



***Instructionally Related Activities Report Form***

SPONSOR	DEPARTMENT
Pilar Pacheco	Centers for Community Engagement

ACTIVITY TITLE	DATE (S) OF ACTIVITY
Cesar Chavez Day: Farmworker Immersion Project	April 12, 2014

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

Attach:

- 1) Student evaluations or assessments
- 2) Please list the number of students participating for each segment of the activity. For overnight activities please include the names, majors, and graduation dates of students on a separate sheet. (Student names are for internal IRA use only and will not be published)
- 3) Images demonstrating student participation (up to 6 images)
- 4) A summary of expenses

E-mail to the IRA Coordinator at [lisa.ayre-smith@csuci.edu](mailto:lisa.ayre-smith@csuci.edu) within 30 days after the activity.  
*It is recommended that sponsors also retain copies of reports for your records.*

*Thank you for your commitment to engaging our students!!*

**PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:**

**(1) PROVIDE A DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTIVITY**

The Center for Community for Community Engagement created a Farmworker Immersion Program, in collaboration with community-based organization, Ventura County Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice, during the week of César Chávez Day of Service and Learning in, April 2014. The Farmworker Immersion Program places students in the community engaging in real-world learning in honor of Chavez' great legacy. Students will participate in a day-long service project, learning about farm worker housing, immigration, agriculture, and food insecurity. The Farm Worker Housing Immersion Program will guide students through a first-hand experience of typical farm work life in Ventura County. We will speak with farm workers and their families in their homes and visit a local berry farm where students will learn about the agricultural business in our county. The farm manager will instruct students on how to harvest the berries. Students will work for about an hour in the field.

**(2) HOW DID THE ACTIVITY RELATE TO A COURSE(S) AND/OR LEARNING OBJECTIVES?** This activity in particular relates to the university's mission elements of offering multicultural and



international perspectives and encouraging civic engagement. As such, it relates to the many GE and upper division courses that help students develop in these areas. Most particularly the University Experience 100,150, 250 & 300 courses, but also students from a wide range of programs from Chicana/o Studies to Sociology. The opportunity to experience, for a brief moment, farmworker housing and worker issues is invaluable.

**(3) WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE STRENGTHS OF THE ACTIVITY?**

The student feedback received is that this is a powerful event. A majority of the students who participated, either have parents/relatives who are farmworkers or know families who are farmworkers, this experience has allowed them to connect to those experiences (this information gathered from student feedback forms).

Other activity strengths:

- Collaborating with an outside organization
- Having a bus to transport the students
- Coming together to reflect at the end of the day
- Holding a follow-up meeting after the event
- Creating a facebook page to follow-up with students about possible ways to stay connected to farmworker issues

**(4) WHAT WOULD YOU SAY ARE/WERE THE ACTIVITY’S WEAKNESSES?**

Students are very enthusiastic the day of the event and want to stay involved. However, once back on campus and to their daily lives, it is difficult to keep that engaged momentum going.

**(5) HOW WOULD YOU IMPROVE THIS ACTIVITY FOR NEXT TIME?**

This is the third year we have offered this activity and it seems to work well.

**(6) WHAT DID YOU LEARN FROM THE PROCESS?**

Good planning and organization makes this event very easy to implement. From student feedback, this event is something students want to participate in, it is a meaningful and powerful experience and an important piece of curricular/co-curricular programming

Cesar Chavez Day of Service and Learning - IRA proposal	
505	580

Expenditures	
Bus Rental from Roadrunner	750
Honoraria	700
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	

Total IRA Award	\$2,020
Total Expenditures	\$1,450
Remaining	\$570



California State  
University

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STUDENT IN THE STRAWBERRY FIELDS

ST



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Participants in the fields



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Students worked alongside farmworkers in the fields.



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The field was at a local farm nearby the campus.



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Participants gathering strawberries



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Strawberries gathered from the day's activities





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The day's harvest