

## **Emergency Services Program**

### **Overview**

The Emergency Services Program at Living/Learning will allow students who are involved in or interested in becoming involved in Emergency Services develop into leaders both academically and professionally. This will be accomplished through both informational and hands on training while being part of a community that understands the demands and sacrifices that one must endure while serving their community. Whether you are experienced or not, you will gain knowledge and guidance by living amongst individuals who are members of the community of emergency service providers. We encourage those who have interest but no experience to feel free to apply. All are welcome!

While attending school it can be difficult to balance service and academics. Through structure and guidance utilizing the concepts of service, commitment, and dedication, we as a community will learn and develop as students of UVM and members of an elite family of life savers. We will do this by providing training opportunities to community members, acting as liaisons between our group and area agencies, and of course continuing the tradition of service and pride. We hope that the students involved gain a better understanding of emergency service and of themselves as leaders.

### **Learning Objectives**

#### **Enhancement of skills and development of individuals for emergency service**

##### Action Steps

- Training and instruction will be provided by students of different disciplines within the program as well as from outside instructors and agencies. This will be done through a combination of hands on exercises and scenario-based training. The objective of this is to further enhance skills and knowledge. It is planned to have one activity a month and topics will range from the basics, such as how to take vitals, to more traumatic events. We will conduct the training both inside and outside the academic realm. Informational classes will be set up throughout the semester, but a significant amount of learning will take place in the suites. It will be expected for members to make at least half of the available training as there will be a participation evaluation at the end of the semester. We feel that having some small reward, such as food, for the most participation will encourage a more fun and less stressful environment.
- Study sessions will be established for individuals pursuing certifications such as Firefighter I, EMT-Basic, etc..... (Provided at least once a semester or more as needed)

- Every member will be expected to become CPR certified by the end of the year. A class will be held during the end of the first semester to guide this process. A second course will be offered during the second semester depending on participation levels of the first class.

### **Create an atmosphere that promotes academics and service**

#### Action Steps

- Meeting and discussing techniques in time management while working within the Fire, EMS, and UVM communities. This will be completed very early in the year to assist with developing a healthy schedule and routine. Jenna has worked for Career Services and has also hosted programs as an RA from the Learning Co-op that would help with developing a plan to move seamlessly between school and your career after school.
- To educate through instructional, entertainment, and documentary-type media that involves emergency services. We will reflect on these as they pertain to real life situations. This will be a great opportunity to create a bond amongst members of the program and will be conducted at the discretion of the group (at least twice a semester).
- Guest Speakers will be brought in from agencies around the Burlington area to do presentations on what their agency does and how it works. These individuals will talk about why they chose their career field, how they got there, and explain the hiring processes that are present in most emergency careers. The intention of this is to provide members the opportunity to meet Career, Volunteer, and Paid on call members of agencies. It is also an opportunity to provide crucial connections to assist members in finding agencies to work or volunteer with. We hope to collaborate with the RA staff or another program to make this complex-wide. (Once a semester)

### **Service to school and community**

#### Action Steps

- As a group we will conduct at least one service fair a year. We will bring as many agencies from the area as we can to showcase different equipment and techniques as well as provide an opportunity for UVM students to meet with area responders.
- As leaders we will provide assistance and direction to individuals who may not be sure how to go about joining departments and agencies. This will be done by helping members with the application process as well as preparing individuals for testing.

### **Community Service**

Community service will be of the utmost importance to the success of the Emergency Services Program. Members will be expected to provide a minimum of five hours of community service each semester. The members of the program will meet at the beginning of each semester to brainstorm ideas for community service. This contributes to both the UVM community and the community at large. An opportunity for community service may be assisting with the Red Cross blood drives or helping to inform other UVM students or faculty who are interested in becoming CPR certified how they might do so. If situations arise where we can be of assistance they will be encouraged to participate. It should be stated that members with affiliations to

volunteer fire or ambulance services will have gone and will continue to go beyond these required five hours, but our main target here is familiarize those not involved with the community service aspect of an agency. A minimum number of hours are required to keep your certification as a First Responder or EMT-Basic and this will hopefully prepare them for that process.

### **Interaction with other L/L programs**

It is definitely a desire of ours to work with other programs in L/L. One idea is to invite the UVM police to do a complex-wide informational program to not only address issues on UVM campus but as an opportunity for those interested in law enforcement or careers down a similar path. We are also planning on having two speakers come to L/L which we hope to offer complex-wide and collaborate with another program or RA staff.