



## CSU Community-Engaged Learning Definitions

### **COMMUNITY-ENGAGED LEARNING DEFINITION (NEW)**

Community Engaged Learning (CEL) is the collaboration between institutions of higher education and community partners (entities, organizations, or groups with whom a relationship can be developed) in which students learn and develop through participation in the collaboration; the outcomes of which benefit the **common good**.\*

**COMMON GOOD:** Distinguished from private or individual interests, the term “common good” refers to the material, cultural or institutional interests and goals that members of a society have in common that embody sustained mutual respect. (Adapted from Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy.)

### **SERVICE-LEARNING (referred as *COMMUNITY-BASED LEARNING* on some CSU campuses) DEFINITION (NEW DRAFT)**

Service Learning is a teaching method in which meaningful service is a critical component of course curriculum and assessment of student learning. It is characterized by critical reflection and a collaborative partnership among the instructor, students, and community, with a focus on both student learning and community impact.

### **SERVICE-LEARNING/COMMUNITY-BASED LEARNING COURSE:**

An academic course (in any discipline) that provides students opportunities to participate in organized service activities that meet community needs while linking the community service experiences to the course content. This makes service learning a very different experience than community service. [Source: CSU Center for Community Engagement (2011). A Resource Guide for Managing Risk in Service Learning, p. 4 ]

\*Functional definition for CEL activities