



Center for Community Engagement Presents

# SPOTLIGHTS ON SERVICE

*Building a culture of service, activism and social responsibility  
at California State University Channel Islands*



## 2023-24



### Acknowledgments

The Center for Community Engagement (CCE) would like to thank the California State University Chancellor's Office, President Richard Yao and the CSUCI Provost's Office for the support that makes our work possible; Laurie Geier for graphic design support; the CCE Advisory Board for their invaluable guidance; and all of our service-learning students, faculty, and community partners with whom we share our passion for community service and engagement.

[www.csuci.edu/communityengagement/servicelearning/](http://www.csuci.edu/communityengagement/servicelearning/)

The Center for Community Engagement presents

# SPOTLIGHTS ON SERVICE

*Building a culture of service,  
activism and social responsibility at  
California State University Channel Islands*

*A Note from  
the Center for Community Engagement*

Welcome to our second annual issue of the CSUCI Center for Community Engagement's (CCE) Spotlights on Service. We are happy to share some of the many exceptional community service projects, initiatives, and programming that our students, faculty, staff and community partners participated in this year.

From restoring the trail to sat'wiwa—a sacred mountain to the Chumash people, to caring for our elderly folks in the region, to helping provide language rights and equity to indigenous Mixtec community in Ventura County, reading Salvadoran writer Javier Zamora's book *Solito* with Mexican farmworkers as part of the Ventura County Celebration of Books, these projects exemplify the CCE's mission: to develop a culture of service, activism, and social responsibility on campus.

We hope these stories, inspire you to reflect on the ways that you can also think globally and act locally— how we can all participate in acts of service and activism to help uplift historically underserved communities in this region and also, abroad.

In community,

**Georgina Guzmán, PhD**  
Faculty Director

**Pilar Pacheco, MA**  
Director

**Jennifer Raymond, DrPH**  
Community Partnership Lead

# ABOUT

## The Center for Community Engagement

The CCE is part of a California State University system-wide community engagement initiative and one of CSU Channel Islands' Four Mission-Based Pillars. The Center leads academic and co-curricular initiatives that build a culture of service, activism and social responsibility. This work is actualized through service-learning, volunteerism, and community service programs that prepare students to be socially responsible and civically engaged.

Our vision is that we play a role in advancing the university's mission by deepening students' ability to contribute to improving and strengthening the community and educating them for civic and social responsibility. So that our students live and learn through the university mission.



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# Voices of CI

## WHAT'S VOICES OF CI?

Inspired by Brandon Stanton's *Humans of New York* photography project, the CCE wanted to highlight stories of service, activism, and social responsibility within the CSUCI community. Thus, the Voices of CI initiative was born. In 2015, the CCE embarked on a campaign to interview service-minded individuals. Student assistants at the CCE posted these stories weekly on Facebook to celebrate service and inspire others. Over the years, these stories have been shared through Instagram, the CCE newsletters, and other publications. What began as a small idea expanded into a multi-year initiative, bringing an awareness to student, faculty, staff, and alumni efforts to connect with and support the local community.



## LUIS MENDEZ

CSUCI Class of 2027

Luis Mendez, a Psychology and Chicana/o Studies major at CSU Channel Islands, enriches his education with deep community involvement. A Marine Corps veteran, he leads initiatives like MEChA and Unión de Hermanos, focusing on mental health and financial literacy. Despite a disabling accident, he continues supporting the homeless and envisions creating mental health clinics in veteran-populated areas.

Mentored by CSUCI's faculty, Luis promotes a service-driven culture, encouraging peers to engage and transform community support into widespread resilience. His journey highlights the profound impact of service on personal growth and societal change.

Read more about Luis and other stories at [csuci.edu/communityengagement/spotlights/](https://csuci.edu/communityengagement/spotlights/)

## LIZ VENCES

CSUCI Class of 2025

"I WORK TOWARD UNITING INDIVIDUALS THROUGH **ACTS OF KINDNESS** AND COOPERATION TO BUILD A **STRONGER, MORE RESILIENT SOCIETY.**"



## ANDREW FOX

CSUCI Class of 2026

"I STRIVE TO DO SOMETHING THAT **BENEFITS OTHERS** WITHOUT ANY **UNDERLYING MOTIVE** FOR REWARD OR FEAR OF PUNISHMENT."



## NOAH TYLER

CSUCI Class of 2024

"I DEFINE SERVICE AS **HELPING SOMEONE** **UNKNOWN**, AND **HELPING TO FOSTER HAPPINESS** AND **BRING SMILES ALONG.**"



# INITIA



# TIVES

*featuring*

CSUCI Corps  
Road to Restoring sat'wiwa  
Serve it Up!  
Farmworker Immersion Program  
Eduardo Chavez  
Engaged Scholar Initiative  
Community-Based Research Faculty Fellows  
Engaged Department Initiative  
Community Engagement & Social Justice Fellows

STUDENT AND FACULTY  
PROGRAMMING AND INITIATIVES



# CSUCI Corps



**C**SUCI Corps is a paid community service internship program designed to support student leaders advancing service, service-learning and community engagement throughout Santa Barbara and Ventura County.

The program pairs student interests and skills with nonprofit organizations crafting a 100-hour internship that addresses the goals of the organization and provides Corps members with a rich learning experience within the non-profit sector.

In academic year 23-24, twenty-six CSUCI Corps members provided 3,551 community service hours to 13 area non-profit organizations. These high-impact internships translate into greater student success outcomes as students become more connected to both the campus and the community.



*Solomon  
Adams*



*Christopher  
Ramirez*



*Krista  
Smith*



The Trail Corps engages students in trail restoration and conservation through education, volunteerism, and promotion and marketing with the goal of connecting students to nature, developing future volunteers, and helping students build civic and professional skills.

Based on the rich tradition of wilderness trail workers, Corps members serve alongside the **Santa Monica Mountains Trails Council (SMMTC)** to construct, repair, maintain, and restore the public trail system throughout the Santa Monica Mountains and adjacent areas. Corps members participate in analyzing, planning, and completing various trail projects including maintenance and clearing, construction of erosion prevention structures, and construction of steps, walkways, and bridges in timber or rock and outreach events conducted by SMMTC members.



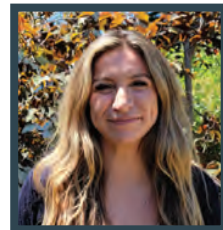
*Alyssa  
Banaszkeiwicz*

Climate Corps members support the **campus' sustainability initiatives** by overseeing a food waste recycling program to reduce environmental impact and help curb climate change. They also assist with planning and promoting a series of student-centered Earth Month events.

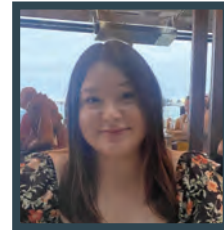




The Food Corps works closely with **Ventura County Farm to School** to implement various activities aimed at fostering a connection between youth and their food sources. Through hands-on experiences and educational initiatives, Food Corps members promote nutrition education, environmental sustainability, and outreach.



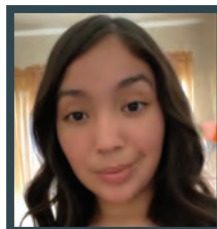
*Cassandra  
Epinoza*



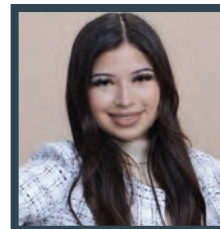
*Jiselli  
Camarena  
Ramirez*



The Health Corps members interned in the public health sector with a local non-profit in the areas of advocacy, research and/or community education and outreach. This year, students were serving with **Westminster Free Clinic, Growing Works/ Turning Point Foundation, and the Oxnard Performing Arts Center.**



*Julia  
Mendez*



*Hailey  
Martinez*

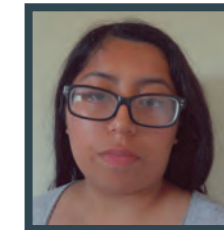


*Simone  
Lacey*

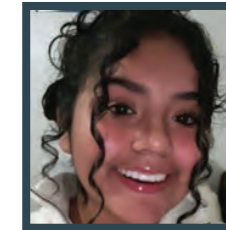
## CSUCI Corps



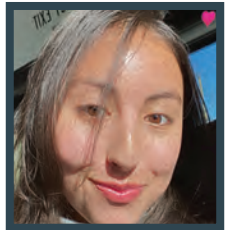
The EduCorps members provide homework, literacy, and mentoring activities and support to elementary-age school children at the **Boys and Girls Club of Camarillo, Cabrillo Economic Development Corporation** farmworker housing properties: Meta Street, Villa Cesar Chavez, and Camino Gonzalez Farmworker Family Apartments and **Somis Union Elementary School.**



*Diana  
Bello*



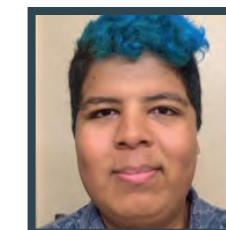
*Elizabeth  
Flores*



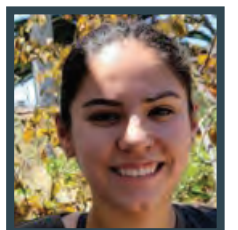
*Jaqueline  
Manriquez*



*Sarahi  
Rivera*



*Giovanni  
Sebas Olivo*

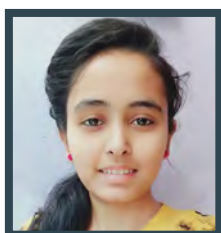


*Ashley  
Tomastetti*

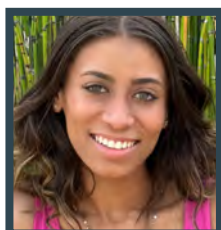




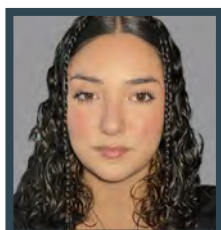
Stephannie  
Banahene



Pooja  
Darji



Karla  
Leonard



Chelsea  
Mendez



Chaitali  
Vadgama

# STEM Corps



**AMGEN**® Foundation



**“THE STEM CORPS EMPOWERS  
COMMUNITIES THROUGH  
INNOVATION, EDUCATION, &  
COLLABORATION.”**

**POOJA DARJI**

Led by the CCE, and supported by grants from the **Amgen Foundation** and **Southern California Edison**, the CSUCI STEM Corps program provides tutoring & enrichment activities focused on supporting K-12 student learning in Math and Sciences.

STEM Corps members with a strong STEM and/or Education background served up to three hours per week at community partner sites to support the development of STEM skills, learning and curiosity.

Corps members served at the **Boys and Girls Club of Camarillo**, **Cabrillo Economic Development Corp.** housing communities and **Students for Eco Education and Agriculture**.

In addition to serving, the STEM Corps hosted tables at the CSUCI STEAM Carnival in spring and served as honorary Science Fair Judges for the Richard Bard Elementary School Science Fair.

**“CSUCI CORPS HAS  
ALLOWED ME TO STEP OUT  
OF MY COMFORT ZONE  
& HELP ME BUILD ON MY  
LEADERSHIP SKILLS. I NOW  
FEEL MORE COMFORTABLE IN  
TAKING ON A LEADERSHIP  
ROLE AND TAKING ON NEW  
RESPONSIBILITIES.”**

**CHELSEA MENDEZ**



**“THE STEM CORPS HAS HELPED ME GAIN MORE KNOWLEDGE IN  
TERMS OF SATISFYING THE CURIOSITY OF THE YOUNG  
ONES BY ALSO LEARNING FROM THEM.”**

**STEPHANNIE BANAHENE**





## restoration phases

Since 2019, campus and community members have come together for the Road to Restoring *sat'wiwa* service days. The first step to restoring this place of Chumash cultural significance was to create a trail to the top. The existing route, a former road, was in poor condition and covered with brush. Participants cleared brush and root balls from the trail entrance and took the first step toward restoring this sacred trail.

In subsequent years, volunteers joined Chumash elders, the CSUCI Anthropology Club, Santa Monica Mountains Trails Council (SMMTC), the Office of the President, and the CCE to restore *sat'wiwa*.

After a blessing from Chumash elder, Raudel J. Bañuelos, and an orientation from the SMMTC, volunteers worked to provide erosion control measures and restore native plants. Participants also heard from the Chumash community about cultural history, the importance of the mountain and viewed Chumash cultural artifacts.



### President's Chumash Advisory Council

This year, the CSUCI leaders and the Barbareño/Ventureño Band of Mission Indians (BVBMI), formally announced the President's Chumash Advisory Council. In creating this Council, CSUCI acknowledges that the Chumash are the first people of the lands on which the University operates, and that CSUCI's campus is on the unceded territory of the BVBMI. CSUCI has the responsibility and desire to maintain strong relationships with the BVBMI, and together we share a commitment to working in collaboration to be stewards of the land and of its natural and cultural heritage.

In many ways this Council is timely with respect to recent changes to cultural heritage laws, roles, and processes on campus, regionally, and at the state level. In forming this Council, our intent is to build relationships, allyship, and collaboration intentionally and inclusively in support of Native American communities, interests, and priorities.

As such, this Council is the heart of and hub for communication, accountability, and collaboration for and with different campus, CSU-wide, and community partners for priorities and initiatives related to the land, cultural protocols, and regulatory compliance for cultural heritage.

# ROAD TO RESTORING *sat'wiwa*



Rising above the west side of campus *sat'wiwa* stands as a striking feature in the landscape. From the top, it offers panoramic views of the campus, the Oxnard plains, Camarillo, Point Mugu, and surrounding mountains and agricultural fields. *sat'wiwa*, meaning "the bluffs", is sacred to the Chumash people.

This was once the gathering place for the winter solstice where the Chumash set up shrines to celebrate harmony, healing, forgiveness, and compassion.

In December 2023, a BVBMI tribal gathering was held on campus for the very first time. The gathering is another step in restoring *sat'wiwa*, which includes community healing and building in advance of *sat'wiwa* ceremonies.

Through the continued efforts of the Chumash elders, the university, and the SMMTC, these ceremonies will be held once again.





# SERVE IT UP!

The CCE, Inclusive Student Services, and the Veterans Affairs Programs formed a cross-divisional volunteer initiative that contributes to building a culture of service at CSUCI. Serve It Up is a year-long program that provides the CSU Channel Islands community with service opportunities throughout Ventura County. The initiative involves signature service days created and implemented by student leaders. Events take place on and off-campus at various community organization sites with participants engaging in a day of service, learning, and critical reflection.

## VETERAN'S DAY

**Friday, November 3, 2023**

To honor over 22 million veterans who have served in the United States Armed Forces, students collaborated on a project to provide maintenance for the Biology and Chemistry research garden behind Modoc Hall. Students (& Doc, the campus therapy dog) weeded and put down mulch in one of our community partners, Native Monarchs, pollinator garden.



## SPRING SERVICE DAY

**Friday, February 16, 2024**

Ride On Therapeutic Horsemanship's mission is to promote the welfare of at-risk youth and people with any type of physical, intellectual, or cognitive disability by means of equine assisted activities and therapies; and by providing instruction and education for all in equestrian-related social, vocational and recreational activities.

In collaboration with Ride On, students were able to provide much needed maintenance and support after our recent storms, such as trimming the trees and helping clear out the hay that was affected by the rain.





# SERVE IT UP!

## CESAR CHAVEZ DAY

*Friday, March 29, 2024*

Food Forward is a nonprofit organization that brings fresh surplus fruits and vegetables to people experiencing food insecurity across 8 counties in Southern California and tribal lands in Arizona and New Mexico. Since 2009, the organization has distributed over 220,000,000 pounds of surplus foods to surrounding communities. In collaboration with Food Forward students gleaned over 1500 pounds of Meyer lemons to give to people all around Ventura County.



## EDUARDO CHAVEZ



The CCE, in partnership with Associated Students Inc, Chicana/o Studies, Inclusive Student Services, the Center for Multicultural Engagement, Student Academic Success and Equity Initiatives, and the Success and Inclusion for Graduates and Undergraduate Academic Excellence hosted a screening of *Hailing César*, a documentary from and about Eduardo Chávez, grandson of César Chávez

and his journey to understanding the legacy and struggle of his grandfather. The film explored themes of immigration, social justice and personal identity. Following the film, viewers engaged in a discussion with the director.

*The CCE wishes to thank Art student, Gabriel Burgos for his illustration and typography skills and his imaginative work creating the logo for the annual Farmworker Immersion Program. Great job, Gabe!*



In collaboration with the Chicana/o Studies and Sociology program, Cabrillo Economic Development Corporation (CEDC), *House Farm Workers!*, and Reiter Affiliated Companies, the CCE offers the **Farm Worker Immersion Program (FIP)**. The FIP guides students through a first-hand experience of farm work life in Ventura County. The program places students in the community to learn about farm worker rights, resources, and the direct link to the agricultural business in Ventura County. Due to rain, this annual program was canceled for the 2023-2024 school year.

“

This was a profound and emotional experience; my heart is full. Experiencing the connections between global industry, local communities, and individual neighbors' goals and lives left me thinking about where I can participate in that network and contribute to that community.”

STUDENT INITIATIVES



# FACULTY INITIATIVES

**CAMPUS COMPACT:  
ENGAGED SCHOLAR INITIATIVE**

**COMMUNITY BASED RESEARCH  
FACULTY FELLOWS**

**ENGAGED DEPARTMENT INITIATIVE:  
EARLY CHILDHOOD STUDIES**

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT  
AND SOCIAL JUSTICE FELLOWS**

## ENGAGED SCHOLAR INITIATIVE

Throughout its history, Campus Compact has involved select faculty and other leaders in a variety of projects and activities intended to enhance and expand civic and community engagement at higher education institutions.

The Engaged Scholars Initiative is a one-year leadership and professional development program designed to develop a diverse group of early-career faculty and staff. Ronald W. Berkowsky, Assistant Professor, Health Science, was nominated by President Richard Yao to participate in the year-long leadership program.

Each scholar is chosen specifically for their ability to bring diverse communities, identities, and perspectives to bear on their work; their academic and administrative leadership of engagement efforts at a variety of types of higher education institutions across the country; and their commitment to sharing the results of their collaborative action and analysis and to expanding the dialogue to engage other colleagues, community partners, and students.



**Campus Compact**



Ronald W. Berkowsky is an Assistant Professor in the Health Science program. Ronald earned his PhD in Medical Sociology (along with a Certificate in Gerontology) from the University of Alabama at Birmingham, and he previously worked at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine Center on Aging before joining the faculty at CSUCI in 2018.

His research has primarily examined the health and social impacts of technology use among older adults as well the various macro- and micro-level barriers to successful use (i.e., the “digital divide”). More recently, Ron has engaged in community-based scholarship through collaborations with area nonprofits to identify and address local health and healthcare-based elder issues, including investigating the benefits and challenges of volunteer caregiving and investigating issues surrounding transgender and non-binary healthcare through the life course.

He currently serves on the Advisory Council of the Ventura County Area Agency on Aging representing and advocating on behalf of LGBTQ+ older adults, and he also serves on the Steering Committee for the LGBTQ+ Aging Coalition of Ventura County.



# Community-Based Research

## FACULTY FELLOWS PROGRAM

The CCE's Community-Based Research (CBR) Faculty Fellows Program is a year-long faculty development initiative. Now in its third year, Fellows learned about best practices in CBR, while sharing experiences and planning processes. After which, Fellows will design and implement a CBR project with students during the subsequent academic year. Previous CBR Faculty Fellows play an important role in the program by sharing their experience leading their own CBR projects.



**José Alamillo**  
Professor  
Chicana/o Studies

José has engaged in variations of CBR with multiple community partners since 2008. Some of those projects include the Bracero Oral History Project, Wagon Wheel Community, and Latino Baseball History Project. José is currently initiating a new

CBR project titled "Untold Legacies" that seeks to uncover the rich cultural history of ethnic communities in Ventura County. He has identified a potential partner (Ethnic Studies Teachers Council at Oxnard Union School District), to provide more Ethnic Studies content, curriculum design, and a repository of primary sources.



**Daniel Sandoval**  
Lecturer  
Sociology

Daniel is a lecturer in Sociology and was born and raised in Ventura County. His roots in the community run deep as a board member of the Santa Paula Unified School District and Santa Paula Art Museum, a member of the steering

committee of the countywide Project Isabella Early Childhood Education Project, and co-principal investigator for the Ventura County Family Justice Center. He hopes to bring these engagement efforts into the classroom to further the connection of CSUCI to the broader community.

**"THE COMMUNITY-BASED RESEARCH FACULTY FELLOWS PROGRAM HAS BEEN A TRANSFORMATIVE EXPERIENCE, ENHANCING MY ACADEMIC PERSPECTIVE AND STRENGTHENING MY COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT. IT HAS PROVIDED ME WITH THE TOOLS AND INSIGHTS NEEDED TO INTEGRATE RIGOROUS ACADEMIC RESEARCH WITH IMPACTFUL COMMUNITY SERVICE."**

**- DANILO BERNAL**



**Danilo Bernal**  
Assistant Professor  
Nursing

Danilo is new to CBR and looking forward to expanding his skills to enhance student learning

and contribute meaningfully to community initiatives. This fellowship is a pivotal step toward that goal. Danilo plans to initiate a practical CBR project to advance social and health equity in our local community working with the Turning Point Foundation to enhance mental health rehabilitation services. His research will focus on evaluating program effectiveness or exploring the role of community and family support in patient outcomes.



**Nicholas Centino**  
Associate Professor  
Chicana/o Studies

Nicholas is a faculty member in Chicana/o Studies. His work examines popular cultural

practices of Chicanas/os and Latinas/os as strategies of survival and negotiation, and highlights often ignored contemporary and historical narratives of struggle. His research focuses specifically on popular cultural practices including music, dance, food, art, and style. He is an avid supporter of community engagement and social justice, and has worked with a broad cross section of community-based organizations. He plans to engage in a CBR project with and for a local union.



## ENGAGED DEPARTMENT INITIATIVE EARLY CHILDHOOD STUDIES

**E**arly Childhood Studies (ECS) received funding for the Engaged Department Initiative. The initiative supports academic departments interested in the department as a unit of engagement and social change. The purpose of this initiative is to encourage the development of strategies to (1) include service-learning work in both their teaching, engaged scholarship and/or retention, tenure and promotion, (2) include service-learning courses as a standard expectation for majors, and (3) develop a level of unit coherence that will allow faculty to model successful civic engagement at the departmental level.

The ECS program achieved the following outcomes:

- Met with various community partners to plan long-term service-learning projects
- Organized and conducted a service-learning research project focused on childrens literacy

Designated the following courses to always be taught as service-learning:

- ECS 221: Child, Families and Diverse Communities
- ECS 345: Latinx Childrens Literature
- ECS 355: Foundations of STEAM in Early Childhood
- ECS 465: Global Families and Diverse Communities



**“Being culturally sustaining educators means that preservice teachers understand the value of effective teaching practices and the program provides ample opportunities through field work for students to observe and practice as well as service learning to learn to give back to the community. As such, we believe that having the designation of ‘engaged department’ would allow us to enhance our mission not only in a few courses but throughout our program and subsequently have a larger impact on our students.”**

**- Mari Riojas-Cortez, Program Chair and Professor**

The Community Engagement and Social Justice Fellows Program is a development opportunity designed for faculty who seek to deepen their service-learning teaching and practice by pushing their thinking about social justice and, at the same time, create or refine a course that will allow students to engage with community issues through a social justice orientation (i.e. examining systems of power, privilege and oppression, questioning biases and assumptions, and working to dismantle the tools that perpetuate social and economic oppression and entrenched racial hierarchies), so they begin to see themselves as social change leaders and community advocates.

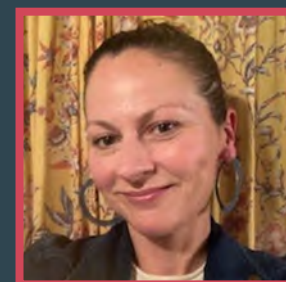
Through this program, the CCE aims to shape campus and community culture, to further develop students as agents of change, and to engage students in critical consciousness while actively processing issues of equity and justice in the community.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & SOCIAL JUSTICE



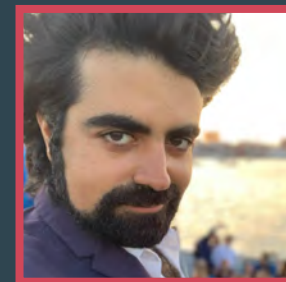
**Maricela Becerra, Assistant Professor, Spanish**

Maricela joined the Fellows program because as a faculty member, she sees that it is her responsibility to connect to the community and establish relationships that will enrich her students' learning and careers. This program would serve as a way to enhance her knowledge of social justice practices while connecting her to community-based projects to further support students.



**Kendall McClellan, Lecturer, English**

Kendall was interested in the Fellows program because she sees CSUCI's effort to offer a situated and interconnected experience for students is one of its great strengths, and she would like to gain new ideas and tools for integrating this component into her classes. She wants students to feel empowered within their communities and believes service-learning can achieve that goal.



**Assadulah Sadiq, Assistant Professor, Early Childhood Studies**

Assadulah applied to the Fellows program because community engagement and social justice are both causes that are very close to his heart. Reflecting on his own experience as a former refugee, he experienced many incidents that fueled his passion for social justice and hopes to learn strategies that will allow him to have more impact in the areas of community engagement.



# AWARDS

THE CENTER FOR  
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT  
ORGANIZES AN ANNUAL  
**CELEBRATION OF SERVICE**  
POSTER SESSION AND AWARD CEREMONY  
TO HONOR STUDENT,  
COMMUNITY PARTNER, AND  
FACULTY SERVICE-LEARNING AND  
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT  
EFFORTS



## Student Reflective Essay Award

This award recognizes a student reflective essay that exhibits particular depth of insight concerning the challenges and satisfactions of community service, the impact on student growth and learning, and with the greatest potential to inspire others to serve.

**Nicholle Azpera, Spanish, Class of 2024**



## Janet Korsmo Engagement Award

This award honors a staff/administrator who is significantly involved in civic engagement activities at CSUCI and/or in the broader community. This recognition honors staff/administrators who contribute to the public good and embody the core value of civic engagement personally and/or professionally.

**Zach Adkins, Environmental Science and Resource Management Technician**



## Dr. Richard R. Rush Community Partner Award

This award recognizes a community organization that is significantly involved with CSUCI. This recognition honors organizations and individuals who contribute to student learning and support student engagement with the community in a curricular or co-curricular setting.

**Real Guppy Outdoors**



## Engaged Faculty Award

This recognition honors a faculty member's commitment to the public good and advancement of service-learning/ community engagement within their discipline.

**Hyunsook Yuon, Assistant Professor, Communication**



## Community-Based Research Project Award

This award recognizes a faculty member and Community Partner that are involved in community-based research with the purpose of solving a pressing community problem or effecting social change.

**Ronald W. Berkowsky, Assistant Professor, Health Science and Tammy Glenn, Executive Director, CAREgivers**





# SERVICE- LEARNING

Service-learning is embedded in the CSUCI mission statement and defined as a high-impact teaching and learning strategy in which meaningful service addresses a societal and/or social justice issue and is a component of course curriculum and assessment of student learning. It is characterized by critical reflection and a collaborative partnership among faculty, students, and community, with a focus on both student learning and community impact\*

*\*Adopted from the CSU Office of the Chancellor, Center for Community Engagement's definition of Community-Engaged Learning.*

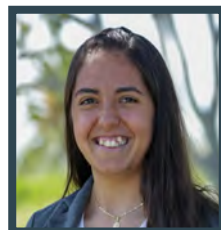
HIGHLIGHTING  
SERVICE-LEARNING AND  
COMMUNITY-BASED RESEARCH PROJECTS



## Reading Central American Literature and Sharing Educational Pláticas with Mexican Farmworker Families

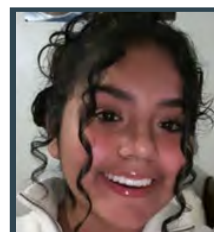
**Georgina Guzmán, Associate Professor, English**  
**ENGL/CHST 353: Chicana/o-Latina/o Literature**

In Fall 2023, the Ventura County (VC) Library Foundation (VCLF), in partnership with CSUCI, organized the Ventura County Celebration of Books and Salvadoran writer Javier Zamora's book *Solito* was selected as the book of the year. VCLF gave free books to Ventura County residents to read; *Solito* introduced the community to Javier's immigration story, coming from El Salvador as an unaccompanied minor immigrant at the age of 9. Our community partner and I believed the Celebration of Books would be a good opportunity to include the farmworker community in the VC Celebration of Books. Along with providing farmworkers access to reading and learning by leveraging county programs, we sought to improve literacy, engage in dialogue about immigration experiences in Ventura County, and unearth comparative histories of Mexican/Central American immigration and Mexican-



Natalie Leon

*Natalie Leon, a sophomore majoring in Biochemistry served as a Service Learning Peer mentor in CHS 353: Chicana/o Latina/o Literature in fall, 2024.*



Elisabeth Flores

*Elisabeth Flores, a sophomore majoring in English served as a Service Learning Peer Mentor in CHS 353: Chicana/o Latina/o Literature in spring, 2024.*

Central American relations in Ventura County. In Spring 2024, we continued leading conversations with farmworkers. Based on community partner feedback and where we left off in the fall, we focused on working with farm worker parents on strategies to help with their children's education, learning, social media usage, mental health, and college.



## Entering the Teaching Profession: From Dream to Reality CSUCI and University Preparation Charter School

**Talya Drescher, Associate Professor, Education**  
**EDUC 101: Introduction to Elementary School Teaching**

This service-learning course provides structured observation and tutoring experiences which reflect a rich array of student diversity in local schools. Emphasis is placed on gaining awareness of connections between discipline knowledge and teaching and learning. In addition to thirty hours of field experience in elementary schools, students meet weekly in a seminar course to discuss their observations, professional goals and topics related to the teaching profession.

Service-learning benefits student learning by enhancing course material through real-world application. **This high-impact practice can provide students an opportunity to actively learn more about their community and the larger social, cultural and political issues while becoming civically involved.** These learning experiences can be used to strengthen resumes, graduate school applications, career exploration opportunities, and forge professional networks.

## Towards an Age-Friendly Ventura County: Community-Engaged Capstone Projects Benefitting Elder-Serving Agencies and Nonprofits

**Ronald W. Berkowsky, Assistant Professor, Health Science**  
**Health 499: Senior Capstone**

With the rapid expansion of the older adult population in Ventura County (mirroring the expansion seen at the global level), there is an increased need to highlight and bolster programs offered by county-based agencies and nonprofits which serve older adults and their caregivers in the region.

Due to limitations in funding, appropriately-trained personnel, or time, many organizations serving older adults and their caregivers may lack the capacity necessary to complete projects designed to evaluate, enhance, expand, or advocate for services.

To enhance the capacity of elder-serving agencies and nonprofits in Ventura County in strengthening or advocating for their services, students from a Spring 2024 Health Science Capstone class divided into five teams to complete a series of community-engaged projects addressing particular needs as outlined by four different elder-serving organizations. Projects are ongoing and will be completed at the conclusion of the Spring 2024 semester.





## Assessing Local Access to Affordable Healthy Food in Saticoy

**Nien-Tsu (Nancy) Chen, Associate Professor, Communication**  
**COMM/NRS 441: Health Communication**

The first goal of the service-learning collaboration was to assess Saticoy residents' access to affordable healthy food locally. Saticoy, an unincorporated area in Ventura County, has been classified as a food desert for over 10 years. In order to create a more accessible and equitable food system in Saticoy, it is important to first understand the current state of the local food system while identifying challenges in creating a healthier local food ecology. To do so, Saticoy Food Hub collaborated with the COMM/NS 441 class on a community-based research project to (a) seek feedback from local residents on the cultural relevance the USDA Community Food Security Assessment Toolkit (2002), and (b) revise items in the toolkit based on residents' input. It is important to assess the cultural appropriateness of this toolkit because according to the 2020 census, 1,002 of Saticoy's 1,133 residents are Latino or Hispanic. However, it's unclear if the USDA toolkit covers common food staples in Latinx communities.



The second goal of the collaboration was to use the revised USDA toolkit to survey all four corner stores in Saticoy to understand the ecology of healthy and unhealthy food in these stores, as well as the affordability of the different dietary options. It is worth noting that there is no grocery store or supermarket in Saticoy. The corner stores are the most accessible avenues for residents to shop for food without having to travel to the nearest grocers or supermarkets in the City of Ventura.

## Assisting Rancho Campana High School Math Classes

**Chrissy Soderlund, Lecturer, Mathematics**  
**MATH 318: Mathematics for Future Secondary Teachers**

Math 318 is designed for undergraduates who plan to become secondary teachers of Mathematics. Teachers at Rancho Campana High School (RCHS) described a need, especially among their Math 1 classes, for assistance in answering student questions and nudging students in the right direction during class work time. By the time students reach high school, perceptions of mathematics are firmly established. Unfortunately, among high school students enrolled in lower-level Math courses, these perceptions are unfavorable. CSUCI students worked with RCHS students on the math itself and on their perceptions of math by engaging them in mathematical conversations either one-on-one or in small groups.

## Community Engaged Action with Homelessness and Healthcare in Ventura County

**Lydia Dixon, Associate Professor, Health Science**  
**Health 499: Senior Capstone Project**

Students learned about an array of topics related to homelessness and health: substance abuse, mental health, domestic violence, LGBTQ and Veterans' concerns, street medicine, housing first, harm reduction, and trauma. They heard from guest experts, toured an emergency shelter, an affordable housing site, and Food Share, and (regional food bank), and conducted four community-engaged activities with county organizations addressing homelessness that gave them first-hand experience.



## Expanding Access to Nature and Scientific Literacy Through Translation

**Javier F. González, Associate Professor, Spanish**  
**SPAN 420: Specialized Spanish Translation**

In the Spanish 420 course, students worked individually and in teams translating the different texts for the project after completing a preliminary reflection, reading studies on environmental inequality and demographics, and connecting those activities with their experience as members of the community we are translating for, identifying further gaps that later projects can address. Following the guidelines and practices and using the techniques written by faculty member, Antonio Jiménez, Professor of Spanish, the class compiled a glossary from different sources, compiled parallel texts in target language on different wildlife found at the zoo, zoo procedures, and worked collectively to edit the texts to be as idiomatic as possible in our target language while assuring consistent use of terminology. This was done while keeping in mind who our target audience is: our local community. With the vast majority of students in the class being members of the community we are translating for, as a class we had the necessary expertise to discuss and make the important choices regarding vocabulary, register, tone, and cultural competence to make our texts as accessible and effective as possible.

The class translated a variety of texts including the Standard Operating Guidelines for caring for animals, animal nutrition programs, and animal fact sheets that encourage children and parent participation and engagement with nature and scientific literacy, welcoming them into the environment of the Santa Barbara Zoo.





## A Second Year of Serve it Up: Connecting Service to First-Year Writing

**Emily Spitler-Lawson, Lecturer, English  
ENG 105.02: Composition and Rhetoric**

This is the second time that CSUCI has offered the Serve it Up learning community as an option to incoming first-year students. This cohort of students selected Serve it Up and its focus on service from a long list of possible learning communities, speaking to the dedication and passion for serving their communities that these students brought to the class.

In Fall 2023, students enrolled as a cohort in UNIV 150 with Susan Lefevre and English 102 with Emily Spitler-Lawson. The service-learning activities were integrated into both classes, and many coincided with campus-wide events organized through the Center for Community Engagement.



*Sara Mascorro*

*Sara Mascorro, a Senior majoring in English served as a Service Learning Peer mentor in UNIV 150.*

In Spring 2024, after receiving extensive preparation to learn through thoughtful and reflective service in UNIV 150, Serve it Up students, as well as a few newcomers, continued to explore opportunities to serve and learn from our community partners. It is our hope that the lessons learned this year will have contributed to furthering a culture of service on our campus.



## The Path to Language Justice

**Antonio Jiménez-Jiménez, Professor, Spanish  
SPAN 498: Capstone**

This Capstone course partnered with MICOP (Mixteco Indígena Community Organizing Project) which aims to support, organize and empower indigenous migrant communities in the Ventura County. Spanish student, Nicholle Azpera, served as a tutor to 10 to 15 adult Mixtec students learning Spanish in order to perform certain professional and essential life skills such as filling in and signing medical and governmental documents. She also served as a communicator to existing educators within the non-profit organization to address observable needs of this community and tear down linguistic barriers that may isolate the indigenous Mixtec community in Ventura County.



## STEAM Carnival: Partnership with Camarillo Boys and Girls Club

**Annie White, Associate Professor, Early Childhood Studies  
ECS 463: Creating and Supporting Reciprocal Family and  
Community Networks**

The community need identified for this service-learning project was to support Boys and Girls Club of Camarillo (BGCC) opportunities for Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math (STEAM) learning. The goal was to increase BGCC students STEAM learning experiences. The objective was to increase families' awareness of the importance of STEAM learning through providing hands-on activities used to increase parent-child interactions.





# COMMUNITY-BASED RESEARCH

To provide formal recognition for significant Community-Based Research (CBR) projects, a small team of advocates worked over many years to develop an online repository of CBR reports conducted by faculty and students at our campus, branded CBR@CSUCI. All reports included are reviewed (by one faculty reviewer and one community partner reviewer) for the quality and contribution of research and clarity appropriate to general audiences.

This repository serves multiple purposes. Most directly, it creates an online “home” for projects that can serve as models for those interested in engaging in CBR (whether faculty, students, or community partners). For community partners, it also creates a permanent record of their research to be accessed and used years later.

In addition, it generates a sense of excitement and connection to the university to have the reports officially archived. For students, it is a potential resource for graduate school or job applications since they can provide a permanent link to reports presented in a digital home that properly highlights them. Perhaps most importantly, it allows faculty to document significant contributions in a way that can be professionally recognized.

Overall, the repository increases the visibility of CBR, and pulling the reports together creates a multiplier effect that further raises the status of CBR on campus.

The following CBR projects were recently featured at the annual Celebration of Service and will serve as Volume 2 of the CBR@CSUCI repository.

We hope you enjoy them.

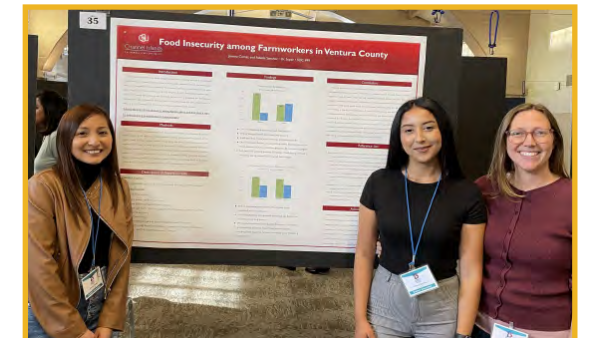
## Food Insecurity Among Farmworkers in Ventura County

**Rachel Soper, Associate Professor, Sociology**  
**SOC 499: Capstone**

This Capstone project began in Spring 2022, when CSUCI student, Evelyn Cedillo and nine of her classmates partnered with Community Roots Garden to design a survey on farmworker food insecurity. They collected 100 surveys from farmworkers in Oxnard and calculated univariate analysis.

In Fall 2022, five Sociology Capstone students conducted bivariate analysis of the survey data to see how food insecurity varies by individual and household-level characteristics.

Students concluded that efforts to subsidize indigenous farmworker access to food should



be supported. We shared the empirical findings with Abundant Table, a non-profit organization that provides harvest boxes to indigenous farmworkers free of cost, in hopes they could use it to advocate for further funding.

## Serving the Underserved: Medical Residents' Experiences Working with Ventura County's Backpack Medicine Program

**Lydia Dixon, Associate Professor, Health Science**  
**Health 490: Capstone**

Backpack Medicine is a program that works with Ventura County to bring healthcare to the homeless. They work with many other local organizations and service providers to bring resources to unhoused communities. They work to connect them with traditional healthcare settings like clinics. The program also includes special initiatives such as mobile showers, a mobile medical clinic, addiction medication-assisted treatment, and counseling services, which cover addiction recovery programs and support.

Through a collaboration with the Ventura County Family Medicine Residency Program, medical residents rotate into Backpack Medicine and bring healthcare directly to homeless individuals by literally carrying around what they need in

backpacks. Backpack Medicine has established itself across the county as a trusted service provider and has been able to help many individuals get the care they need.

For this project, Health Capstone students developed an interview guide to learn more about the experience of working with Backpack Medicine from the perspective of the staff and medical residents.

The goal was to understand the primary health and social needs they observe in the communities they serve, as well as to better understand their own motivations for doing this work and the needs they continue to see in the community.



## Place Matters: Memory, Community and Displacement in Oxnard's Wagon Wheel Neighborhood

**Jose Alamillo, Professor, Chicana/o Studies**  
**Special Topics in Chicana/o Studies**

Most people are not aware that a working-class Latino community existed behind the Wagon Wheel Hotel and Restaurant known as the "Wagon Wheel Trailer Lodge." The trailer park consisted of 128 mobile homes and 43 RVs. When Martin V. Smith, the original owner died in 2001 a new land development company purchased the property and told residents they needed to move out, because they had plans to redevelop the entire area with new condos and apartments. In 2005, residents organized the Wagon Wheel Residents Committee along with lawyer, Barbara Macri-Ortiz. After 10 years of court battles and city hearings, Wagon Wheel residents negotiated a settlement to receive a fair compensation for their mobile homes and priority for a new affordable housing apartment complex.

In summer 2014, the Wagon Wheel Residents Committee approached Dr. José Alamillo to help them document their stories and history of their community. In Fall 2014 and Spring 2015, students in Special Topics in Chicano/a Studies conducted a community-based research project with Wagon Wheel residents. The first step was organizing a community potluck to meet each other and establish confianza.

The second step was participating in a walking tour led by Enedina Rivera who shared stories of important places and spaces in the community. The third step was creating a contact list of residents interested in being interviewed. Upon receiving IRB approval and consent, students began conducting oral history interviews with residents. Students also took photographs, scanned family archives and transcribed the interviews.

The final step was to write up and share their findings from their interviews and collaborate to write the final report and deliver to the Wagon Wheel Residents Committee.

The project resulted in four key findings: the first finding was the uncertainty of finding affordable housing. Many Wagon Wheel residents expected to remain in the mobile home park for the rest of their lives. Because many residents earned low wages and the temporary nature of farm work creates great difficulty acquiring low-income housing.

A second finding was that many residents who had previous experience in political organizing helped to keep the Wagon Wheel Residents Committee united throughout the legal process. The developer tried to buy up the leadership of



the Wagon Wheel Committee but failed, because many were former United Farm Workers (UFW) members. They used their organizing skills to lobby Oxnard city officials and mobilized residents to vote in future local elections.

A third finding was the community cultural wealth that Wagon Wheel residents possessed allowing them to use their cultural knowledge, skills, and networks to maintain their solidarity to save their community

A fourth finding was a strong emphasis on education among Wagon Wheel residents. A majority viewed education in a positive light even though many adult residents struggled to continue their education in Mexico. Parents also revealed how they made demands on the local Oxnard School District to add a bus stop at Wagon Wheel for their children.

## Issues of Advocacy and Community Life for African Americans in Ventura County

**Dennis Downey, Professor, Sociology**  
**SOC 499: Capstone**

The project was a partnership between the Community Advocacy Coalition of Ventura County and a Sociology Capstone class in the fall 2020 semester. Students analyzed survey data and conducted micro-interviews with community leaders in the county. For the survey research, key findings focused on relative priorities among respondents concerning social issues most relevant to the African American community. Interview findings focused on the frequency of negative interactions with law enforcement, and the common experience of microaggressions on the part of African Americans in the county – many of which were significant (i.e., not "micro"). Findings have helped the CAC to better understand priorities of community members, and to guide their advocacy.



The research project was conducted as the focus of a Sociology Capstone course in the Fall of 2020. That was at the height of the Black Lives Matter Movement which made the topics particularly relevant to students. It was also the first full semester of the pandemic, which meant that the class and the project had to be conducted completely online (including Zoom interviews). The project began with analyses of CAC survey data; continued with the design of micro-interviews, conducting and analyzing the interviews; and concluded with the write up of a thorough report with all methodological documentation.

## Community Behind the C.R.E.W.: A Study of the Relevance and Impact with Stakeholders in Concerned Resource and Environmental Workers

**Daniel Armanino, Lecturer, Sociology**  
**SOC 499: Capstone**

The CREW (Concerned Resources & Environmental Workers) is an Ojai based nonprofit that has been in operation for over 30 years. This project was a collaboration between the Sociology Capstone students and the CREW's Executive Director, Jennifer Berry. Students designed the study, deployed the survey, analyzed results and presented their findings to the CREW's Advisory Board for review.



The research was administered through an online survey that was emailed to supporters/volunteers of The C.R.E.W. The survey was a mix of open and closed-ended questions with approximately 87 respondents. Results showed, most respondents have been supporting The C.R.E.W from one to five years (29.89%). In addition, most of them were 'very likely' to continue being a supporter of The C.R.E.W (74.71%). Furthermore, most

respondents were 'satisfied' with The C.R.E.W's outreach and cultivation of community partnerships. Many respondents were familiar with specific projects involving The C.R.E.W (73.56%). As well as majority of the respondents felt that The C.R.E.W upheld both its mission pillars: 'developing young leaders' and 'caring for the environment'.



Community partners play an integral role as a co-educator in the academic careers of our students. Our partners have a unique opportunity to mentor CSUCI students about the larger social, cultural and political issues that make-up the world around them. They also have an opportunity to provide them with the knowledge and understanding of the community/population they are working with and the service they are providing.

# COMMUNITY PARTNERS

COMMUNITY PARTNER EVENTS  
SPOTLIGHT AND LISTING



## COMMUNITY PARTNER EVENTS



### ENGAGEMENT FAIR

*September 2023*

In collaboration with Student Organizations and Involvement (SOI), the CCE hosted over 40 community-based organizations, while SOI hosted over 60 CSUCI clubs and organizations in Central Mall for the Fall semester Engagement Fair: Get Involved, Get Engaged, Get Connected. Our community partners were able to connect with students about their volunteer, internship, and employment opportunities.

### WORKSHOP: LEADING WITH EMPATHY

*November 2023*

The CCE and Cal Lutheran's, Center for Nonprofit Leadership, hosted 74 community partners from 43 organizations across Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties, at an in-person workshop titled, "Leading with Empathy: Tips and Skills for Nonprofit Leaders and Their Teams," with guest speaker, Beth Kanter, Consultant & Nonprofit Innovator.



### CAREERS FOR THE COMMON GOOD FAIR

*April 2024*

The CCE hosted over 30 community partners and campus departments at the Careers for the Common Good Fair in the Broome Library Plaza. Students were able to connect and network with local nonprofits and government agencies that are seeking employees, interns, and volunteers. It was amazing to see such an energetic and inspiring event with our community partners and students all around!

## COMMUNITY BUS TOUR



The Community Bus Tour introduces new and "not-so-new" faculty to the CCE's service-learning program, the surrounding community and community partners. Faculty have the opportunity to meet various campus-community partners, learn about issues that impact our community and discover how they and their students can engage with and learn from the community through service-learning and community-based research. This year we began the tour at the campus' Modoc Garden and learned about the Biology research garden and the pollinator garden from Chris Amendt, founder of Native Monarchs. We met with Reel Guppies Outdoors and learned about the ocean and outdoor education for children. We visited Oxnard Performing Arts Center and viewed murals featuring Anderson Paak, Carmen Ramirez, and Carmen Perez.



We met with Frank Barajas, Professor of History, at Plaza Park in Downtown Oxnard to learn about Oxnard heritage. We lunched at Community Roots Garden and met with hosts Zuleima Jimenez and Adriana Diego. We heard from community partners, Casa de Vida, Coalition for Family Harmony, and Buen Vecino, and Ron Berkowsky, Assistant Professor of Health Science, about service-learning projects. After, we viewed the statue of The Farmworker, featuring Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta, at Clinicas del Camino Real RSJ Health Center.

**"I really like the honor and opportunity to hear the stories and histories of Ventura County. Also, I appreciated the opportunity to be able to connect and chat with community organizers. I am already making plans to connect and work with an organizer I met on the bus tour."**

Faculty Reflection

COMMUNITY PARTNERS



# COMMUNITY PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

Chris Amendt, the founder of Native Monarchs and Monarch Botanika, is a dedicated advocate for the natural world and a tireless champion of Monarch butterfly conservation. Despite a successful medical career, Chris felt a deep longing to have a more meaningful impact on the environment. Raised by her grandmother, “Grammy” Betty, who instilled a love for wildlife and the outdoors, Chris’ childhood was filled with science projects involving butterflies, caterpillars, birds, and plants. Her grandmother encouraged her not just to play in the backyard but to explore, respect, and support the wildlife there. This early connection to nature became the basis of her life’s work.

However, it was her deep love for nature and an unwavering passion for Monarch butterfly conservation that eventually inspired Chris to leave her corporate job. And in 2020, amidst the challenges of the pandemic, Chris established Native Monarchs, a non-profit organization dedicated to addressing the Monarch population crisis and fostering essential habitats. During that same year, she undertook the ambitious project of constructing her first large-scale Monarch butterfly habitat at her local golf course, Sterling Hills in Camarillo, CA, with assistance from Audubon International and the Environmental Defense Fund, Monarchs in the Rough, partnering with golf courses to restore pollinator habitat in out-of-play areas.

She took a unique approach aimed at promoting habitat preservation in diverse environments, encompassing residential and commercial landscapes, golf courses, agricultural land, schools, wineries, and various other areas. This approach recognized the significant impact that even minor changes in landscaping practices could have on supporting pollinators and beneficial insects.



Taking her commitment further, Chris embarked on a journey of propagating Milkweed plants to sell and donate to Ventura County gardeners and Monarch butterfly advocates. As she cultivated native Milkweed for people’s Monarch gardens, she noticed she had a surplus of unviable seeds left over. Intrigued by the potential of these seeds, she attempted to repurpose them as plant fertilizer or natural pest deterrent. However, it became clear that the seeds held a more remarkable secret: they could be naturally cold-pressed to extract a unique oil. Drawing upon her medical knowledge and conducting chemical composition tests on the oil, she discovered the Milkweed Seed Oil’s exceptional qualities, rich in Omega fatty acids 3, 6, 9, and 7—a rarity in the plant world. Recognizing the potential to create a premium skincare product that directly supported the Monarch conservation mission, Chris decided to make and sell this unique oil-based product, with 5% of the sales dedicated to monarch conservation efforts.

Over the past few years, Chris has consistently engaged with CSUCI Biology and Chemistry faculty to establish Monarch habitats within the campus garden. She has collaborated with several classes and dozens of students to cultivate and expand the garden, making it more inviting for pollinators. Chris also worked with the National Park Service to install a Raptor Perch and camera in the garden and partnered with the Barn Owl Box Company to bring an owl box. These university donations promote natural rodent control and eliminate the need for harmful rodenticides.

**WE ARE CREATING AND PROTECTING HABITAT!**



**Monarch Butterfly Populations are Rapidly Declining..  
WE CAN CHANGE THEIR FUTURE!**



# Our Partners

The Center for Community Engagement partners with over 100 area non-profit organizations, governmental agencies, libraries and schools. These partnerships address community needs such as: homelessness, housing, food insecurity, environment, immigration, youth development, literacy, senior issues, health, education, and community economic development. **We value their involvement as co-educators and their commitment to our students.**

- A.I.M. Entrepreneurial Academy
- ACTION VC
- Agriculture Museum
- AHA!
- Alzheimer's Association of Ventura County
- American Foundation for Suicide Prevention
- American Red Cross
- ÁNIMO Theatre Company
- Art Through Action
- Arts Mentorship Program, Inc.
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Ventura County
- Boys and Girls Club of Camarillo
- Brain Injury Center of Ventura County
- BRITE: Building Resilience & Inclusion Through Engagement
- Buen Vecino
- Cabrillo Economic Development Corporation
- Californians for Pesticide Reform
- Camarillo Family YMCA
- Camarillo Health Care District
- Camarillo Heights STEM Academy
- Camarillo Public Library
- Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times
- Cancer Support Community – Valley/Ventura/Santa Barbara
- Canine Adoption & Rescue League (CARL)
- CAREGIVERS: Volunteers Assisting the Elderly
- Casa De Vida Inc.
- Casa Pacifica Center for Children & Families
- Central Coast Alliance United for a Sustainable Economy (CAUSE)
- Central Coast Climate Justice Network
- Channel Islands Restoration
- City of Agoura Hills – Dpt of Community Services
- Climate First: Replacing Oil & Gas (CFROG)
- Coalition for Family Harmony
- Communicare
- Community Action of Ventura County
- Community Advocacy Coalition
- Community Roots Garden
- Concerned Resource & Environmental Workers (The C.R.E.W.)
- Diversity Collective of Ventura County
- DRAGG
- Emily Shane Foundation
- FirstSteps for Kids, Inc.
- Focus on the Masters Arts Archive & Library
- Food Forward
- FOOD Share, Inc.
- Girl Scouts of California's Central Coast
- Girls Inc. of Carpinteria
- Habitat for Humanity of Ventura County
- Healthcare for the Homeless/One Stop
- HealthCorps, Inc.
- House Farm Workers!
- Housing Opportunities Made Easier (HOME)
- Humane Society of Ventura County
- Independent Living Resource Center, Inc.
- Interface Children & Family Services
- Juneteenth Celebration of Ventura County

- Justice for All Ventura County
- Justice in the Classroom
- Kids & Families Together
- kidSTREAM Children's Museum
- Lighthouse for Women & Children
- Lulapin Chumash Foundation
- Many Mansions
- Mary's Mercy Center
- Mixteco/Indigena Community Organizing Project (MICOP)
- Museum of Ventura County
- NAMI Ventura County
- National Park Service Santa Monica Mountains Nat. Rec. Area
- Native Monarchs
- New West Symphony Harmony Project
- Ocean View School District
- Ojai Valley Land Conservancy
- One Step a la Vez
- Operation Gratitude
- Oxnard Performing Arts Corporation (OPAC)
- Oxnard Union High School District Farm to School Program
- Pleasant Valley School District
- Project Access
- Rancho Campana High School
- Reel Guppy Outdoors
- Ride On Therapeutic Horsemanship
- Rio Real Elementary School
- Rodale Institute California Organic Center
- Ronald McDonald Family Room – Ventura
- Ronald McDonald House – Bakersfield/Los Angeles
- Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History & Sea Center
- Santa Barbara Zoo
- Santa Monica Mountains Trails Council
- Santa Paula Parks & Recreation
- Saticoy Food Hub
- Saving Lives Camarillo
- School on Wheels
- Search Dog Foundation
- SEL4CA
- Social Justice Fund for Ventura County
- Somis Elementary
- Special Olympics Southern California
- Step Up Tutoring
- Storyteller Children's Center
- Students for Eco-Education & Agriculture (SEEAG)
- Surfrider Foundation Ventura County Chapter
- The Conflict Resolution Institute
- The Human Nature Center
- Thousand Oaks Library
- Turning Point Foundation – Growing Works
- UFW Foundation
- United Way of Ventura County
- Unity Theatre Collective
- University Preparation Charter School
- Ventura County Area Agency on Aging
- Ventura County Continuum of Care
- Ventura County Family Justice Center
- Ventura County Farm to School
- Ventura County Library System
- Ventura County Office of Strategy Management
- Ventura County Rescue Mission Alliance
- Ventura Land Trust
- Ventura Wild
- Westminster Free Clinic
- Women of Substance & Men of Honor
- YAC Foundation (Young Athletes for Christ Inc.)
- Youth Pride Association



## SERVICE-LEARNING

# STATS

AY 23-24

**29,000**

Hours in the Community

**21**

Faculty  
Teaching

**74**

Community  
Partners Served

**34**

Courses  
Offered

**644**

Students  
Enrolled

**\$1,120,000**

Economic Benefit\*

\*California volunteer time valued at \$38.61/hour multiplied by total hours in the community



California State  
University

Center for  
**COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT**

C H A N N E L  
I S L A N D S

