

MSU community to ‘Fill the Bus!’ during Fall Welcome

Contact: Karen McKnight Casey, Center for Service-Learning and Civic Engagement: (517) 353-4400, caseyk@msu.edu; or, Carla Hills, University Outreach and Engagement: (517) 353-8977, hills@msu.edu

August 23, 2012

For Immediate Release

EAST LANSING, Mich. – Incoming students will once again have an opportunity to Fill the Bus during the days devoted to Fall Welcome at Michigan State University.

In addition to greeting new and familiar faces, adjusting to new schedules, and settling in for this year’s academic journey, students can participate in a university-wide service and civic engagement event designed to share their Spartan Spirit with individuals and organizations in the Greater Lansing community.

From Sunday, August 26 until Thursday, August 30 students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to donate items such as school supplies, non-perishable food, and personal products for delivery to a variety of mid-Michigan organizations.

“Fill the Bus succeeds because of the collective effort of the MSU community, the sponsors, and our partners. We like to say that small contributions create big impacts, and it’s certainly true with this project,” says Karen McKnight Casey, director of the Center for Service-Learning and Civic Engagement.

The Center for Service-Learning and Civic Engagement is facilitating Fill the Bus on behalf of Michigan State University, and area sponsors include Dean Transportation, MSU Federal Credit Union, Jackson National Life, Meijer, Kroger, Goodrich’s Shop-Rite, and The Mission Continues. Each plays an important role in making Fill the Bus successful.

Andrea Norton, a graduate student in the School of Social Work, is participating in Fill the Bus through her work with The Mission Continues, a nonprofit organization dedicated to challenging returning service members to utilize their skills and leadership while renewing their sense of purpose.

“It’s an opportunity for everyone to make a difference,” says Norton. “Veterans know the value of working together on a coordinated effort, and they are enthusiastic about making sure area youth and their families can quickly benefit from the MSU community’s generous donations.”

Mid-Michigan partners welcoming the donations include: Black Child and Family Institute, Boys and Girls Club of Lansing, Cristo Rey Community Center, East Lansing



**Center for
Service-Learning
and Civic
Engagement**

Student Affairs and
Services

University Outreach
and Engagement

345 Student Services
East Lansing, MI 48824: 517-
353-6633
servicelearning.msu.edu

School District, Greater Lansing Food Bank, Lansing City Rescue Mission, Lansing School District, MSU Family Resource Center, MSU Student Food Bank, Refugee Development Center.

Karen McKnight Casey has seen the project grow in the four years it has been in existence. “Fill the Bus posters are prominently displayed in the various buildings on campus, and at the top of the poster it says ‘Spartans Give — of themselves — to others — in community — for the public good.’ We hope Fill the Bus gives students one of their first opportunities to demonstrate their Spartan Spirit.”

Fast Facts About Fill the Bus!

When: Sunday, August 26-Thursday, August 30, 2012

Suggested Donations: Any and all school supplies, non-perishable food, personal products. Individual colleges may have other college-specific recommendations.

Where: Donations accepted in the bright green bins placed in various campus locations.

Mid-Michigan Partners: Black Child and Family Institute, Boys and Girls Club of Lansing, Cristo Rey Community Center, East Lansing School District, Greater Lansing Food Bank, Lansing City Rescue Mission, Lansing School District, MSU Family Resource Center, MSU Student Food Bank, Refugee Development Center

Sponsors: Dean Transportation, MSU Federal Credit Union, Jackson National Life, Meijer, Kroger, Goodrich’s Shop-Rite, The Mission Continues

Website: www.servicelearning.msu.edu/fill-the-bus

#####

Michigan State University has been working to advance the common good in uncommon ways for more than 150 years. One of the top research universities in the world, MSU focuses its vast resources on creating solutions to some of the world’s most pressing challenges, while providing life-changing opportunities to a diverse and inclusive academic community through more than 200 programs of study in 17 degree-granting colleges.