

## **Netter Center Engagement Opportunities for Alumni**

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### **Ways to be involved:**

- **Direct Volunteer Opportunities (see next page)**
- **Class Service Days and Programs**
  - Create a volunteer service day or on-going program for your classmates supported by the Netter Center. For example, the Class of 1993 hosts an annual community service day project at the Netter Center that engages classmates and their families in creating care packages for local agencies. The Class of 1980 has been engaged in an ongoing collaboration with Sayre High School in West Philadelphia through which alumni expose Sayre students to a variety of venues in Philadelphia each month while introducing them to educational and career opportunities.
  - The Netter Center is open to new ideas and can help design a program that fits your class's specific needs and interests!
- **Class Sponsorship of and Participation in Alumni Events**
  - Join the Netter Center during Alumni Weekend and Homecoming for panel presentations, service activities, and other special events. For example, the Netter Center hosts a program each Alumni Day where Netter Center alumni of various ages speak about the lasting impact of civic and community engagement; various reunion classes have signed on as co-sponsors and helped to advertise this annual event. The Penn Men's 1979 Final Four basketball team partners with the Netter Center each Alumni Day to host a Basketball Clinic for children of Penn alumni and West Philadelphia youth. During Homecoming, the Classes of 1988-1993 have been co-sponsoring a drop-in community service project near College Green.
- **Class Reunion Gifts & Individual Support**
  - Class-supported Undergraduate Academic Internships at the Netter Center enable the most outstanding students the opportunity to deepen their learning and expand their efforts. Class leaders have the opportunity to meet the undergraduate interns supported through these gifts. The Classes of 1960, 1965, 1970, 1978, 1980, 1983, 1984, 1988 and 1993 have supported the Netter Center through reunion gifts.
  - The Netter Center also relies on gifts from individuals to make positive impacts on Penn and the community—indeed on society and the world. Gifts provide direct support to the Center while also leveraging other gifts and grants.
- **Advocacy**
  - Advocate for civic and community engagement at Penn, as well as with colleges and universities in your hometown to have them be involved in similar programs and connect them to the Netter Center.
  - Stay informed by following us on social media, and sign up for our newsletter:  
<https://www.nettercenter.upenn.edu/get-involved/newsletter>

## **Direct Volunteer Opportunities Include:**

### **Penn Adopts A Classroom**

“Adopt” a West Philadelphia school classroom. Provide needed classroom items like reams of paper, pens, pencils, tissues, hand sanitizer, notebooks, folders, glue sticks, etc. You would work with a classroom involved in the Netter Center’s University-Assisted Community Schools programming, including Comegys Elementary, Lea Elementary, Sayre High School, and West Philadelphia High School, and have the opportunity to select the age group you prefer. A classroom would be assigned to you with a wish-list. Provide supplies needed by your assigned classroom teacher. Your donation helps to ensure that every student in the selected classroom has the supplies needed to help them be successful at school.

### **University Assisted Community Schools (UACS) Nights**

Teach adult learners in West Philadelphia your expertise. Teach resume writing, interviewing skills, computers, employment prep, dance, hair braiding, cooking, or another subject you are passionate about. Teach once a week for a one or two hour period for four to six weeks. We also welcome classes that can be taught in one session. Classes are held on Tuesdays and/or Thursdays from 6pm- 8pm at West Philadelphia High School located on 49<sup>th</sup> and Chestnut Streets.

### **Nonprofit Institute**

The Nonprofit Institute takes place on campus over a two-week period normally in the fall and the spring. It is designed to help nonprofits and communities of faith effectively manage their agencies. Volunteers teach and/or co-teach a class in their field of expertise that includes, but is not limited to, board development, accounting, grant writing, legal issues, human resource management, fundraising, and public speaking. Classes are usually 90 minutes long.

### **Penn WorkPlace Mentoring Program Guest Speaker Opportunities**

This program engages University staff and faculty to work with 7th Grade students from Mastery Charter School – Shoemaker Campus in West Philadelphia once a month throughout the school year. The goal is to expose mentees to a college campus and to help the mentees set goals for their future.

The Penn WorkPlace Mentoring Program seeks guest speakers who can address the students during one of their group sessions that generally take place 9:00-10:00am and 12:30-1:30pm. Speakers talk to students about the impact and worth of their college education. The program meets on the third Thursday of each month between October and May. Presentations usually last for up to 30 minutes. Further, Penn VIPS recruits speakers to respond to request for career days at local schools and fairs.

### **Marie K. Bogle Scholarship Program sponsored by Penn VIPS and Business Services**

Approximately 6 scholarships ranging from \$1,000 - \$1,250 are provided annually to graduating high school seniors from West Philadelphia with an interest in community service accepted at accredited colleges and universities. Students are selected from Bartram, Overbrook, Parkway, Robeson, Sayre, and West Philadelphia High Schools. Students must complete an application due at the end of April. Volunteers assist with planning the reception where students are honored, distributing college applications, selecting winners, and selecting keynote speakers for the event.

### **Penn Volunteers in Public Service (VIPS): Create Your Own Volunteer/Service Program**

The Netter Center for Community Partnership’s Penn VIPS program, led by Associate Director Isabel Sampson-Mapp, provides a vehicle for staff, faculty, alumni, and members of the West Philadelphia community to work together through service activities and events. From an annual scholarship program to various food and clothing drives, Penn VIPS is one of many ways faculty, staff, and alumni can engage with the University and its surrounding communities.

Have an idea about a volunteer event you would like to undertake with your classmates? The Netter Center and Penn VIPS can help you plan your event/program. Penn VIPS can also connect you with a variety of volunteer activities in the Greater Philadelphia area.