ABOUT THE COURSE
“AACC defines service learning as the combination of community service and classroom instruction, with a focus on critical, reflective thinking as well as personal and civic responsibility, (Gottlieb & Robinson, 2006, p. 5).”

- Service learning is incorporated through n-person lecture style learning and required volunteer experience
- Allows us to both learn and experience the family service field.
- Volunteering at the Food Bank allows us to:
  - Be part of an organization that fits into our field of study
  - Understand the working parts that help meet people’s needs
  - Understand specific needs that need to be met
  - Interact with different populations

It is a learning, resume-building, community service oriented classroom opportunity.

MISSION STATEMENT
We provide nutritious food and grocery products to nonprofit organizations and individuals in northeast Iowa, while offering hunger education programs to the area and those in need.

ABOUT THE FOOD BANK
- NE IA Food Bank began as a food pantry in 1981
- Run from one room in the old Francis Grout schoolhouse after community members decided there was a need
- Joined Feeding America in 1986
- Grown to serve over 100 agencies in 16 counties

PROGRAMMING
- Backpack Program
  - Provides chronically hungry kids with meals to take home on weekends/holidays to sustain them
- Summer Feeding
  - Provide extra meals for kids during the summer to replace the meals that school would normally provide
- Kids Cafe
  - Offers meals, supervised educational, and recreational activities to kids
- Elderly Nutrition
  - Elderly nutrition boxes to seniors who are home-bound and can’t make it to senior centers
  - Elderly nutrition bags for seniors to take home over the weekend when congregate meals are closed
- Community Garden
  - All produce delivered through the food pantry
  - Educational activities on site for children to learn about the growing process
- Agency Distribution
  - Bring food to non-profits at a reduced cost so others can serve community
- Mobile Food Pantry
  - Deliver meals to rural communities monthly
- Cedar Valley Food Pantry
  - Curbside pick up
  - Indoor food pantry

STATISTICS AND SERVICE
- Underemployment, stagnant wages and rising costs of living influence those who experience hunger
- It is estimated that we serve 5,800 different people each week through the services NE IA Food Bank provides
- Serve populations including seniors, children, families, students, neighbors

PERSONAL EXPERIENCE
- Learned about food insecurity and its impact on family systems
- Different services provided by Food Bank meet different needs
- In need of more volunteers
- Majority of volunteers from class requirements and work events
- Volunteering impacts others’ lives and benefits your own

LOCATION & CONTACT INFO
- 1605 Lafayette St in Waterloo, Iowa
- (319)-235-0507