athletic team, or through a Community Service Learning class, they gladly offer their skills, talents, and hearts to make a difference in the community.

Some of the many organizations in the Worcester community and beyond that have benefited from this work include:*

Abby's House African Community Education All Saints Episcopal Church American Antiquarian Society Andy's Attic Autism Speaks Walk The BASE Be Like Brit Foundation, Inc. Best Buddies International Big Brothers Big Sisters of America (Flagg Street School) Boy Scouts of America Boys & Girls Club Burncoat Street Preparatory School **Canterbury Street Magnet Computer-Based School** Cards for Hospitalized Kids Cathedral of Saint Paul Central Massachusetts Collaborative Chandler Elementary Community School After-School Program The Community Builders -**Plumley Village** EcoTarium Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric **AIDS Foundation** Forest Grove Middle School Friendly House Worcester Girls Inc. Guild of St. Agnes Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity ReStore Interfaith Hospitality Network InterVarsity New England- ServeUP Jewish Healthcare Center Lincoln Street School Literacy Volunteers of Greater Worcester Matthew 25 Mercy Centre Mill Swan B Head Start - JumpStart The Miracle League of Massachusetts Miriam's Daycare The Mustard Seed Catholic Worker My Brother's Keeper Nativity School of Worcester Nelson Place Elementary School New England Center for Children Norrback Avenue School Northbridge Junior Baseball League Notre Dame du Lac **Operation Christmas Child** Our Lady of the Angels Parish Pernet Family Health Service **Project New Hope** Rainbow Child Development Center Read Across America Regional Environmental Council Relay for Life Robert Goddard Academy **SEARCH Confirmation Retreats**

Seven Hills Foundation Shepherd Hill Regional High School Smile Train **Special Olympics** St. Anne's Human Services St. Francis & St. Therese Catholic Worker St. Peter's Church Mentoring Program Swim Across America Inc. Team IMPACT **Toys For Tots Foundation** Training Resources of America, Inc. Union Hill School United Way Day of Caring Vernon Hill School Veterans Inc. Wachusett Regional High School WCUW 91.3FM West Boylston Public Schools Why Me & Sherry's House The Willows Retirement Community Worcester County Food Bank Worcester Field Hockey Worcester Housing Authority Worcester Senior Center Worcester Women's History Project Working for Worcester YMCA of Central Massachusetts -Greendale Family Branch

*This is a partial list

COLLABORATING WITH WORCESTER BUSINESSES

Through internships, practica, and work-study programs, Assumption students collaborate with Worcester-area businesses and organizations through a mutually beneficial collaboration that helps both reach their full potential.

Some of the organizations that benefit from these partnerships:*

15-40 Connection AbbVie Bioresearch Center Action! Worcester Agilux Laboratories Alexander, Aronson, Finning & Co., P.C. (AAFCPAs) AlphaGraphics Worcester Alternatives Unlimited, Inc. American Basketball Association Archstone Financial Atlas Distributing, Inc. Auburn Youth & Family Services, Inc. Barber's Crossing Restaurant Bayard, Inc. Beaumont Rehabilitation & **Skilled Nursing Center** Behavioral Concepts, Inc. Boston Red Sox Foundation **Boston Scientific** Center for Living & Working Central Massachusetts Collaborative Charles River Laboratories Clinton Police Department College of the Holy Cross Athletics Department **Comportz Technologies Corporate Benefit Plans** Dawson Elementary School **Digital Federal Credit Union** Dynamy Youth Academy **Eisenberg Assisted Living Residence Emmanuel Radio** Estate Preservation Law Offices **Expose Yourself Public Relations** Trang Pharmacy, Inc. **Fidelity Investments**

Girls Inc Grant Thornton LLP Greendale Physical Therapy, LLC Guardian Life Insurance Company of America The Hanover Insurance Group, Inc. The Hanover Theatre for the Performing Arts Horace Mann Educational Associates (HMEA) Horizons for Homeless Children Insurance Marketing Agencies Jewish Healthcare Center Kforce Staffing & Solutions Latino Education Institute Lexus of Northborough Lynn Simmons Design Massachusetts Department of Children and Families Massachusetts Pirates Nashoba Financial Services New Citizens Center New England Center for Children **Open Sky Community Services** Pagio Inc. Renewal by Andersen of Boston **Rutland Police Department** Ryan Fattman for State Senate **ScribeAmerica** Seven Hills Foundation Shrewsbury Youth and Family Services, Inc. South County Physical Therapy, Inc. Strategic Environmental Services, Inc. Thom Child & Family Services

UMass Memorial Community Healthlink -Motivating Youth Recovery Union Hill School United Way of Central Massachusetts University of Massachusetts Medical School Unum Wachusett Regional School District Walden Behavioral Care, LLC Washburn House Whitinsville Family Dentistry Why Me & Sherry's House The Willows Retirement Community Wind River Environmental Worcester Art Museum Worcester Business Journal Worcester Center for Crafts Worcester County District Attorney's Office Worcester Envelope Company Worcester News Tonight Worcester Physical Therapy Services, Inc. Worcester Police Department Worcester Railers Hockey Club Worcester Telegram & Gazette YMCA of Central Massachusetts -Greendale Family Branch YOU, Inc. *This is a partial list

Ultimate Obstacles

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families in Worcester and raised critical funds for the organization. "I'm convinced that writing about these important issues in the community provides the best inspiration for their learning and the best opportunity for them to practice writing in authentic contexts," he said. "I am very inspired by how much time and effort students are willing to put into their writing when they know it will be used to make a positive difference to the families and to our community."

"We are extremely grateful for the work the Assumption students did for our organization," said Joanne Alley, director of IHN. "They did a fantastic job putting together the presentation for our fundraiser, which resulted in many positive comments and several requests from folks interested in using it in their fundraising efforts for IHN."

After visiting IHN, **Jessica Childers '21** realized "there isn't a typical stereotype of what a person living in poverty is like" and learned to take time to listen

to people's stories before placing judgment. "Many people assume families are homeless because they are terrible with money or have drug addictions, but the reality is that people at IHN are like others around us, with jobs and kids," she said. "It is inspiring to hear about the selfless amount of effort the staff of IHN puts in to help rehabilitate the lives of families around the community."

According to Prof. Lang, this course not only teaches students to be better writers, but forms students in the virtues of Assumption's mission. "Most importantly, they see what a difference they can make in their communities if they are willing to walk to the margins, meet the people there, and work with them to better their lives," he said.



ASSUMPTION COLLEGE Office of the President 500 Salisbury Street Worcester, MA 01609-1296

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Light the way.

