



News Release

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WESTERN HOSTS “BIG EVENT” SERVICE DAY

St. Joseph, Mo. — April 9, 2004—For the fifth time in three years, Missouri Western State College students, faculty, staff and administrators will volunteer throughout the community for a Big Event day of service April 24.

The day will begin at 8 a.m. with breakfast in the Nelle Blum Student Union, after which participants will be transported to preselected service agencies in the area.

Volunteers will serve at Eastside Human Resources, Second Harvest Food Bank, Habitat for Humanity, American Red Cross, YWCA, Citadel Nursing Home, Salvation Army Thrift Store, Economic Opportunity Corporation, Mid-City Excellence, Interfaith Care Teams, Open Door Food Kitchen and Boy Scouts of America. The Big Event will conclude with lunch on campus and a time of reflection. All participants receive a free t-shirt.

Student intern Angela Smith, coordinator of the Big Event, feels the day is an important part of student success. “We continue to do the Big Event because we are trying to build citizen scholars through service,” she said. “We want students to realize that they can learn inside of the classroom as well as outside of the classroom. That’s what being a citizen scholar is all about.” Smith credits the volunteers with the success of the Big Event, and she is pleased to help to promote continued service to the community.

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This year, the Big Event takes place just a week after National and Global Youth Service Day April 16-18. The Big Event is sponsored by The Center for Multicultural Education (CME), whose mission is to stimulate the intellectual curiosity of students in a quest for knowledge that delivers the truth about self and others; challenge students to explore cultural differences and to enhance and embrace the inherent value of this exploration; prepare students for the greatest usefulness in service to and respect of all people and all cultures.

For additional information or to sign up to volunteer at the Big Event, contact the CME at (816) 271-4150 or via email at cme@mwsc.edu.

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Missouri Western State College is a four-year public institution providing a blend of traditional liberal arts and professional degree programs. The college offers student-centered, high quality instruction that focuses on experience-based learning, community service, and state-of-the-art technology. Western is located in St. Joseph, Mo. and is committed to the educational, economic, cultural and social development of the region it serves.