



## **Learning to Serve, Serving to Learn: Citizenship and Service Education (CASE)**

CASE began as a call to action in 1988 by Edward Bloustein, the late president of Rutgers University, when he said, "I propose that we look at community service as a necessary component of the learning experiences which constitute a liberal education". Today, CASE has grown to become a major force in undergraduate education on all three Rutgers campuses, enrolling more than 2,500 students in more than 65 courses offered by more than a dozen departments of the Faculty of Arts & Sciences and eight of Rutgers' professional schools.

Today, CASE students and volunteers contribute more than 100,000 hours of service annually. As participation in CASE continues to grow, so does its positive impact on communities across the state of New Jersey.

### **The CASE Mission**

The Citizenship and Service Education program (CASE) strives to:

- ? prepare our students to participate as active effective citizens in a democratic society and to teach a lifelong service ethic;
- ? improve undergraduate education through service-learning and assist students in their professional development;
- ? advance the service mission of Rutgers University to the citizens of New Jersey; and
- ? offer New Jersey communities the means to tap Rutgers' resources in order to meet community-identified needs.

### **When It Comes to Service-Learning.....**

When President Clinton came to Rutgers on March 1, 1993 to announce his national service plan, he publicly recognized Rutgers CASE as a model for colleges and universities across America. CASE courses combine academic studies in a wide variety of fields with community service as part of Rutgers' efforts to train students to

be competent, participatory, democratic citizens possessing both the technical skills to flourish in today's complex world and a strong service ethic. In turn, CASE students provide thousands of hours of service to community organizations and the citizens of New Jersey.

### **.....We're on the CASE**

CASE is built on a philosophy of active learning. We believe that citizenship, a service ethic, and an appreciation for American diversity cannot be learned from books alone but must be learned by doing. Therefore, CASE courses typically combine an academically rigorous 3-credit classroom course with a 1-credit service-learning placement directly related to the subject matter of the course. CASE courses are taught across the curriculum but they all require students to do the following:

- ? contribute typically 40 hours of community service;
- ? confront the complex, ambiguous, human realities that lie behind the abstract concepts and materials they are studying in the classroom;
- ? think about, discuss and practice good citizenship; and
- ? forge a link between service and learning---between classroom and the real world.

### **Get Involved in CASE**

Whether you are a community agency, a Rutgers student, an interested, citizen, or a peer institution seeking technical assistance, it's easy to join in the CASE team! For more information about the Citizenship and Service Education on any of the three campuses contact us...

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