

The University of Missouri-St. Louis is partnering with the Normandy School District to implement its Students of Service (SOS) program. SOS is being made possible through a three-year \$420,000 Learn and Serve America Higher Education grant from the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS). CNCS grants are awarded to a limited number of universities nationwide to expand participation in community service and service-learning to meet the needs of their local communities.

Through SOS, UMSL students will engage Normandy students in mentoring and tutoring programs. "We are looking forward to participating in the program. This will allow us the opportunity to get to know and interact with our neighbors in the Normandy School District," said Betheryn Stafford, an UMSL senior.

"We are extremely excited about the collaboration as we focus on enhancing the academic experiences of our students," said Dr. Stanton E. Lawrence, superintendent of schools in the Normandy School District. "We view UMSL as an invaluable resource and look forward to bringing about another unique partnership that will serve to benefit the students of this community."

The SOS program will be guided by a Community Advisory Committee comprised of community organization representatives and local residents. It is administered by the university's College of Education and the Community Partnership Project, in cooperation with the Office of Student Life, the Center for Teaching and Learning and the School of Social Work.

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