



# Service Learning in HUD Projects

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Center for Service Learning  
& Civic Engagement

April 2010



# Grace Eaton Childcare

- Over \$200,000 to renovate nonprofit childcare cntr
- Serves over 100 low income children
- Facility had Plexiglas windows, lead-based paint, & asbestos insulation

## *Grace Eaton Childcare Center Renovation Project*

FUNDING BY: THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING & URBAN DEVELOPMENT  
Grant # HBCU-07-TN-047

COORDINATED BY:  **TENNESSEE**  
*STATE University*  
Center for Service Learning and Civic Engagement

CONTRACTOR: ALPHA BUILDING CORPORATION, INC.

# The *Old* becomes *New*

Old Plexiglas windows



*Lead-based paint removal*



New safer more energy efficient windows-Saved 10,767 KWH of electric usage year after window replacement compared to previous year.





# Students at Grace Eaton

- Speech pathology students work with kids on speech & language
- Occupational therapy students work on hand writing and motor skills
  - 23 Of 27 students-*The service learning project helped me to better learn the course content.*
- Early childhood education assist classroom teachers



*Grace Eaton kids enjoying their new sink*



*Kids at Grace Eaton Childcare using their computers to learn the alphabet and reading skills*

# April 14, 2010 Rededication of Grace Eaton



Pre-K class plants a vegetable garden with assistance from TSU students & faculty

•Cutting the ribbon during *Nat'l Week of the Young Child*

*TN Commissioner of Human Services, Gina Lodge; HUD Nashville Field Office Director, Bill Dirl; Elected officials-Senator Harper, Representative Gilmore & Pruitt & Councilmember Gilmore; Rotary Club, Grace Eaton Staff, Board and the Pre-K class; and TSU VP of Academic Affairs, Kathleen McEnerney*



# The Shopping Bag



- **Resale Shop-1417 Charlotte Avenue**
- **Closed for Renovation-\$125,000 renovations the new store**
- **Soft opening-April 2009, grand opening June 2009**
- **Revenue supports programs of Bethlehem Centers of Nashville**
- **Students in various disciplines involved in project**





Old Garage

New Store front



***Fashion Merchandizing Students-***

**Create organizational system for donations & displays & pricing**

***Design Students -***  
**Create Interior Design Ideas for Retail Layout**

***Non profit Internship -300 hours-Susan West -Managing store reopening & created operating manual, managed volunteers, reported to board***



***Freshman Business Orientation Students-***

**Assist in sorting clothes, pricing donations & collecting donations**

***Retail Marketing Students-*** Create Marketing Plan for Donations, Volunteers, Customers, survey of potential customers & organize clothing drive, & summer

***MBA Student-GA in Service Learning-***assisted in coordination of grant

**Another business student volunteered regularly in store then**



# Multidisciplinary Service Learning



- Design students-visiting shell of store with board member to discuss design & layout of store
- Student surveys said they enjoyed, *"helping the community while learning at the same time"*

# Multidisciplinary Service Learning

- Students present ideas & findings to board members, TSU students, & non-profit staff

*–Students liked the “Hands-on experience and working in a real-world environment”*



<http://vimeo.com/9055254>

# McKissack Reading Clinic

- Fall 2007 with HUD & other grant funds  
Center for Service Learning partnered with  
College of Ed to create reading clinic at  
McKissack
- Students work one-on-one with struggling  
readers twice a week on reading
- Grown to three clinics (elementary, middle,  
& high) serving over 100 kids each semester



# Clinic Operations

- Operates year long
  - 8 weeks in fall (2x per week)
  - 8 weeks in spring (2x per week)
  - 4 weeks in summer (4x per week, dependent on funding)
- Pull out program from regular classroom
- College student assigned to work with one child





## Tutors

- Undergraduates in education, history, occupational therapy
- Graduate students in Reading courses & Special education courses
- Three universities now involved TN State Univ., Belmont, & Trevecca

# Results

- 2008-09 year-Of the 43 students (k-6th grade) who were served in the McKissack Reading Clinic, 77% demonstrated a year's growth in reading achievement.
- TSU students survey said, "Every course should be structured with a service-learning component" & "The service work was a great component to the curriculum"
- Ninety five percent (95%) of the k-6 students strongly agreed with the following statement, "I like to read with my Tennessee State University tutor?"
- Ninety one percent (91%) of the K-6 students said they believed they had improved "much" or "a great deal" as a reader.



# Results-Summer Clinic

- **Summer 2009 Metro Schools asked TSU to work with transitional students (failed at least once)**
- **16 middle/high transitional student served (14-15 yrs old)**
  - Received tutoring and tutored kids from boys & girls club
  - 87% made reading gains
  - Improved on average 1.5 years in one summer
  - One student even gained 3 yrs of reading growth

# Housing Rehab

- In partnership with Affordable Housing Resources we've completed 3 home renovations for the elderly & will complete 7 more
- Students, faculty, staff assisted with completing projects (Engineering students during year & service day)

# Volunteers improved elderly housing

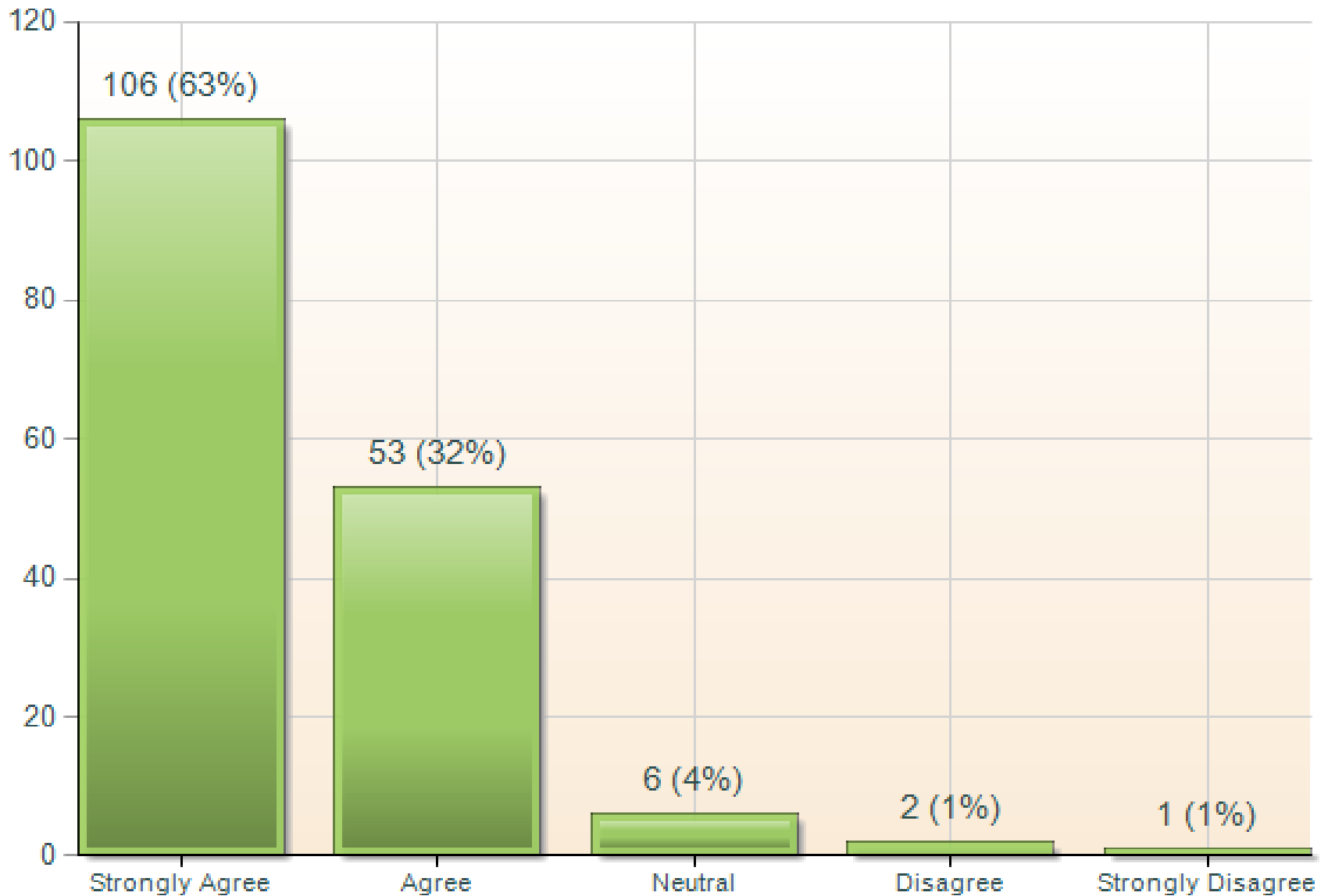


March 09  
Service Day

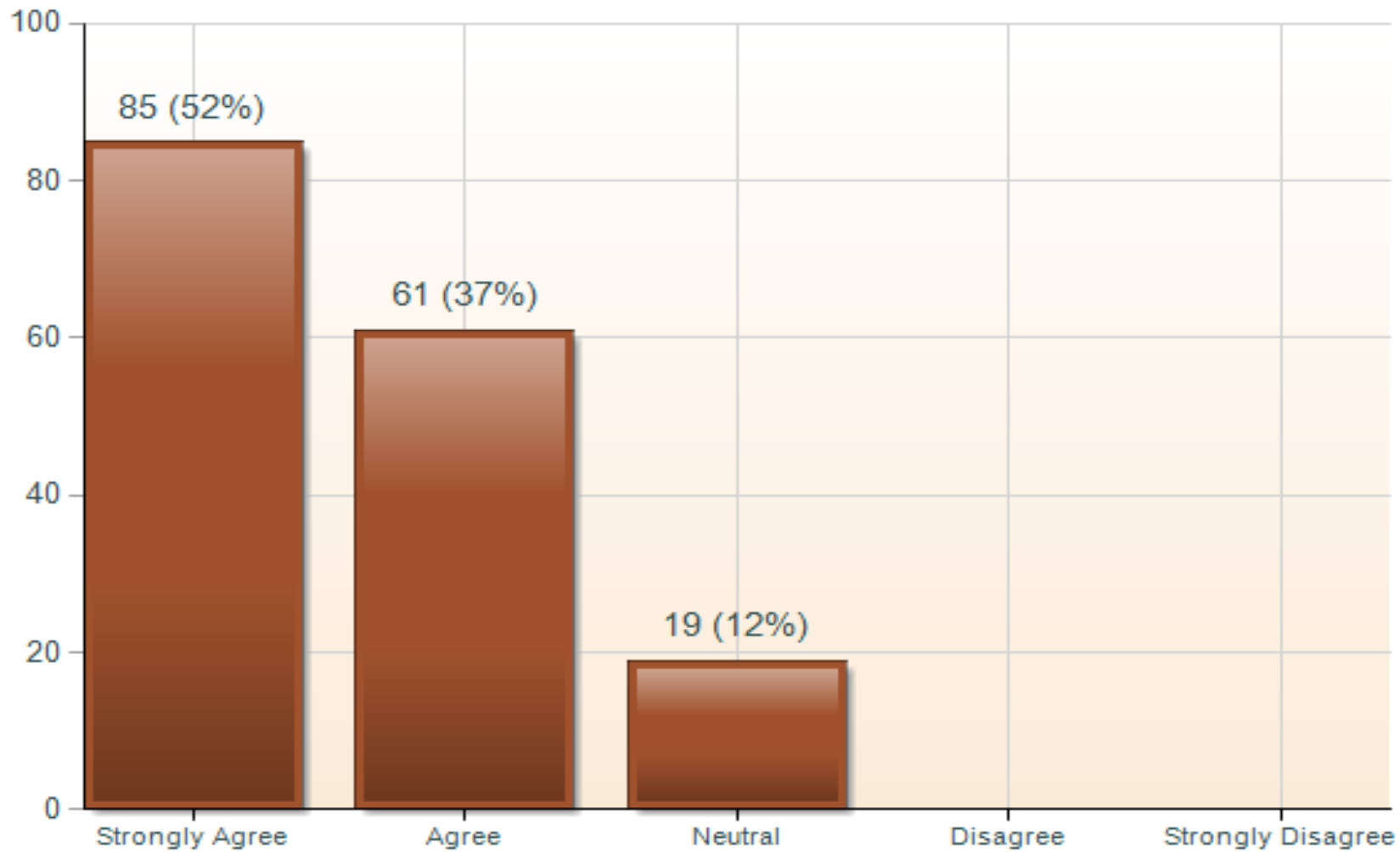
- 300+ volunteers
- Over 1100 hours



## I found my Service Day project fun and meaningful.



**I feel more a part of TSU and the community through my involvement in Service Day.**



# Home owner & Engineering Student

"It's been a blessing," said Hatchett, who has had little contact with the TSU community since she left the school in 1958 to begin raising her family. But interacting with the student volunteers in her home, she said, "gives us both something. It teaches them to give back, to be part of their community. You never forget the bridge that carried you across."





# Jefferson Street

October 11, 2009

## Tennessee State University to create 'Gateway to Heritage'

Tennessee State University's Center for Service Learning plans to make improvements to the area beneath the Interstate 40-Jefferson Street overpass and renovate the homes of seven elderly area residents, according to a statement released by the school.

The center has been awarded an \$800,000 grant from the U.S. Housing and Urban Development Historically Black Colleges and Universities Program to finance both projects, according to a statement released by the school last week.

About \$400,000, half the grant, will go toward creating what the school described as a safe, accessible, historically reverent gathering space, dubbed the "Gateway to Heritage."

Improvements to the underpass area will include fencing, lighting and landscaping as well as a mural that will document Jefferson Street's history. TSU faculty and students will participate in the project.

In addition, more than \$150,000 of the grant will be used to make improvements to homes owned by seven low- to moderate-income elderly residents of North Nashville. TSU will work with other community organizations to improve each home's plumbing, accessibility and energy efficiency.

The remainder of the grant, about \$250,000, will be used to cover the cost of a staff position, required training, supplies and other administrative costs.



# Turn interstate Underpass into Plaza



*Drawing created by the EDGE Group*



<http://vimeo.com/9055623>

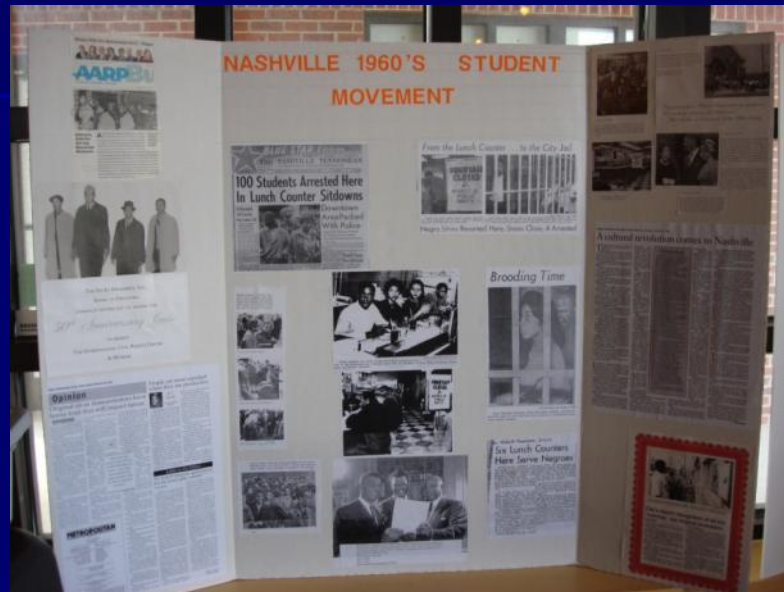
# Jefferson Street

## *Getting Students Involved*

- Faculty & students in Art, Architectural Engineering, History, and Geography will work with Designers & Contractors & Community on Art & Historical elements

# Tour of Jefferson St

Students & Faculty in  
Art, Engineering,  
Urban Geography &  
History



Kwame Lillard-  
Freedom Rider-  
Discussed Civil  
Rights history of  
area

