



New Students Learn More about Indianapolis During Service and the City 2011

Nearly 80 incoming students, many new to the Indianapolis area, participated in the annual IUPUI *Service and the City* on August 26th. The morning included a bus tour of downtown Indianapolis and a photo scavenger hunt on Massachusetts Avenue. In the afternoon, the students volunteered together at local community partner sites. Every year, this event gives students an opportunity to connect with other students, learn more about social issues in the community, and explore all the great things Indianapolis has to offer.



IUPUI Service and the City Volunteers on the Massachusetts Avenue

Service and the City is a day of service designed to engage incoming students and students new to Indianapolis in the community beyond IUPUI. The first half of the day, nearly 80 IUPUI students went on a bus tour of downtown Indianapolis that included a photo scavenger hunt on Massachusetts Avenue. They had the opportunity to explore different businesses and "hot spots" in the area, ultimately encouraging them to get out and involved in the Indianapolis community.

The John H. Boner Community Center graciously donated space to host a lunch that incorporated a community panel, which featured Tammy Stevens from Keep Indianapolis Beautiful, Dane Nutty from Indiana Mother's Milk Bank, and Megan Hochbein from Exodus Refugee Immigration. Students had the opportunity to hear from the panelists about their personal journeys to working in the non-profit world, common issues faced by non-profits in Indianapolis, and ways they can become more involved with social issues in the community.

In the afternoon, students were split into groups and went to seven different service sites across the city. This year's community partners included Wheeler Mission, SENSE Charter School, Indianapolis Senior Center, Hoosier Veteran's Assistance Fund, Mary Rigg Community Center, the Near West Collaborative, and Indianapolis Animal Care and Control. Projects included organizing donations, painting, spreading mulch, socializing and bathing animals to be adopted, and deep cleaning of highly used spaces within the organizations.