Improving Non-Profit Organizations: Mon Ami

CLP Term Project Winter 2013

Kevin Diaz
Santos Miletos
Robert Tonucci
Dylan Yang

ABSTRACT

For our Collaborative Learning Program winter term group project, we completed community service at Mon Ami\(^1\) and Service by going to the non-profit every Friday to help the teachers in the day care center. While we were there, our group made observations about the non-profit organization. At the end of the community service experience, our group constructed solutions for the problems we discovered at the non-profit organization and recommended ways to implement these solutions. Our research results were presented to our CLP professors in written form and as a formal presentation.

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\(^1\) The organization's name has been changed due to privacy concerns.
Statement of Project Value

This project was the winter term project for our Collaborative Learning Program (CLP) classes. The students in our group are business management majors; our winter term CLP classes were ENG 1021, Advanced Composition & Communications Skills, & MGMT 2020, Organizational Behavior. Our winter term project focused on the skills we learned in both of these classes. The project also included Community Service Learning. Specific skills we used from English were the problem-solution rhetorical strategy, written communication skills, and oral communication skills. Specific skills we used from business were the running of an organization and the problems the organization encountered, including a SWOT analysis. Focusing on a non-profit organization and volunteering at the organization gave us community service-learning experience. In addition, we used our information literacy skills to research the social problem, best practices of other non-profits and creative solutions. Throughout this project we worked as a team and each one of us had a role: leader, timekeeper, note taker, questioner. In addition to the collaboration with each other, we collaborated with our English professor, our business professor, the CLP librarian, the community service-learning liaison, the children at the non-profit and the staff at the non-profit. This winter term project taught our group that not only are we going to encounter problems in the business world, but also we are going to have to talk among our colleagues to solve the problems we encounter in the future.