

Bonner Community-Engaged Learning Initiative

2023-24 Grant Proposal Summary Worksheet

Please submit this summary worksheet with your grant proposal. *Please delete the sections that do not apply to your proposal for funding.*

1) Name of Institution: Centre College

2) Name, Title, Email, and Mailing Address for Lead Administrator (PI): Jessica Weasner, Director of Civic & Community Engagement and the Bonner Program, Jessica.weasner@centre.edu, 600 W. Walnut St., Danville, KY 40422

3a) Course Development Funding: Please provide the name and title of the faculty or staff for whom you will be requesting course development funding:

Faculty or Staff #1: Name of Course / Type of Course

Jeff Shenton, Anthropology, Senior Seminar (ANT 500), Spring 2024

This course is the Anthropology-focused version of the capstone course for Anthropology/Sociology majors and minors at Centre College. The standing theme of the course is “public anthropology.” The course is meant to give ANT/SOC majors and minors a way to amplify the lessons of ANT/SOC broadly and to apply them to their life and work after Centre.

Community engagement description: Dr. Shenton has a long-standing partnership with the Danville-Boyle County African American Historical Society (DBCAAHS), which has so far resulted in several concrete public-facing outcomes. These include an online oral history archive and the “We Were Here” Exhibition, a multimedia retrospective of the Black presence in Danville and Boyle County that ran from August 2022-June 2023 at the Norton Center for the Arts. Students in Dr. Shenton’s ANT 110, ANT 347, ANT 389, and ANT 371 courses have participated in aspects of this ongoing partnership.

In ANT 500, which Dr. Shenton will teach for the first time in SP24, students will work on an audio/video editing project that will result in a comprehensive online version of the “We Were Here” Exhibition. Students will also hear from members of DBCAAHS and will partner with a trained library archivist (and Centre graduate) to learn about public cloud-based archiving and exhibition. These projects will occupy about one-third of the semester and will partially fulfill the theme of “public anthropology” by serving as a participatory case study. Participatory case study is a research methodology that aligns well with community-based research.

Funding Request for Course Development (max \$8,000): \$2,000

3b) Course Development Funding: Please provide the name and title of the faculty or staff for whom you will be requesting course development funding:

Faculty or Staff #1: Name of Course / Type of Course

Dave Toth, Computer Science & Data Science, DLM 310, Fall 2024

In this course, students will work to try help Danville devise ways to provide housing for residents experiencing homelessness. Students will research how other communities around the country have attempted to provide housing for people experiencing homelessness. They will work with local community organizations and the city government to devise and propose realistic ways to provide housing for people. The course will use the CBR model of community engagement. We will work with the Danville/Boyle County Housing Task Force.

Community Engagement Description: As we work with the Danville/Boyle County Housing Task Force, the project may evolve to meet their needs. However, for the moment, the goal is for the students to research what it costs to set up AND maintain a tiny shelter village (one room structures with electricity, heating, and cooling for each person) with separate, communal bathroom, shower, and kitchen facilities as has been done in Seattle and other communities. This includes researching what kind of staffing is needed, such as caseworkers, and the costs for that. The students will also research what federal and state grants are available that could be used to bring this project from an idea to reality. At the end of the semester, the class will provide a report and give a presentation to the Danville/Boyle County Housing Task Force.

Funding Request for Course Development (max \$8,000): \$2,000

TOTAL Funding Request for Course Development (max \$8,000): \$4,000

4) CEL Infrastructure Funding: Please provide the title of each of the infrastructure project(s) for which you are requesting funding.

Infrastructure Project #1: Community Partnerships VISTA

Centre College is in the process of revamping CentreWorks, a relatively new program and space that was initially focused on social entrepreneurship. The new vision for the program is to focus on the creation and implementation of community-based projects that will engage students, alumni, and community members at a high-level. The new director (yet to be hired) will recruit faculty to participate in CentreWorks and then will work closely with them to support the development and implementation of projects, courses, and initiatives on topics of local significance. This new model will work closely with

both Centre's Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) and the Office of Civic & Community Engagement (OCCE). We anticipate meeting weekly as a group to ensure open communication and avoid duplication of efforts. OCCE will work with the CentreWorks director to assist faculty members in developing and maintaining strong community relationships with new and existing community partners.

The search for the new director is underway and candidates are expected to be on campus in February 2024. When the new director starts, they will not only be responsible for programming, but also the physical space that is CentreWorks (a multi-office space on the 3rd floor of a building in downtown Danville). This space is used for community events, campus programming, and more. It has a full kitchen, a boardroom, multiple offices, and state of the art technology. In order to allow the new director to focus their energies on connecting with the campus and the community, OCCE would like to provide an AmeriCorps VISTA for one year that would manage the space, including reservations and technology, and provide administrative support to both CentreWorks and the OCCE. In addition to formalizing our partnership with CentreWorks, OCCE would receive an office space in CentreWorks and first priority in reserving the space for programming.

The VISTA would be trained on how to use CentreEngage (GivePulse), Centre's new volunteer management software. They would help identify community opportunities to post in CentreEngage, and would provide support to community partners who need assistance managing their pages. The VISTA would be housed at CentreWorks 100% of the time, so they would be easily accessible by many of our non-profit partners. By managing CentreEngage, they would help ensure that both Centre students and faculty would have access to the most current information about volunteer opportunities and community needs. They will also work with the Registrar, IT, and CTL to load interested CBL courses into CentreEngage and embed it into Moodle.

Ensuring that both this new vision for CentreWorks, and the campus/community-wide implementation of CentreEngage go smoothly is extremely important. We want both community partners and faculty to feel supported in this work, and to demonstrate to them that we have the appropriate tools and staffing. AmeriCorps VISTA is a great match for this, as VISTA service is meant to be indirect service focused on capacity building for the host agency. AmeriCorps also requires a connection between the project and issues related to poverty, so special attention will be paid to our non-profit partners who focus on hunger, homelessness, and financial literacy including the Boyle County Health Department, the Heart of Kentucky United Way, Family Services, Boyle County ASAP (Agency for Substance Abuse Policy), New Hope Food Pantry, the Salvation Army, Backpack Kids, etc.

We request the full \$7,000, which is the AmeriCorps fee for a VISTA through Kentucky Campus Compact. Centre will offer a meal plan (approx. \$5,800) and is also working on the possibility of housing in a campus owned apartment building. The AmeriCorps member will officially be supervised by the OCCE Director, Jessie Weasner, who will be submitting the request to KY Campus Compact. However, they will have dual reporting to the CentreWorks Director once they are in place.

Funding Request for CEL Infrastructure Project(s) (max \$7,000): \$7,000

5) Faculty Fellow(s) Funding: Please name the faculty fellow(s) for whom you are requesting funding:

Faculty Fellow #1: Ellen Prusinski

Note that previous grantees should secure at least a 50% institutional cash match for Fellows.

Funding Request for Faculty Fellow(s) (max \$5,000): \$2,500

8) Institutional Match for 2023-24 Detail

Please provide a brief summary, listing the institutional cash or in-kind match which should total at least 50% of the 2022-23 funding request from the Bonner Foundation.

Match Category: CentreEngage (GivePulse) Fee	\$5,100
Match Category: AmeriCorps VISTA Meals	\$650
Match Category: AmeriCorps College Coach Fee	\$1,000
TOTAL INSTITUTIONAL MATCH	\$5,750