

# CCGA Students' Volunteerism is Much Appreciated

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For college students at College of Coastal Georgia, there are many important programs on campus for which they can volunteer.

Yet as many of them learned Tuesday, Glynn County has many nonprofits that offer mutual benefits for the organizations and the students. At CCGA, all students are encouraged volunteer and get involved however they can, a wonderful initiative called service-learning. The idea is to augment classroom learning with community service activities.

About 20 nonprofits participated in a volunteer fair at CCGA — seeking young people who can provide valuable assistance for them.



Many teenagers do volunteer work while still in high school or even middle school. Some may do so on their own or in collaboration with their parents. Volunteerism at the college level offers other practical advantages.

Alysia Johnson, a career and student employment counselor at the university, said she encourages students to get such experiences that can be beneficial before they graduate and look for their first job.

As Johnson told The News: "...I encourage students to volunteer, to build a resume and to ensure that they've chosen the right major and make sure they're on the right track."

Habitat for Humanity of Glynn County started its work in the county in 1989. Since then, the organization has built 80 homes and anticipates completing three more by the end of the year. As director Bert Brown pointed out, students often work with construction crews in groups. They can build new friendships among themselves and also with long-time volunteers while getting valuable real-life experience.

Habitat gives young people a chance to provide some sweat equity and to see people in the community get a home for their families. The formal dedications of each Habitat home can be an intensely moving experience — one the college students are not likely to forget.

Nancy Krabill, director of volunteer services at FaithWorks, hoped to sign up about 20 students who could help in providing shelter, clothes, food and pastoral care for those in need. A former volunteer herself, Krabill said such an endeavor “offers you a window into someone’s life that is very different from your own, and based on that, it allows you to grow and consider other opportunities for yourself.”

Which is why the service-learning program at CCGA is such a valuable asset, not only for the students and the college, but the community as a whole.