

Community Engaged Learning and Research

- Partner with Des Moines Public Schools to research neighborhood statistics to uncover specifically impoverished areas and research solutions
- Take a course that works with a local after school program such as HONR081/SCSS078 Sociology of Childhood

Community Organizing and Activism

- Participate in the United Way’s “Graduation Walk” to encourage high school students teetering on the edge of dropping out to recommit to school (www.unitedwaydm.org/graduation-walk)
- Partner with Community Youth Concepts (www.cyconcepts.org/) on their service-learning programs for high school students

Direct Service

- Volunteer to tutor or mentor students in the community; possibilities in/near the Drake Neighborhood include the Monroe Bulldog Buddies mentoring program, reading with kids over the lunch hour at King Elementary School, tutoring through Evelyn K. Davis Center, or working with the Burt Boys and Girls Club (www.drake.edu/community/volunteer/)

Education and Youth Development

Philanthropy

- Donate to the Grubb YMCA’s Back 2 School Bash where students receive backpacks filled with school supplies (www.tinyurl.com/dmymca)
- Help raise funds for student scholarships through Children and Family Urban Movement (www.cfum.org/)

Policy and Governance

- Attend a school board meeting to learn about the various issues facing education in your community (www.dmschools.org/board/)
- Get involved with the DMPS Community Legislative Action Team, which hosts monthly coffees with legislators to talk about issues important to youth (www.dmschools.org/community-legislative-action-team/)

Social Entrepreneurship and Corporate Social Responsibility

- Make a pitch to the Drake Lorentzen Student Hatchery (www.tinyurl.com/lorentzenhatchery) for a business idea that supports local youth. For example, check out TryPie in Waterloo, IA (www.trypie.org/) that empowers a diverse group of teen girls in life and leadership skills through meaningful work of making and selling pies