

# THE DIFFERENCE

A NEWSLETTER FROM THE **COLLABORATIVE FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

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In block 1, leaders of CCE student organizations participated in the inaugural CCE Leader Orientation! In a jam-packed afternoon, leaders learned more about the work of the CCE, working with community partners, and best practices for successfully leading a CC student organization. New partnerships were formed, relationships started, and a lot of useful information was shared. This program is a part of the CCE's initiative to offer more leadership development to student organizations, and will be coupled with a mid-year leadership meeting focused on evaluating the progress of the organization toward

its goals, as well as an end-of-year meeting to help facilitate student leader transitions and planning for the upcoming year.

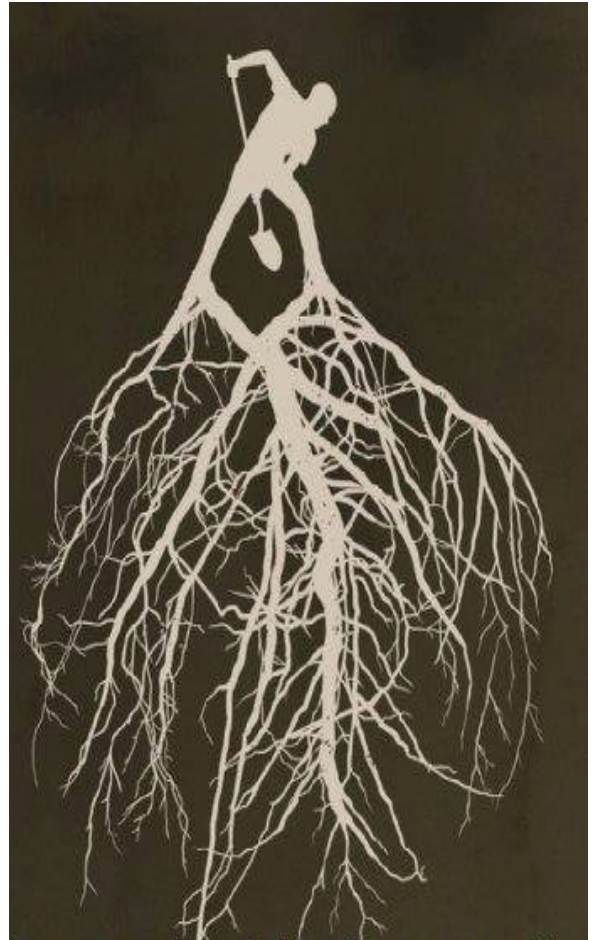
We can't wait to see what our leaders will accomplish this year!



## (Re-)Introducing the Food Coalition!

The Colorado College Food Coalition is working to coordinate the efforts of various student groups focused on food-related issues. The goal of the Food Coalition is to combine our resources in order to maximize impact across campus and the community. They are committed to working with one another and with our community partners to address issues of food insecurity and injustice in Colorado Springs. All food justice, food-connected, and culturally focused groups are invited to join the Food Coalition. There are four ways to be involved with the Food Coalition: 1. Be part of the listserv/notification of events; 2. Assist with community engagement efforts; 3. Serve as a representative for your student organization; 4. Be a member of the officer/leadership team.

The CC Farm, Real Food Challenge, and Office of Sustainability are currently taking the lead on planning of this year's Food Coalition meetings and events. The kick-off meeting is taking place on Tuesday, October 4th from 12:30-1:30pm in the WES Room in Worner Campus Center. If you would like to join or learn more, please attend!



If you are a member of a student organization who would like to join the Food Coalition but are unable to attend the kickoff meeting or would like additional information, please email Sarah Kang ([sarah.kang@coloradocollege.edu](mailto:sarah.kang@coloradocollege.edu)), Hannah Rider ([hannah.rider@coloradocollege.edu](mailto:hannah.rider@coloradocollege.edu)), or Rebecca Glazer ([rebecca.glazer@coloradocollege.edu](mailto:rebecca.glazer@coloradocollege.edu)).

## Hunger Banquet

The OxFam Hunger Banquet was held on campus on September 8th and a very passionate group of CC students attended. The participants were divided into low, middle, and high income groups for the simulation and received a meal based on the income group to which they belonged based on each of them drawing a card at random. High income members only included a select few who received a three course gourmet meal. The middle income group received a modest meal of rice, beans, and water, while the low income group received a half cup of rice and one cup of water, but no fork, while sitting on the floor. This illustrated an immediate visual of the inequalities of distribution of wealth in the world. According to OxFam America, in order to be considered part of the high income group, one earns over \$7,756 per year and some earn much more than that. Those who are part of the middle income group earn between \$1,989-\$7,756 per year, while those in the low income group earn less than \$1,990 each year.

The students engaged in a dynamic and thoughtful reflection session about how the experience made them feel and how it encouraged them to think about ways to address income inequalities and food injustice locally and abroad. Each student who spoke posed

thoughtful comments and questions that allowed for critical reflection on how each person can make an impact on issues about hunger and poverty. Many students who attended are currently engaged with a CC student organization or volunteer in the community for local nonprofits. The students exchanged ideas about how they can engage even more deeply and thoughtfully on these issues right here in the Colorado Springs region.

### Engaged Scholars Program Up and Running:

Over 100 students accepted into first year!

The CCE would like to applaud the commitment of more than 100 students that have joined the Community Engaged Scholar program so far, and made a commitment to engage in the community for 75 hours per year! We had 32 first years, 33 sophomores, 15 juniors, and 21 seniors apply. Around 70 students met this week to discover and share engagement opportunities, and learn more about the program. We look forward to seeing what the future holds for our Engaged Scholars.

## Refugee Alliance

The CC Refugee Alliance exists to connect Colorado College students, faculty, and staff to meaningful ways to get involved in welcoming people fleeing war and violence, arriving in Colorado Springs. The group is advised by the CCE and the Office of International Programs and works in conjunction with the Lutheran Family Services (LFS), which is the official voluntary agency working in direct correlation with the federal government's resettlement program. Lutheran Family Services is the largest refugee resettlement agency in the Rocky Mountain region.

In the latest info from Lutheran Family Services Rocky Mountains, Colorado Springs has received more than 200 new refugees and asylum-seekers from nine different countries since last October, and in just the past year, Lutheran Family Services has provided refugee resettlement and asylee services to over 1300 individuals.

On September 16th, the CC Refugee Alliance hosted their kick-off meeting in Sacred Grounds; over 60 students, staff and faculty members attended. Even more than that have signed up to volunteer for one of the many opportunities offered. Volunteers are needed to be part of cultural

mentoring teams, provide translation assistance, ESL tutoring, host/help with supply drives, offer transportation, prepare a culturally appropriate meal, apartment set-up/ move-in help, resume' review/ interview coaching/ job class assistance, working in the downtown Lutheran Family Services office, and more.



If you are interested in getting involved with the CC Refugee Alliance, please visit <https://www.facebook.com/groups/CCRefugeeAlliance/> for more information and to complete a volunteer form.

## Annual Harvest Banquet a Great Success!

Over 80 students, staff, faculty, and community members attended this year's Harvest Banquet, hosted by the incredible CC Farm Interns!



Emma Brachtenbach, Rebecca Glazer, Kelsi Anderson, and Siqi Wei organized a fantastic event filled with delicious food, kombucha, bluegrass music, dancing, and lively conversations. The purpose of the Annual Harvest Banquet is to celebrate the harvest season and all of the amazing work done by the CC Farm interns and to thank everyone who helped with the CC Farm this year. The event was a great success and tickets even sold out several days before the Harvest Banquet. The Farm Interns are looking forward to hosting workshops throughout the fall semester, so stay tuned for updates!

## Children's Literacy Center: Success in Literacy

The Children's Literacy Center (CLC) is a non-profit organization in Colorado Springs that partners with Colorado College in an effort to carry out their mission to "build a life of success for children through a foundation of literacy...ONE child at a time." Approximately 27 percent of third grade students in Colorado fail to meet state reading standards. This translates to thousands of children being at risk of failing in school. CLC works with the community, schools, and families, to provide a cost-effective literacy program that shrinks the gap between success and failure. The organization does that by providing one-to-one tutoring to children reading below grade level at NO COST to families. CLC's program results in a 95 percent success rate! Program participants develop a solid reading foundation essential to success now and in the future. Tutors give each child the confidence they need to succeed. The ability to read and learn guarantees economic security and social stability in our neighborhoods and communities. The partnership with CLC provides CC students an opportunity to impact the local community by serving as literacy tutors.



## Don't forget to register to vote!

### Colorado Voter Registration Deadlines:

By mail or online: 8 days before Election Day (October 31, 2016).

All active voters receive a ballot by mail.

If you register after the 8th day before an election you must visit a Voter Service and Polling Center in your county to get a ballot.

You may register in person on Election Day.

## BreakOut and the CCE Present Reflection Dinners!

The CCE is collaborating with BreakOut to begin a new initiative called Reflection Dinners! BreakOut is a student-led organization that develops, organizes, and implements service projects during weekends, block breaks, and spring break. The Saturday Trips, which coordinate groups of students to engage in service in local nonprofits, are meant to introduce students to engagement opportunities and raise awareness of the social and environmental issues that impact Colorado Springs. At the end of each block, all students who participated in a Saturday Trip come together to share a meal and reflect on what they did, learned, and what they plan to do in the future.

Interested? Check out trips on the Outdoor Education Summit site, or e-mail us at [cce@coloradocollege.edu](mailto:cce@coloradocollege.edu).

## Engagement Fair Next Week!

Want to engage in the community, but not sure where to start? Come to the Community Engagement Fair! The CCE is hosting a number of local nonprofit community partners on Thursday, October 6th, from 11:30 am - 1:00 pm in Worner.

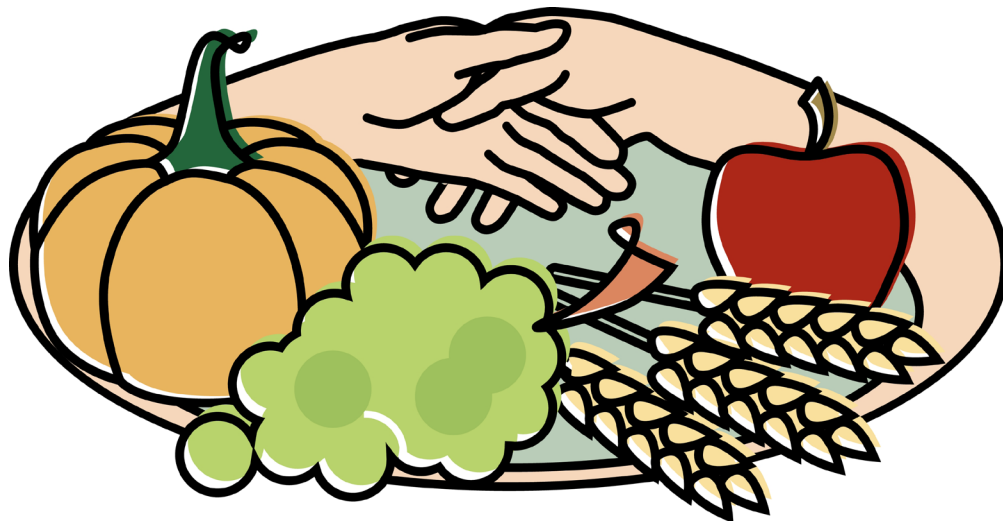
Stop by and chat with organizations to find out more about how they address social and environmental issues – and how you can contribute.

Questions? Email [cce@coloradocollege.edu](mailto:cce@coloradocollege.edu).

## Mobile Meals is Hiring!

Mobile Meals believes that food can empower, educate, and improve the health of individuals and communities. Sharing a meal with others can provide a platform for engaging in community and building relationships. Therefore, the Mobile Meals approach to community-engaged programming will focus on establishing internships with community organizations to co-create and develop “Community Meal” Programs.

In order to achieve these goals, we are hiring three interns: Program Assistant, Program Coordinator, and Culinary Educator & Head Chef. The deadline to apply is Sunday, October 9th at 11:59pm and interviews will be scheduled later that week. Job descriptions and application information can be found on the Student Employment page of the CC website.



## A Note from the Editor

Congratulations to all of the students who are doing such great work! First block was an incredible start to the year, and there is a great amount of potential between now and next summer.

If you're interested in having any information posted, have comments, concerns or questions, please contact us at [cce@coloradocollege.edu](mailto:cce@coloradocollege.edu)

**Richard Bishop**

“Life’s most persistent and urgent question is, ‘What are you doing for others?’”

**Martin Luther King, Jr.**

## Day of Service

We are proud to announce that the first Colorado Springs Day of Service was a resounding success! Around 350 people from the campus community and Colorado Springs helped to overflow a large dumpster full of trash (over 3100 pounds!) – removing that trash from our waterways, protecting our drinking water, and cleaning up a creek that many of our city’s most vulnerable population - those experiencing homelessness - currently call home. Please keep an eye out for a longer story on this event to come in our next newsletter. A huge thank you to Presidential Fellow Jake Walden for spearheading this initiative.

### Contact Us:

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**Collaborative for  
Community Engagement**