



Arrupe Partnerships for Community-based Learning

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GARDNER COMMUNITY CENTER

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Organizational Profile

The Gardner Community Center is operated by the City of San José and is located off of Highway 280 and 87. The Center serves the nearby community which is largely Latino and low-income. The Center serves the young and elderly through a senior nutrition program, a weight and exercise room, an after-school computer lab, and classes for seniors several times/week.

Arrupe placements will be in the senior nutrition program, which serves 20-50 seniors daily, Monday through Friday. It is one of thirteen centers in the City of San Jose that serve hot nutritious lunches to seniors. Participants are predominately Latinos, some frail, but all living independently in single-family apartments or homes. Most seniors' first and only language is Spanish. However, there is a growing group of bilingual, young seniors that attend the program.

SCU Student's Role

Students who choose this placement will be greeting seniors as they arrive to the center, having conversations in either English or Spanish, recruiting and registering new participants, serving food in the nutrition program, encouraging and assisting participants to the leisure activities. Activities at the Center include sewing, bingo, ceramics, loteria, exercise, fitness, game room activities and arts and crafts. SCU students who can speak Spanish, intermediate and advanced, are highly desired.

To Do Before Orientation

- Read your course syllabus and be prepared to discuss your learning goals with your placement supervisor at orientation.