Helpy News

ESLN 319: Community & Current Events Class

An Unforgettable Experience at the ReSale Shop

Dr. Perren, several classmates and I went to do volunteer work at a resale shop on February 18, 2011. When we arrived at the shop, we met two gentlemen, Jesse, the manager of the resale shop, and the other person who was the guide of this event. Firstly, they introduced the purpose of this resale shop to us. They told us that the shop sells books, clothing, household items and many other items are arranged on the second floor. I think the second floor is more spacious. It looks bigger than the first floor. I did not think that a resale shop could be that big before I walked in. Thirdly, we did the volunteer work when the "Helpy Hour" event began. My work was to organize clothing with a Japanese girl. We were assigned to arrange girls' clothing. At the beginning, I was confused because I did not know how to start. Then this nice Japanese girl (a 2010 Board of Education's meeting, 27 mini-grants were awarded through the MA:TESOL Program) helped me. She told me to organize them by colors. Later on, I The total amount of the grants is $10,447. Teachers will be able to use these grants for a variety of enrichment projects such as math and reading initiatives. Yet, realizing it is a rewarding job and watching everyone else working hard.

"The good you do today may be forgotten tomorrow. Do good anyway."

Mother Teresa
Mission: Volunteering

By: Sultan Asiri

My father told me once that volunteering is the rent we pay for a room in this earth. I did not realize his point that time. I have often heard people talking about the benefits of volunteering, of it being a way to reach out and touch the lives of others in a positive way. However, I did not fully understand the impact of that claim until I started to volunteer myself. I was asked to help organizing in Habitat for Humanity store. Actually, it was not organizing, it was smashing. I was asked to move out the old furniture, smash them and then put them on the garbage. Fortunately, I fulfilled that job. it wasn't a big challenge for me to handle this job because I used to work such heavy duties in our farm in my country, Saudi Arabia. One of the incomprehensible things that day is why are some people come to volunteer just for fun? In other words, I saw many volunteers just having fun and trying to make new friends. Additionally, they did not fulfill the jobs they were asked to do. I do not have any problems with having new friends at all. It is one of the great values for such events, but it is not the whole matter. In other words, first thing is first. Anybody can fulfill his duty and make new friends. Volunteering my time to help building houses or help organizing stores for poor people were the best things I have ever done in my life. I really enjoyed that and I am happy I chose this organization because I have learned so much from the experience I had. I had fun every single moment I volunteered and I do not regret anything. I plan to keep volunteering there because it was fun and worthwhile. In addition, it taught me that money would never be my motivation for working, that motivation for me would only come when I know I can make a difference in another person's life. Truly, this the real mission.
Learning from Different Ways By: Mingxuan Yu

We are usually expected to do some volunteer work in this class. This time we went to a store to help the staff of the ReSale Store. I grouped many books and additional items together with some classmates. I think this event is a meaningful thing, because when I did those jobs, I got firsthand experience related to what workers do every day and it is a hard work. Everything has a purpose, even this. I think this work is good because since I organized those books and clutter, when people look for something they need, it will be easier for them to find it. I usually can learn a lot of things by being a volunteer and I think it can improve my English. For example, when was I grouped the stationery I found some stationery that I usually use, but I did not know how to name it, such as book end, staple, and so on. Even though it looks like it may be simple, this communication is great of use to me. I have learned a lot from others by participating in this class. Finally, we should deal seriously with everything, have passion for life, and love the labor of civic engagement. To be a volunteer is a very glorious matter, when I work with others, I feel a great sense of achievement.

There is no better exercise for your heart, Than reaching down and helping to lift someone up.”

Bernard Meltzer

Where is Your Space?

By: Saeed Bahidrah

Muhammad Ali once said, “Service to others is the payment you make for your space here on earth.” This is what everyone should do to be an effective citizen. In life, you either make a difference or you will be just an extra number in the whole formula. Under the supervision of Dr. Perren, I worked last year with Habitat for Humanity to renovate an old house for some deserving people. I was asked to repair the door frame. At the time it was something strange to me. In other words, I could not express my feelings at that time. It was mix of emotions that I’ve never experienced before. This event opened my eyes to many things such as poverty and homelessness issues. I learned many things from this event. It also helped me to know more about new vocabulary such as, habitat and renovate. In addition, I learned many new things about the friendliness of the American society. Life is about sharing and we should share our happiness with other people. I see this literally in the faces of those people we worked with. All thanks due to Dr. Perren and H4H for giving such a valuable opportunity to make our space here on earth.
Volunteer Opportunities

1- EMU VISION Volunteer Center
346 EMU Student Center
Ypsilanti, MI 48197
Tel: (734) 487-1313

2- Habitat for Humanity of Huron Valley
170 April Drive, Suite A
Ann Arbor, MI 48103
Tel: (734) 677-1558
Fax: (734) 677-1572

3- SOS Community Services
Housing Crisis Center
114 N. River, Ypsilanti, MI 48190
Housing Crisis Line: (734) 484-4300
Administration Office
101 S. Huron St., Ypsilanti, MI 48197
Email: info@sosco.org

"When you become detached mentally from yourself and concentrate on helping other people with their difficulties, you will be able to cope with your own more effectively. Somehow, the act of self-giving is a personal power-releasing factor."

Positive Thinking Every Day: by Norman Vincent Peale

The Benefits of Volunteering: By Abdullah Almenea

When I went to several electronic appliances, household sites and institutions in appliances, etc. For example, Ypsilanti or Ann Arbor, I found many centers in some places where I volunteered has Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor many benefits for the individual, the community and types, big or small, that people live the country as a whole. I feel the use of their daily lives, that my participation in these events holds benefits for psychological health and for things that people need. The experiences of learning English is a nice part about these places as a second language. I specifically benefited from the items that can be obtained process of how to take ad very cheaply. This helps the vantage of things such as those people with a low-used clothing, furniture, electric income.

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