

COMMUNITY SERVICE versus COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



What's the difference?

Division II is committed to developing students and communities by actively engaging in shared experiences and, therefore, has targeted community engagement as one of its strategic priorities. The objective of community engagement is to build relationships by bringing the community to campus to experience Division II and its events (e.g., collegiate, theatrical, cultural).

Many have heard this and thought, "That is nothing new; we do community service all the time." It is true that colleges and universities and their students have performed more community service than many other organizations. However, Division II is emphasizing the gathering of individuals to share in an experience and not just provide assistance to an individual or group of individuals in need.



Community Service - Reaching Out to Help Those in the Community

- Have specific end goals
- Generally a one-time occurrence
- Most often does not require the establishment of a personal relationship between those providing the service and those receiving the benefit of the service
- Usually done to fulfill a service requirement
- Qualifies as "service learning"
- Directed toward specific non-for-profit organizations or entities within the community with an identified need

Community Engagement - Building Lasting Relationships

- Time of social gathering and interaction with the campus and community
- Feels like an interaction with friends
- Opportunity to get to know the campus and local community better
- Making the college and campus feel like the town square
- Individuals walk away from the experience remembering the fun atmosphere
- Directed towards parents, students, alumni, faculty, staff, donors, friends of faculty and staff