
REGULA CENTER 2023 ANNUAL REPORT



MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

As I reflect on the highlights in this year's annual report, I could not be prouder of where we have come in recent months and am eager to see what the future holds for the Regula Center. Our collaborations with funders, community partners, and state and national organizations have blossomed into networks that are creating positive change on our campus and beyond.

The students, faculty, organizations, and partners highlighted here are what make the work of the Regula Center possible, and we are so grateful for their dedication. We have coordinated more than 40 events this year that included civic discussions, volunteer days, a leadership workshop, and community meals. Additionally, we have been part of securing nearly \$500,000 in grant funding this year and continue to support a network of agencies serving Alliance. Through these efforts, we have led the team that is

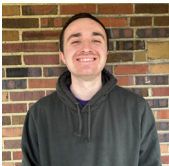
bringing the Alliance Commons to life. Having the opportunity to build programs that serve the community while creating meaningful learning experiences for students is the cornerstone of what we aim to achieve in the Regula Center and this work will have an impact on our campus and in the community for years to come.

Watching our students grow and thrive while seeing the community come together is inspirational. I am honored to serve as Director of the Regula Center and I cannot wait to see what the future brings for Mount Union and our community.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Abby Schroeder". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Abby (Honaker '11) Schroeder,
MPA | Director



Jacob Buttar '24
Student Contributor



Maria Leonino '24
Student Contributor

VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHTS



Christmas in the Park

Students helped volunteer at the Alliance community's annual Christmas in the Park event held at Silver Park. They served food to the public, ran arts and crafts stations, and dressed up as Christmas characters to help spread Christmas cheer for the Alliance community.



Monthly Take and Make/Drop-in Service

Monthly take and make projects allowed students to participate in service at their own leisure through a variety of projects such as blanket making, card making, and coloring placemats. These items were donated to nursing homes across the Alliance area. Drop-in service events were also held monthly allowing students to participate in these projects and more directly at the Regula Center.



Community Meals

Once a month, the Regula Center assisted with the Tuesday evening community dinners hosted at the Christ United Methodist Church in Alliance. Students helped prepare the meal beforehand and later served meals to members of the Alliance community.



Saturdays of Service

Students participated in Saturdays of Service that were held multiple times throughout the academic year. Students volunteered at a variety of places across Alliance, such as the YWCA and Alliance Neighborhood Center. The variety of projects included painting, moving materials to the new Commons, and more.

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS



Holiday Helper

Students helped prepare for the holidays by decorating cookies and wrapping presents for children. Gifts were purchased by students, faculty, and staff across the campus community and donated to families in need through outreach programs with the Salvation Army. Cookies were also baked by students and were handed out to members of the Alliance community.

Desserts and Dialogue

Once a month, students were invited to the Hoover-Price Campus Center to participate in meaningful conversations about real world issues. Throughout the academic year, group discussions were held on a variety of topics such as race and ethnicity, gun control, cancel culture, and more. Students participating in these discussions also ate some delicious desserts provided by AVI Fresh. Participants from many different majors and backgrounds took part in meaningful discussions about the world's issues at hand led by Abby Schroeder.



Trick-or-Treat for Canned Goods

For the 11th year, canned goods were donated across Alliance to support the Alliance Community Pantry on Halloween night. Mount Union students from six organizations traveled around the community to pick up donations for the pantry, resulting in 2,760 pounds of canned goods collected. Service fraternity Alpha Phi Omega collected 801 pounds of canned goods followed by the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity with 549 pounds.

MLK DAY OF SERVICE



On January 16, 2023, the Regula Center hosted another successful MLK Day of Service. This year more than 300 students, staff, faculty and members of the Alliance community participated in the annual event that has been held since 2010. Fourteen local organizations benefited from the volunteer work such as the Stark County Humane Society, Habitat for Humanity, the Alliance Neighborhood Center, and many more. On campus work included working with Raiders Cove and take and make service projects.



2023 REGULA AWARD RECIPIENTS



Janet Weir Creighton

The 2023 Ralph Regula Award for Public Service and the Mary Regula Award for Community Service have been selected. The annual awards recognize individuals who live or work in Stark County and exemplify the ideals of Ralph and Mary Regula.

Stark County Commissioner Janet Weir Creighton has been named the Ralph Regula Award



Pat Kovach-Gates

for Public Service awardee and retired educator Pat Kovach-Gates has been named the Mary Regula for Community Service awardee.

“These individuals are the kind of public servants that Ralph and Mary hoped to see continue carrying our communities forward and we are honored to be able to recognize them,” said Regula Center Director Abby Schroeder.

OTHER AWARD RECIPIENTS

Joseph Haas was nominated and recognized by the University of Mount Union for the Charles J. Ping Award for outstanding leadership in community service. Joseph is a junior and member of the Purple Raider marching band, Alpha Phi Omega, Society for Human Resource Management, and the Mount Union Wind ensemble.



Kelleen Weber, director of alcohol, drug and wellness education, was nominated and recognized by the University of Mount Union for the David Hoch Memorial Award for outstanding work in service learning and community engagement.



ALLIANCE COMMONS



With financial support, oversight and management from the Greater Alliance Foundation, The Commons is in the former Alliance Neighborhood Center facility at 405 S Linden. The Regula Center is playing an integral role in bringing the space to life and will work alongside Dr. Kristine Still, founding dean of the College of Applied and Social Sciences to develop Mount Union's programming. Stark Fresh, the YWCA Clothing Boutique, Men's Challenge, Sport Outreach and Mount Union will all have permanent space in the facility. Vacant classrooms are being converted into new shared spaces through the hard work of volunteers who have helped move items to the new space and painted.

This fall, the Stark Community Foundation awarded a \$100,000 grant to the help support the Alliance Commons as part of their Protecting Starks Future initiative. Written by Dean Still and Abby Schroeder, director of the Regula Center, this grant will cover classroom supplies, laptops, and other physical resources to be purchased for the transformation of the building. Funding will also be used to create mentoring and enrichment programs for children and adults. This effort has also created a network of agencies serving Alliance residents and funding will support professional development opportunities to be offered locally.



ALLIANCE COMMONS



Additional grants have been secured by Still and Schroeder including \$1,000 from Serve Ohio as part of Make a Difference Day in October and \$10,000 in American Rescue Plan funding from the City of Alliance.

This spring, the pair secured \$310,000 in funding from the Alliance Community Health Foundation. This funding will create a variety of programs to improve the health and wellness of residents of Alliance and support providers in offering services to patients.

STUDENT ASSISTANTS



Kaylee Adkins '24

Major: Primary Education
I have learned the importance of time management, and I have gained meaningful experience in event planning.

Joseph Haas '24

Major: Human Resource Management
I really enjoy helping coordinate Christmas in the Park and how many students were involved.



Jacob Buttar '24

Majors: Media, Sport Business
I have gained valuable connections with incredible service groups across Stark County and have made many friends in the process!

Leah Kadlecek '24

Majors: Political Science, Sociology
I have learned about how our campus and community can work together for the betterment of Alliance.



Cla Figaro '23

Majors: International Affairs, French
I will miss spending time with my peers at the Regula Center, and doing community service that has an impact on others.

Tori Keener '24

Major: Primary Education, Intervention Specialist
My favorite event at the Regula Center is MLK Day of Service because I enjoyed volunteering at the Catholic Worker, and I loved building connections with them.



STUDENT ASSISTANTS



Maria Leonino '24

Major: Public Relations

I love working at the Regula Center because of all the community service, experience, and friendships I have gained!



Emily Prestage '24

Major: Nursing

My favorite part of working in the Regula Center is being involved on campus and making an impact.



Gracyn Sage '24

Major: Nursing

My favorite event we do at the Regula Center is Christmas in the Park because I love to see the work we do in the office come alive in the community.

Olivia Whitacre '23

Major: Nursing

I will miss being a part of the community service projects we do!



Maddy Wilke '24

Majors: Public Relations

My favorite event at the Regula Center is Trick-or-Treat for Canned Goods because I love being able to see the direct contributions the city of Alliance gives to the Community Pantry.



2022-2023 REGULA SCHOLARS



Megan Casciola '23

Major: Environmental Science
Involvement:
Alpha Delta Pi, Alpha Phi Omega,
Womens Lacrosse



Ben Dodds '24

Majors: Environmental Science,
Marketing
Involvement:
Alpha Tau Omega, Tri Beta, Lifting
Club



Elise Greynolds '24

Major: International Affairs and
Diplomacy
Involvement:
Delta Sigma Tau, Alpha Phi Omega



Kate Kueter '25

Majors: National Security and
Intelligence Analysis, French
Involvement:
Alpha Xi Delta, Cantus Choir,
Womens Lacrosse



Maria Leonino '24

Major: Public Relations
Involvement: Alpha Delta Pi
(Chapter President), Public
Relations Student Society of
America (Treasurer), Regula
Center Student Assistant



Jarret Richard '22

Major: Criminal Justice, Sociology
Involvement: Residence Life,
Information Desk, and the Regula
Center



Aiden Trummer '25

Major: Political Science
Involvement:
Alpha Tau Omega, Fishing Club,
Pre-Law Society

RAIDERS COVE ASSISTANTS

Raiders Cove is a resource center focused on helping students with needs including food, hygiene items, clothes, and more. It is located in King Hall with the entrance facing the Quad. The following students (with majors) have aided in the success of Raiders Cove for 2022:

- Bella Baker '26 – Management and Spanish
- Emily Becker '23 – Environmental science
- Liza Harris '24 – Biology
- Courtney Kenworthy '24 – Psychology

- Emilee Matthews '26 – Marketing and management
- Kaitlyn Pasko '24 – Exercise science
- Laura Sasaki '23 – Management and finance
- Leticia Sasaki '23 – Biology

AmeriCorps Members

- Kaylee Adkins '24 – Primary education
- Hannah Botzman '23 – Exercise science
- Sarah Conley '24 – Biology
- Olivia Whitacre '23 – Nursing



ALL IN CHALLENGE



MOST ENGAGED CAMPUS

for College Student Voting

2022

The University of Mount Union, along with 394 other schools from across the country, has been recognized as a 2022 ALL IN Most Engaged Campus for College Student Voting by the ALL IN Democracy Challenge. Mount Union earned the recognition by completing four actions:

- Participate in the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge
- Shared 2020 NSLVE Reports with campus voting data with ALL IN

- Developed and submitted a 2022 democratic engagement action plan with ALL IN
- Have a current signatory to ALL IN's Higher Education Presidents' Commitment to Full Student Voter Participation

The ALL IN Most Engaged Campus for College Student Voting recognizes the top universities and colleges in the country who make substantial contributions to promoting democracy and increasing student voter participation on campus.

COMMUNITY-ENGAGED LEARNING

Throughout this year many faculty have incorporated community service and civic engagement in their courses. This fall, Professor Mark McConnell did so in the Integrated Marketing Communications course through two assignments.

First, students were tasked with creating a brand for the Alliance Community Center. Working in groups, students pitched their brands to Ryan Smith, director of academic marketing, Kristine Still, Dean of the College of Applied and Social Sciences and Abby Schroeder, Regula Center director.

The second assignment allowed students to evaluate a subscription based non-profit fundraising models. These presentations were judged by Schroeder, McConnell, and local business owner Terry Hoopes.

In addition to the service projects that accompany classes across campus, the Center also coordinates the Pay it Forward Program which was endowed by David '63 and Elaine (Venen '63) Dabelko in 2020. The program is based on a model used by Ohio Campus Compact in which students participate in service-learning and ultimately award grants to area agencies.

Spring 2022 Courses using Pay it Forward funding distributed \$4,000 to area agencies and are being taught by Amy Laubsher, Xiaoshu Han, Rodney Dick, Beth Canfield-Simbro, and Elaine Anderson.



David '63 and Elaine (Venen '63) Dabelko

CAMPUS COLLABORATIONS

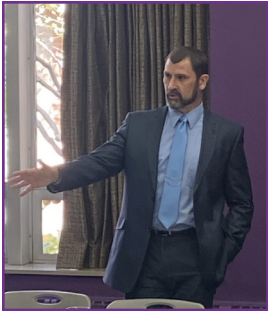
The Center collaborated on multiple events and programs throughout the year, frequently working with classes, student organizations and offices. It supported campus-wide programming in recognition of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Women's History Month, Sexual Assault Awareness Month, and Earth Day.

This fall the Center worked with the Office of Student Involvement and Leadership to host a leadership workshop and service project. Featuring Sue Neil of Robertson Heating Supply, Co., the off-campus retreat exposed students to local opportunities and focused on improving communication, teamwork, and empathy when working with teams.

The Center worked with the Office of Career Development to host Mount Union's first public service job fair featuring 20 employers including the Ohio Department of Natural Services, Akron Zoo, Rodman Library, Hartville Migrant Center, Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities, US Secret Service, and the Ohio Crime Victim Justice Center among others.

"The Regula Center works diligently to ensure students are aware of the breadth of opportunities within non-profits and all levels of government and we were honored to host so many organizations on campus," said Abby Schroeder, Regula Center director.







Following the dissolution of the 16th Congressional District in Ohio, friends of the late Ralph Regula worked together to secure and donate the desk from the district. Once used by Regula in his Ohio office, it was most recently used by Congressman Anthony Gonzalez. It is now on display at the Regula Center.



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University of Mount Union

The mission of the Regula Center for Public Service and Civic Engagement is to promote civic engagement, community outreach, and experiential learning with an emphasis on ethical decision-making, high standards of inclusivity, ingenuity, and long-lasting partnerships to make positive change.