STUDENT COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS

Chico State’s Construction Management Department is committed to teaching the “whole student.” To accomplish this, our faculty and staff have endeavored to create opportunities for students to be involved in activities that complement their academic studies and builds all-important interpersonal and “soft” skills. These activities are volunteer based and evolve to provide for unmet needs in the local community and out of state.

Students are reminded of the impact these activities have on the community, their personal growth, professional experience, and the value that employers place on those students who are community minded.

The following projects have all been student-lead with the help of our industry advisor board and faculty members. It is the departments mission “to help those who can not help themselves”. Projects are selected through an RFP process and students actively manage the project development process through the final completion of the projects construction.

2018 Caper Acres Children’s Swings Project, Bidwell Park:
This project for the City of Chico consisted of construction a new “Swings” area at Caper Acres playground in Bidwell Park. Students value engineered, scheduled, estimated and ultimately carried out the work over the entire academic year. The full scope of the project included: clearing/grading over 7,000 SF of park space; installation of 7 french drains; assembly and installation of 7 new pieces of play equipment; 200 LF of 20” x 32” curved seat walls (7 individual custom radius); 100 LF of 20” x 18” curved curbs; 7 – 40” diameter concrete entry bollards (all concrete work was integral colored architectural finish); followed by fine grading, landscape fabric, and over 300 CY of fall protection bark. Students committed over 2,750 service hours to complete the work.

2018 Camelot Equestrian Park, Butte Valley:
Camelot Equestrian Park is a 1600-acre multi-purpose equestrian facility that includes miles of meandering trails, picnic areas, multiple arenas, dressage courts, galloping track, cross country course, and a shaded campground. The project consisted of assembly and installation of two Rectangular 28' x 42 'x 8' shade structures.
2017 Patrick Ranch Trellis for the Master Gardeners Project:  
The mission of the Butte County Master Gardeners is to extend research-based education and technical assistance throughout the non-commercial gardening community, and to foster successful gardening practices by helping individuals make informed decisions about plants, pests and the environment, with an emphasis on sustainability. The project consisted of a constructability review, final permitting, and the construction of the two trellis structures for the client to hold outdoor classes while providing shade to their attendees.

2016-2017 Boy Scout Camp Lassen Adirondack Rehabilitation Project:  
The project for Boy Scouts Camp Lassen consisted of repairing and upgrading 55 Adirondacks buildings that contained 4 beds each. The consisted of removing and replacing damaged siding, re-leveling the units, installing front shear panels, replace the bunk bed plywood and adding 1x trims at the corners and entries. To date, 28 of the 55 cabins have been restored.

2017 Children’s Museum Project:  
The Chico Children’s Museum will resemble a small city with over 6,000SF of “business” including agricultural exhibit, dentist and veterinary offices, a market, a café, an art studio and more. The mission is to cultivate a lifelong love of learning throughout hands-on, minds-on experiences that celebrate curiosity, connect families, and promote a sense of unity within our community.

2016 JetChico Conceptual Estimate and Schedule Project:  
JetChico is a non-profit private-public partnership of local community members who are invested in restoring passenger jet service to Chico. The project consisted of performing a conceptual estimate and schedule using a sketch-up model. The goal of the organization is to provide private funds for the construction of a new airport terminal to entice an airline back to our community. This project benefits everyone in the Chico area, including students who have to travel 2 hours to the next closest airport.
2015 Durham Veterans Memorial Hall Re-Roof and HVAC Upgrade Project:
This project was selected to support our local area veterans. Their Veterans Memorial Hall, constructed in 1957, had a leaky roof and inadequate ventilation rendering the building useless in both winter and summer. The project consisted of installing 6,600 square feet of new metal roofing and 4 new air heating and cooling ventilation systems.

2013-2014 Salvation Army Blitz Build Project:
This project was selected to create a traditional housing facility for graduates of the Salvation Army’s rehabilitation program. The facility provides a safe place for parents and children to reunite during continued recovery. The project took almost two years to plan and construct. During Spring break of 2014, 785 students worked 10 to 16 hour days to construct 4 – 2 bedroom units. Students prefabricated all the building wall system over two 3-day weekends prior to the build. Students committed over 10,000 hours of community service on the project planning, implementation, and construction.

2012 Patrick Ranch Blitz Build Project:
For Chico State’s 125th anniversary, the students of the Construction Management Department selected to construct a barn for the City of Durham’s Patrick Ranch House. Beyond the months of planning, 70 students, 4 Faculty Advisors and our Community Service Advisory Board worked three 3-day weekends on the “Patrick Ranch Barn Raising” project.

2012 Rebuild Joplin Blitz Build Project:
California Associated General Contractors of America selected the California State University, Chico and their Rebuild Joplin Blitz Build Project to pilot their first Community Service Challenge. The goal of the CSU Chico Student Chapter Joplin Blitz Build Project was to build new homes for 4 families in Joplin, Missouri who were displaced by the May 2011 E-5 tornado — and to do it in 8 days!

2011 Catalyst Transitional Housing Neighborhood for Victims of Domestic Violence:
This was the sixth annual community service project developed, organized and implemented by Construction Management students. This year students completed the second phase of the Catalyst Transitional Housing Neighborhood in Chico, California. The project took 6,828 hours to develop, plan and coordinate and 9,390 hours of work on the site building the remaining two transitional housing units from the ground up in eight days (1300 SF and 840 SF units).
2010 Catalyst Transitional Housing Neighborhood for Victims of Domestic Violence: The project required students to first design and develop a four-unit cottage bungalow transitional housing community for victims of domestic violence in their university’s home town of Chico. The students committed over 16,000 service hours into the project working 18-hour days during the build and raised $30,000 to cover food, tools and other expenses for the project.

2009 “Rebuild Concow” Winter Break Community Service Project: During the summer of 2008, Butte County (where Chico State resides) suffered a devastating fire storm that torched 26,000 acres. This fire threatened the communities of Chico, Paradise, and Oroville but devastated the community of Concow. The project consisted of building and installing 13 temporary storage units on various properties. 20 students planned the project and a total of 75 students help with the construction. There was a week of prefabrication off-site, followed by a week of installation on the home sites. The project took place over the schools Winter Break. Student planning and building amounted to over 4000+ volunteer hours.

2009 Torres Homeless Shelter Building Alterations: 75 students and 2 Faculty Advisors provided interior alterations by constructing three new sleeping rooms; conference/meeting room, storage and office. Students committed over 2,700 volunteer hours.

2008 Response to Hurricane Katrina: Students raised $100,000 to cover the cost of travel, tools, food and other resources needed to rebuild 14 homes in seven days. 115 students participated in the community outreach.

2007 Response to Hurricane Katrina: A team of 56 students were able to move 7 families back into their homes in the ST. Bernard Parish.

2006 Response to Hurricane Katrina: The first group of 26 students participated by removing debris, gutting homes, and working in community centers while taking shelter in abandoned schools and churches.