

Service-Learning Integral to the Future of CCGA

The Brunswick News

Mar 7, 2018

College of Coastal Georgia's service-learning program was at it again last week, doing so much more than classwork and helping folks in the community who need it.

A group of nursing students from Nicole Masano's class took what they have learned and put it to use getting some real-world experience at The Well, a homeless day shelter on Gloucester Street in Brunswick. For three hours, the students provided health screenings for the men and women there that included taking blood pressure, talking to them about their health issues and providing information about what resources are available to them.

This particular project was developed and executed by the students themselves. It shows how important a program like service-learning is in producing well-rounded and community-minded graduates. We are seeing students coming from CCGA who do so much more than graduate and just look for a job to pay the bills. Students from Coastal are involved, have a heart for service and have knowledge and skill to carry out their projects.

We are thankful to have such a program here in the Golden Isles and look forward to a bright future.

To ensure that future is indeed bright, we hope to see the new college president who will likely be hired in the next few months put as much of an emphasis on service-learning as previous presidents have. The 14-person search committee is wrapping up its feedback portion of the search for a new leader. From it, the committee has learned many things about what people hope to see from the college president. One of them was to entrench him or herself in the community. We agree.

The college has transformed in the past 10 years since it began offering baccalaureate degrees. It has added on-campus housing, grown its enrollment and offers all of the traditional college activities to complete the experience.

Here, though, at our college, students walk away with more than memories of good parties and good friends. From our college, graduates walk away with a heart for service and the ability to see it through. That cannot be lost on the new president.

We look forward to seeing the semi-finalists and finalists the search committee comes up with and look forward to seeing College of Coastal Georgia continue to grow into a premiere college in the University System of Georgia.