



# SERVICE-LEARNING CENTER STATISTICAL REPORT 2013-2014

## Introduction

The Service-Learning Center's (S-LC) data collection for the 2013-2014 school year reveals another successful year of service-learning participation by Calvin students. With an average of 26.8 hours of service-learning completed by each Calvin student, it is clear that the Calvin community sees service-learning as a fruitful mode of pedagogy as well as a meaningful calling to do God's work in God's world.

In this report, the term *unique service-learning opportunity* refers to a position that one or more students have filled at an agency. The number of *service-learning placements* indicates how many students have filled these positions. Thus, multiple placements may fall under one *unique service-learning opportunity*.



Every spring break trip I have been on has been an opportunity for me to see the world in a more complete and holistic way. As I learn the stories of so many other members of Christ's body, it has challenged me to examine my own story and assumptions and look more deeply into what a life of faithful, Christian service truly looks like.”

- Spring Break Trip Participant



Without our Calvin volunteers, we would not have enough tutors to keep the program running at it's current capacity. They make wonderful engaged tutors and the elementary students love working with them.”

- Grand Rapids Community Partner

## Statistics at a Glance

**54,635 (50,500 - 5 yr avg.)**

Total amount of service-learning hours logged by Calvin students

**2,030 (2,096 - 5 yr avg.)**

Total number of Calvin students who participated in service-learning

**61 f / 39 m (61 f / 39 m - 5 yr avg.)**

Percentage of those students who are female/male

**27 (24 - 5 yr avg.)**

Average hours of service-learning completed by each Calvin student service-learner

**3,140 (3,569 - 5 yr avg.)**

Total number of service-learning placements for Calvin students

**117\* (149 - 5 yr avg.)**

Number of course sections that incorporated service-learning (ABSL)

**30\*\* (48 - 2 yr avg.)**

Number of Calvin students who received CCE credit through our office by participating in a Spring Break Trip or Excel ACT Tutoring

**205 (212 - 5 yr avg.)**

Total active agency partners

**342 (346 - 5 yr avg.)**

Total number of unique opportunities available to Calvin students

\*Denotes change in data collection practices re: StreetFest

\*\*Decrease in participating partners this year

# Overview of Service-Learning Programs

**ABSL** refers to **Academically-Based Service-Learning**, or service-learning that is integrated into an academic course. ABSL is typically a course requirement.

**SBSL** refers to **Student-Based Service-Learning**, or service-learning that is initiated by the student and is not typically for course credit.

**RHCP** refers to **Residence Hall Community Partnerships**, or service-learning partnerships between residence halls and community organizations facilitated by student leaders.

**Special Olympics** brings athletes with special needs together with student chaperones for a day of athletic competition at Calvin.

**Spring Break Trips** take students to communities across the United States to engage in service-learning focused on themes such as disaster relief, urban development, community arts, and environmental stewardship.

**ACT Tutoring** is a program of Calvin's Office of Pre-College Programs and the Service-Learning Center through which Calvin students tutor Grand Rapids high school students preparing for the ACT.

**PN** refers to **Project Neighborhood**, a program in which students participate in intentional community living and service-learning and take a seminar course.

**StreetFest** is our first-year student orientation program that sends each and every first-year student into the city of Grand Rapids to acquaint themselves with their new home and embark on their first service-learning experience at Calvin.

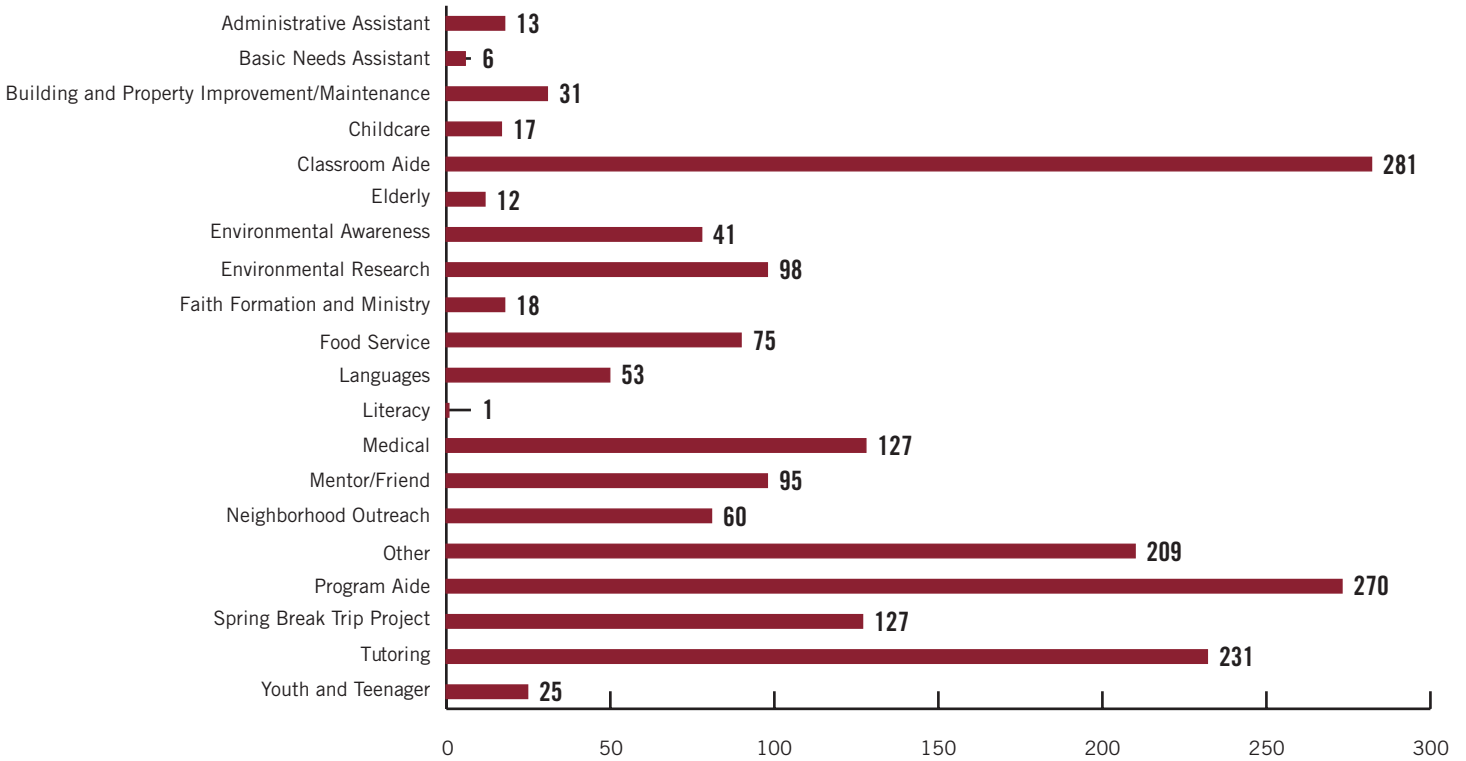
**International ABSL (ISL)** is service-learning formally integrated into study abroad course experience.

**Unique service-learning opportunity** refers to a program or role that a student can serve in at an agency.

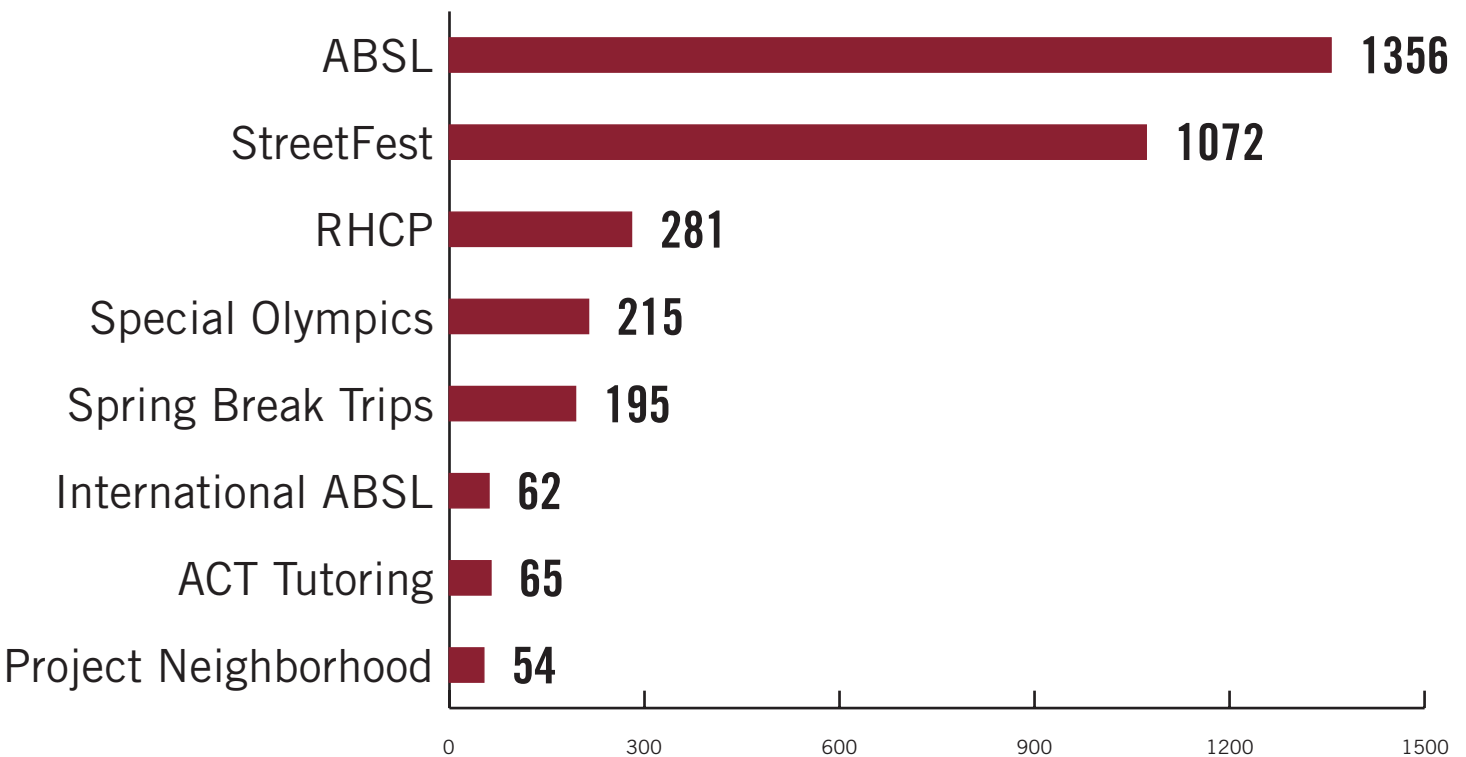
**A service-learning placement** refers to a specific student serving in a specific opportunity—students may have multiple placements at different organizations, different programs at the same organization, or different semesters in the same opportunity (each of these would count as a separate service learning placement). For example, 54 organizations are offering StreetFest as a service-learning opportunity and Maaik is making 1,200 student service-learning placements for StreetFest or, if the Hispanic Center is looking for tutors for an after school program (1 opportunity), we may send 5 Calvin students to tutor at that program (5 placements).



## Service-Learning Placements by Project Type



## Service-Learning Placements by Program



# Service-Learning Placements by Department

Academic Department	S-L Placements	Total Hours	Average Hours Per Placement
Architecture	5	300	60
Biology	75	4560	60.8
Chemistry	18	310	17.2
Communications	3	430	143.3
Economics	14	140	10
Education	160	2583.49	16.1
Engineering	200	7874.5	39.4
French	10	450	45
Geography	20	1325	66.3
History	9	135	15
Interdisciplinary	79	1094.5	13.9
Kinesiology	14	71	5.1
Nursing	124	9646	77.8
Off-Campus Programs	24	2970.5	123.8
Political Science	14	210	15
Psychology	41	585	14.3
Public Health	1	25	25
Recreation	1	12	12
Science Education	68	670	9.9
Social Work	97	1586.45	16.4
Sociology	41	469	11.4
Spanish	114	1498.52	13.1
<b>Totals</b>	1132	36945.69	32.6

Total Students by Gender	
Female	1242
Male	788
<b>Total Students</b>	2030

Total Placements by Gender	
Female	2006
Male	1131
<b>Total Students</b>	3137

Transportation: S-LC Rides	
<b>Total Rides</b>	254

Blood Drive	
<b>Pints Donated</b>	474

ABSL and SBSL Total Placements		ABSL and SBSL Individual Students	
SBSL	1780	SBSL	1292
ABSL	1357	ABSL	1139

\*Student placements may appear in more than one category

For this and the following page:

**Total hours** are *all* of the hours recorded from students participating in *all* service-learning for the year.

**# participating** is the number of individual students who have done service-learning for the year.

Many of those students complete more than one placement over the course of the year.

Academically-Based Service-Learning at a Glance			
Total number of students participating	1139 / 3928	Percent of total student body	29%
Total number of classes offering ABSL	116 / 2320	Percent of total classes	5%
Total number of faculty offering ABSL	61 / 290	Percent of total faculty	21%
Total number of departments offering ABSL	22 / 27	Percent of total departments	81%

## About the Statistical Report

This report is the sixth in what has become an annual tradition of comprehensive service-learning statistical documentation. As this is the sixth Statistical Report, it is intended to furnish statistical data from the 2014-2015 school year rather than to draw comparisons with years prior.

It is our intention that in future years we will be able to utilize the data included in this document to derive more concrete and precise conclusions about service-learning participation at Calvin—comparative conclusions that this report is able to partially provide.

Current data collection processes rely primarily on students to report service-learning activity. Students who participate in SBSL may submit an individual hours report online via our website or turn in hours as a group, using a form available in our office. ABSL students are expected to record their hours on an S-LC form throughout the semester and return it to the S-LC at the conclusion of the course. ABSL Coordinators are required to send out an evaluation survey to students, faculty, and community partners. Upon receiving completed surveys, the Assessment Specialist assesses the service-learning experiences, looking for ways to improve programs for the next year.



# About the Service-Learning Center

## Mission Statement

Our mission is to engage and equip Calvin College students, faculty, staff community partners, alumni, and other friends of the college in and for the pursuit of God's shalom in learning together, primarily through community-based service-learning, social justice activity, and civic participation in Grand Rapids and other partner communities.

## 50th Anniversary

This year marked the 50th anniversary of the Service-Learning Center at Calvin College. We celebrated this milestone in June of 2014 and look expectantly into the future for God's continued guidance in our work. <http://www.calvin.edu/slc/50th-anniversary.html>

## Context

The majority of our students participate in ABSL, arranged by the professor and the S-LC. In ABSL partnerships, we strive to connect an existing community need with specific learning goals that faculty have for their students.

Students may also participate in service-learning through a variety of non-academic programs by getting involved in our residence hall partnerships program, serving as chaperones for the annual Special Olympics, or spending a spring break on a service-learning trip at one of ten or more sites across the continental U.S.

Additionally, students can independently seek service-learning experiences. Some students are looking for an experience that will assist them in preparing for a particular vocation. Others are interested in specific issues and causes. Many of these students stop by our office or call us for ideas. Our most comprehensive resource is our website's search engine, which students may use to see what service-learning opportunities currently await them in Grand Rapids.

Several groups and organizations on campus form partnerships with specific organizations and causes. Other groups look to our office to provide information about short-term or one-time projects.

## International Service-Learning (ISL)

The Service-Learning Center has worked in coordination with Off-Campus Programs and casts the vision of service "around the corner, and across the globe". ISL has developed at the intersection of two experiential pedagogies, study abroad and service-learning, and is included in the curricula of the Ghana, Honduras, Hungary, and Peru semester programs among others. ISL develops distinctly in the unique context of each country, ranging from course-related ABSL, ethnographic study, or a career-related practicum. The S-LC records the ISL hours in service-learning transcripts for students.

## Check out the GR Walks app!

This walking tour app tells the stories of Grand Rapids neighborhoods through their buildings. Tours include photos of buildings over the years along with brief histories.

Contact the GR Walks Research Coordinator, Maaïke Mudde for more information: [slc@calvin.edu](mailto:slc@calvin.edu) ATTN: Maaïke

To learn more about us, visit our office or our website: <http://www.calvin.edu/slc>



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