

1-1-2014

## Poster for UF 200 sec. 06/ISLE 297: Making a Difference in Solidarity

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# MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN SOLIDARITY

## DR. SARA FRY AND HER AMAZING UF 200/ISLE 397 STUDENTS

### What is ISLE?

The Intensive Semester Learning Experience (ISLE) program offers the following to faculty and students:

- Devote a semester of course work to a discrete project
- Work collaboratively and cross-disciplinarily
- Create and develop projects from start to finish
- Build relationships with community members or organizations.

### Community Engagement Structure

#### • Service-Learning:

- Students serve 15 or more hours with a community partner
- Gain a deeper understanding of the activist contexts in which Treasure Valley women engage and their motivations to do so
- Our partners were: Artisans for Hope, Boise Parks and Recreation's Mobile Recreation Unit, and the Little Library Literacy Project at Koelsch Elementary School.

#### • Activist Citizens Composition and Presentation:

- Multi-modal culminating project documenting women who are Making a Difference in Solidarity
- Research the context and motivations of at least one such citizen
- Compositions were displayed at the Service-Learning Student Exhibition on December 10th & are being archived on ScholarWorks

### University Foundations 200: Civic and Ethical Foundations ISLE Course:

#### Intensive Semester Learning Experience

### Student Explanations of What Motivates/Fosters Activism

*Someone can become an activist through educating themselves, finding passion, having the confidence to change something through engagement. – Miranda*

*Passion, team work, education, confidence and community engagement all work together to incite change, from the small community efforts, to the global change for good. – Sam*

*Passion leads to engagement, education to passion, teamwork to education, and fulfillment with confidence, leads to activism. –Amber*  
*Education, passion, and confidence can lead to opportunity. Opportunity can lead to change, and change can lead to fulfillment. With all of these working together as a whole, it can make a big difference in any community. – TJ*

*The start of activism is passion. Passion can lead to opportunity and opportunity leads to engagement and engagement to change. – Dan*  
*Activism can start from anywhere and the need to get involved can stem from someone's past or present experiences and thoughts. – Amanda*  
*People become active in their community because they are passionate enough about something to stand up and make something change. - Ali*

### Lessons Learned – Sara Fry

- Time - even 6-contact hours a week goes by quickly!
- Expectations... next time I'll ask for partial transcriptions of interviews and provide more specific instruction about analysis.
- Guest speakers were AMAZING! If anything, I'll invite more inspiring community activists/change agents/agitators for social justice next time. We were inspired by Marilyn Shuler, Melissa Wintrow, Debbie Jacob, Sarah Toevs, Shawn Dunnigan, Lisa Keithly, Wendy Wilson, Pam Marcum, Dan Prinzing, Christopher Bower, Terry Gilbert, and David Chehey.
- Reading... even with an element of self-selection for this course, completion of reading in a required class remains less than ideal.

### Student Reflections

*Through this Service Learning I have experienced some self-reflection and areas where I need to stop what I am doing and just be. I feel that serving in the best way possible only happens when I can just focus and care. Through the last couple weeks I have implemented these changes and I have had positive changes in my focus and attention to the needs of the students. -Kierra*

*It has become apparent over a semester of highlighting and interviewing some of the amazing women in Boise, that everyone who makes a difference in the community have had experiences throughout their lives that have influenced them deeply. – Zach and Claire*

*With all the benefits that come from working with kids or doing any activist piece, my only question would have to be: why doesn't everybody do this? - Jake*