

## **Edgewood College and Marquette University receive awards for community partnerships**

MILWAUKEE -- The Healthy Food for All partnership at Edgewood College and the Midnight Run partnership at Marquette University will receive the Esther Letven Campus-Community Partnership Award at the annual Campus Compact for Wisconsin (CCWI) Civic Engagement Institute on March 21.

The award recognizes outstanding community partnerships in Wisconsin, and recipients were selected by a committee of community partners. The award honors Esther Letven, a former UW-Parkside employee who helped to build infrastructure to support and promote community engagement there. Letven is also a founding member of CCWI.

“It is exciting to honor two strong community-university partnerships this year, including the Healthy Food for All partnership with Edgewood College and the Midnight Run partnership with Marquette University,” Trina Van Schyndel, Director of CCWI, said. “Strong partnerships like these support the public purposes of higher education by promoting student learning and development as both citizens and professionals.”

[The Healthy Food for All](#) partnership is part of Edgewood College’s [capstone course within the School of Business](#). Each semester, teams of students work with a community partner that has identified some need for business-related skills. Since 2017, students have worked with Healthy Food for All and Four Lakes Processing Collective, both of which have relationships with FEED Kitchen, to address hunger and food waste in the Madison area.

Through this partnership, students have helped develop business and marketing plans for Healthy Food for All and Four Lakes Processing Collective, while gaining valuable real-world experience in the process. Students help with initiatives to address hunger, prevent food waste, and create economic opportunity to combat marginalization.

“The students...provided suggestions we could use immediately to create our brand and market our product,” Joe Mingle, Volunteer Coordinator at FEED Kitchen, said. “We could never have made such leaps forward without their skills, knowledge, commitment, and the guidance they get from their faculty.”

The [Midnight Run](#) partnership, a program of Marquette’s Campus Ministry, is a community outreach organization that began in 1988 and has over 300 Marquette student volunteers serving at various sites around Milwaukee each semester, addressing issues of hunger and homelessness. Midnight Run currently works with 19 community partners.

Midnight Run also provides programming to educate the campus on these issues, designating November as Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Month. Midnight Run also organizes a community arts celebration to bring together community members to showcase their talents in the visual and performing arts.

“Marquette’s Midnight Run volunteers are a positive, energetic, compassionate, curious, and motivated group,” Luke Rosynek, Housing Program Evaluator of Department of Health & Human Services of Milwaukee County, said. “Midnight Run are valuable to us and to the greater Milwaukee community.”

The Health Food for All partnership at Edgewood and the Midnight Run partnership at Marquette will be honored with the award at the annual Civic Engagement Institute on March 21 at Alverno College.

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Campus Compact is a national coalition of 1,000+ colleges and universities committed to the public purposes of higher education. We build democracy through civic education and community development. Our national office is in Boston, MA, with state and regional Campus Compacts providing place-based support for member institutions located throughout the country. Campus Compact for Wisconsin (CCWI) was established in 2002 and comprises 27 members including public, private, and technical college campuses. CCWI is currently based at Cardinal Stritch University in Milwaukee, WI.

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