



Central Lakes  
College  
Civic Engagement  
and Service  
Learning Strategic  
Plan Summary

*We build futures.*

**2010-2011**

# **Civic Engagement and Service Learning Plan Summary**

## **Central Lakes College Strategic Plan**

**CLC, Minnesota's leading Community and Technical College for lifelong learning.**

At Central Lakes College, we –

- are committed to a supportive environment for the growth and development of students from diverse cultural, ethnic, economic, and educational backgrounds
- offer liberal arts, technical education, and customized training programs of proven high-quality that are accessible and affordable and that lead to employment, skill enhancement, or transfer to other institutions of higher learning
- anticipate and respond to the needs of business and industry in a globally competitive economy
- encourage and support cultural enrichment, life-long learning, civic responsibility, and community development

These values guide individual and organizational behavior at Central Lakes College.

We –

- Act with integrity
- Embrace diversity
- Act responsibly
- Communicate effectively
- Foster Relationships
- Demonstrate fairness
- Celebrate achievement

## **Central Lakes College Strategic Goals**

### **Goal 1:**

Achieve consistent enrollment growth and improved retention rate.

### **Goal 2:**

Offer flexible, accessible programs and services that are responsive to the changing employment and educational needs of the region and that foster successful transition to education and career advancement.

### **Goal 3:**

Serve as a recognized leader in the region for innovation in community and economic vitality.

### **Goal 4:**

Achieve institutional effectiveness through linkages in planning and resource allocation, assessment and continuous and enhanced communication.

## **Civic Engagement and Service Learning**

**Civic Engagement** creates awareness and a sense of responsibility through involvement with one's communities through a variety of volunteer activities for CLC students, faculty, and staff. Benefits may include:

- Learning from others, self, and environment to develop informed perspectives on social issues.
- Valuing diversity and building relationships across differences
- Working through controversy, with civility
- Taking an active role in government processes
- Participating actively in problem solving, public life and community service
- Enhancing leadership roles in organizations
- Developing empathy, ethics, values and a sense of social responsibility
- Promoting social justice locally and globally
- Giving back of individual time and talents for the greater good of the community
- Exchanging knowledge, skills, and experiences

**Service Learning** links academic study to community service through structured reflection; it engages students in responsible and challenging community service; it provides structured opportunities for students to reflect critically on their experiences; and it emphasizes learning in areas such as communication, critical thinking and community involvement. Service Learning projects can be initiated by students, faculty, non-profit organizations or in some cases, a business. Faculty evaluate all potential projects for appropriateness and if they meet the learner outcomes of a particular course or program of study. Faculty supervise all projects and evaluate learner outcomes and students involvement.

### **Our Mission:**

Central Lakes College promotes and provides abundant Civic Engagement and Service Learning opportunities for students, faculty, and staff for the benefit of all parties involved and the communities we serve.

### **Our Vision:**

To engage all CLC students, faculty and staff in Civic Engagement and Service Learning activities.

## **Civic Engagement/Volunteerism and Service Learning Strategic Goals:**

- Goal 1:** Increase awareness and participation in Civic Engagement activities.
- Goal 2:** Increase awareness and participation in Service Learning projects by faculty and students.
- Goal 3:** Evaluate and enhance data reporting processes.
- Goal 4:** Establish a Civic Engagement and Service Learning Advisory Team.
- Goal 5:** Establish new community collaborative partnerships for Civic Engagement and Service Learning activities.
- Goal 6:** Promote inter-disciplinary Service Learning projects.
- Goal 7:** Celebrate and recognize successes.
- Goal 8:** Continue to expand marketing efforts, including development of a CLC Civic Engagement/Volunteerism and Service Learning web page.