PROJECT FACT SHEET: President’s Interfaith and Community Service Campus Challenge

Overview
The President’s Interfaith and Community Service Campus Challenge is a White House initiative focused on involving people of different religious and non-religious backgrounds to address community challenges together. President Obama’s Challenge was developed out of the notion that American colleges and universities are often at the forefront of solving the nation’s greatest challenges. IU Northwest is one of more than 250 higher education institutions working toward making interfaith cooperation and community service a more prominent reality on campus.

Scope
The Center is responsible for organizing and coordinating activities for the Challenge. IU Northwest will host events throughout the year focused on interfaith cooperation and community services.

Community Partners
Campus Interfaith Committee; IU Northwest Office of Diversity, Equity and Multicultural Affairs; IU Northwest Alumni Clubs; The White House; U.S. Department of Education; Corporation for National and Community Service.

Short-term Outcomes
- IU Northwest hosted more than 250 people at a Martin Luther King, Jr. Day event on January 17, 2013.
- “Expressions of Faith,” a moving pictorial of various beliefs – Spring 2013
- “Believe It Or Not I Care” (B.I.O.N.I.C.) week – various activities – Spring 2013

Long-term Outcomes
- IU Northwest will help build understanding between different communities and contribute to the common good, by bringing together people from different religious and non-religious backgrounds to tackle community challenges together.
- Lunch and Learn events and panel discussions are planned throughout the year to highlight various conversations regarding the diverse community population found at IU Northwest and throughout Northwest Indiana.

About The Center
The Center for Urban and Regional Excellence at Indiana University Northwest engages the university and the community in partnerships that jointly formulate programs and policies to support thriving Northwest Indiana communities. The Center works collaboratively with organizations in all sectors to address challenges and co-create solutions in diverse areas including economic development, government efficiency, nonprofit leadership development, public safety, transportation policy, environmental sustainability, health disparities, and arts and culture.

For more information
President’s Interfaith and Community Service Campus Challenge   The Center for Urban and Regional Excellence
www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/ofbnp/interfaithservice   www.iun.edu/cure

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