



THE
SHEPHERD
PROGRAM
— 25 YEARS

POVERTY & INEQUALITY STUDIES

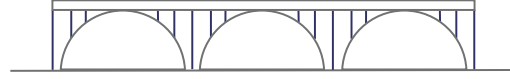
Annual Report 2022-2023

BY THE NUMBERS



76

Volunteer Venture Participants



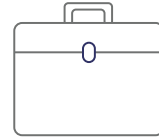
122

Students in the Gateway Course



11,316

Bonner Service Hours



46

Summer Interns



32

Graduated Minors



1,338

*CKWL Backpack
Program Recipients*

The Shepherd Mission

We strive to understand and address poverty and inequality in ways that respect the dignity of every person.

Shepherd is and always has been interdisciplinary, even transdisciplinary. Our world needs the skills and insights our students learn from every corner of campus—from biology, business, cognitive and behavioral science, economics, English, history, law, philosophy, politics, sociology, and more. And our world also needs the skills and insights our students learn beyond the university walls, from their work with local nonprofits and through summer internships all around the world.

What are these skills and insights? Needless to say, I can't list them all in a short letter. I can, however, highlight a few that are too often overlooked.

Empathic attention. People matter. Therefore, everything we do in Shepherd begins and ends with people: with what each of us wants and needs for our lives and loved ones. If we care about how people's lives are actually going, then we will need to pay attention to *stories* as well as *statistics*. Whether reading stats or stories, we should never forget the real people beyond the page.

Clarifying concepts. Disagreement abounds. Is there just as much poverty today as there was fifty years ago? Is America a fundamentally racist nation? Is the gender pay gap an inequity? While some disagree over facts—and therefore need good empirical research into what's going on—others disagree over definitions. What exactly is *poverty*? What does it mean for a country to be *fundamentally racist*? What is *equity* and

what makes something an *inequity*? Before jumping to the conclusion that we are right and they are wrong, we should define, or at least discuss, our terms.

Ethical reasoning. Thoughtful people can and often do disagree. Even those dedicated to dignity can disagree: over an action's effects or a term's meaning, but also over what dignity demands. After all, even those dedicated to the fundamental equality of every person need to recognize that no one can promote everyone's every interest at every moment. What, then, should we do? Maximize total well-being, even if a small minority suffers? Or minimize the burden on the worst-off, even if a majority is unhappy? These questions aren't easy to answer, in theory or practice. And smart, good people can disagree. Whatever else we do, though, we should wrestle with these questions, in conversation with others, including others with whom we disagree. As John Stuart Mill reminds us, those who know only their own side of the case know little of that.

Again, our world needs these skills and insights—among others. Even more so, our world needs *you*. Whatever your major, background, career path, or political perspective, if you have a passion for a fulfilling life and a more just world—a world with real opportunity for all—come join us in Shepherd!



— Howard Pickett

Director of the Shepherd Program

Associate Professor of Ethics and Poverty Studies

ACADEMICS

A Shepherd education is rooted in the rich, innovative teaching of W&L faculty affiliated with the program. Students are encouraged to understand the complex nature of poverty from a host of disciplinary angles. The firsthand accounts below provide a window into that learning from the student perspective. ■



HIST 235 “Historical Memory in Latin America” *By Evan Clark '26*

After taking one class with Professor Romina Green, I knew I had to take another, so I ended up in HIST 235. This class was completely unique to any other history class because we read about how history has been silenced and how our collective memory is facilitated by the state, objects, museums, art, music and trauma sites. As a result, I have grown a newfound attention to how dominating ideologies dictate whose story is remembered and whose are missing in history. We looked specifically at how the working class, indigenous people and those targeted by dictatorships fought the institutional histories from below. As a class, we were able to go on a field trip to the West Virginia Mine Wars Museum and sew arpilleras, which are a traditional woven and colorful patchwork in Chile during the dictatorship. The additional focus on song lyrics and images further taught me the many ways that memory appears in our daily life outside the classroom.

The intersection of human rights and collective identities revealed to me that many of those living in poverty are fighting their own memory battles. Being able to explore the process of retaining and reproducing memories in Latin America gave me the tools to analyze memory in my life and the Rockbridge Area. HIST 235 has molded the Shepherd Experience into one that is attentive to the voices that we might be missing in our collective narrative and understanding practical initiatives to combat the erasure of memory to restore dignity to those of the past, present and future. ■



ENGL 294C “Caribbean Women Responding to Racism” *By Shannon Tozier '25*

This winter I had the opportunity to take ENGL 294C, “Caribbean Women Responding to Racism” with Prof. Chowdhury. I had never taken an English course at W&L, and so I was excited that my introduction to the department could be through a course that aligned with my concern for issues of racial and gender equity. Throughout the course, I was introduced to a side of literature I had never explored before. Far from the European classics like Shakespeare, these tales from Caribbean women were full of romance and drama, but also told powerful and harrowing stories of the impact of colonialism and societal oppression. From Jean Rhys’s “Wide Sargasso Sea” (a Jamaican retelling of Jane Eyre) to Jamaica Kincaid’s “The Autobiography of My Mother”, I was exposed to the experiences of African, Indian, and Indigenous-descended women in the Caribbean.

We had wonderful class discussions about gendering and racialization of emotion, the role of sex in empowerment and the economic stratifications within marginalized groups. As much as it was a literature course, it also allowed me to explore my passions in sociology and poverty as we recognized complex social structures at work in the novels. This course sparked an interest in the Caribbean diaspora and gave me the ability to have more knowledgeable, nuanced discussions in future courses. This was an English class, but it was also a deep analysis of often overlooked areas of inequality and oppression. ■



POV 262

“Poverty, Equity and Empathy”

By Diya Shreenath '24

I took POV 262 with Professor Pickett because I wanted to take more classes within the Shepherd program. After taking POV 101 with Professor Pickett, I learned so much about issues I had never even thought about surrounding affordable housing, mass incarceration and social determinants of health.

I knew that this course with Pickett would help me critically think deeper about social issues revolving around equity and empathy. We spent the semester first discussing equality, equity, and inequities and then moved on to social structures and justice and concluded the course with discussions about empathy. My favorite part about this class was spending the whole semester applying what we learned in group discussions to a particular inequity we felt passionate about changing. My group dove into inequities surrounding equitable education, particularly if gifted programs are equitable. Gifted programs are a highly contested topic in the realm of education. It was interesting to evaluate the ethics behind different policy recommendations to improve how we view gifted education in the world.

At W&L, I am an accounting major with minors in data science and philosophy, however this class has been one of my favorite classes here and one that I find applicable to my future career. Post-graduation I plan to pursue a career in management consulting. This class has helped me appreciate the ethics and moral reasoning behind policy decisions. I hope to encourage management to think about the ethical implications of their decisions as I advise businesses in the future! ■



SOAN 290C

“Producing Culture from the Margins”

By Jalen Todd '25

I decided to take SOAN 290C, “Producing Culture from the Margins,” with Professor Sutton due to my love and appreciation for the Arts. I entered the class yearning for the knowledge of how culture perpetuates social inequities like racism, sexism, ableism and other various intersections of marginality.

In this course, we were tasked with examining the creation and evaluation of cultural objects including music, visual art, literature, film and television in a Western historical context. As we examined these cultural objects as a class and through our own personal studies, we learned how culture was built through the analysis of historical constructions of the “culture industry” in Western civilization by critically reading the literature of many scholars throughout history. Some of these works included W.E.B Dubois’s “Criteria of Negro Art”, excerpts from Pierre Bourdieu’s “Distinction,” and Horkheimer and Adorno’s “The Culture Industry”. These readings helped us gain an understanding of how cultural objects influence the politics of social identity, expression and our own personal lived experiences. The class culminated with a final paper where I critically analyzed Ryan Coogler’s powerful film “Fruitvale Station” and how it was used as a match to ignite the Black Lives Matter movement shortly after its release.

In conclusion, this course opened my eyes to problems I never knew truly existed in the world and showed me that no matter how small we think our influence might be, we all can make an impact to fight against the unjust inequities in our society just like the contemporary scholars and artists we were taught about in this course. With this knowledge, I am now inspired to continue my efforts in the fight against poverty and inequity in my future career. ■

COURSEWORK FOR CREDIT

<i>Course</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Faculty</i>
AFCA 295B	The Art and Politics of Dirty South Rap Music	Hill
ARTH 276	Chicano/a Art and Muralism	Lepage
BIOL 275	Food for Thought	Blythe
BUS 381	Social Entrepreneurship	Hess
CBL 100	Intro to Community-Based Learning	Goluboff
CBL 200	Peer Mentor Training for CBL	Goluboff
ECON 235	Economics of Social Issues	Goldsmith
ECON 2535	Women in the Economy	Shester
ECON 241	Economics of War and Peace	Silwal
ECON 250	Public Finance and Public Policy	Naven
ECON 280	Development Economics	Casey
ECON 286	Lakota Land Culture, Economics and History	Guse
ECON 344	Advanced U.S. Economic History	Shester
EDUC 200	Foundation of Education	Moffa and Sigler
EDUC 235	Educating for Global Citizenship	Moffa and Sigler
ENGL 266	Introduction to African American Literature	Millan
ENGL 294C	Caribbean Women Responding to Racism	Chowdhury
ENGL 376	Postcolonial Literature and Theory	Chowdhury
ENV 203	Environmental Humanities	Fisher
ENV 230	Food and the Environment	Fisher
FILM 253	Field Documentary on Human Rights in Ghana	Sandberg
HIST 235	Historical Memory in Latin America	Green
HIST 259	The History of the African-American People to 1877	Denne
HIST 269G	Borderlands, Empires, and Encounters	Sammons
HIST 275	African Women in Comparative Perspective	Ballah
JOUR 295E	The Framing of Race in Mass Communications	Colón
LIT 295I	The African Child Soldier	Kamara
LJS 295Q	Topics in Law and Legal Studies; Family Law	Belmont
MESA 295	Seeds of Social Change	Al-Ahmad
MESA 295B	Social Justice Arabic Lit, Films, & Thought	Al-Ahmad
PHIL 253	Philosophy of Race	Sun
PHIL262/POV 262	Poverty, Equity, and Empathy	Pickett
PHIL 296D	Philosophy of Capitalism	Zapata
PHIL 296E	Philosophy of Immigration	Lamb
PHIL 346	Medical Ethics	Lamb
POL 232	Public Policy	Harris
POL 247	Latin American Politics	Ponce de Leon
POL 250	Race and Equality	Lester

POL 292A	Police on Film	Lester
POL 294A	Food Policy	Harris
POL 296C	International Political Economy	Lee
POL 342	Seminar: Law the Judicial Process	Harris
POL 380D	Seminar: Immigration Attitudes	Ponce de Leon
POV 101	Poverty: An Interdisciplinary Introduction	Diette and Pickett
POV 102	Field Work in Poverty Studies	Charley and Pickett
POV 192	Blue Ridge Mile Advocate Training	Elrod
POV 193	Blue Ridge Mile Clinic	Elrod
POV 197	Bonner Program	Charley and Elrod
POV 202	Respect, Community & Civic Life	Charley
POV 280	Poverty Law	Shaughnessy
POV 295	Child Abuse and Neglect	Hammond
POV 296A	Justice, Hope & Change	Pickett
POV 423	Poverty: A Research Seminar	Goldsmith and Pickett
POV 491	Senior Seminar: Uncertainty	Eastwood and Pickett
REL 211	Religion and Violence	Filler
REL 222	Law and Religion	Lubin
SOAN 180C	FS: Sociology of Race and Ethnicity	Chin
SOAN 222	Data Science Tools for Social Policy	Eastwood
SOAN 263	Poverty and Marginality in the Americas	Perez
SOAN 265	Exploring Social Networks	Eastwood
SOAN 266	Neighborhoods and Inequality	Eastwood
SOAN 276	Art and Science of Survey Research	Jasiewicz
SOAN 279	Conceptions of Race and Health: Black & White = Gray	Chin
SOAN 290B	Introduction to Criminology	Cataldi
SOAN 290C	Producing Culture from the Margins	Sutton
SOAN 290D	Special Topics in Sociology: What is Power?	Perez
SOAN 290E	(de)Constructing Disability in the US	Sutton
SOAN 290F	Social Inequality in American Cinema	Sutton
SOAN 291E	Special Topics: Archaeology of Inequity	McCarty



“ My involvement with the Shepherd Program is one of my favorite parts of my job. I love learning alongside Shepherd students in my classes. Their curiosity, passion and knowledge (particularly that they bring in from other Shepherd courses) enrich our conversations, making the class better and more enjoyable for all. ”

— *Professor Katie Shester, Economics*

CAPSTONES

Caitlin Barnes '23

Tricky Female Friendships: An Exploration of Judgement's Role in Sula's Representation of Female Friendships

Sarah Beaube '23

Overdoses in Poor and Rural Communities: The Reality of the Opioid Epidemic in the United States

Emily Brookfield '23*

The Hierarchical Perception and Denigration of Animals in Early Modern English Drama

Christina Cavallo '23*

Making Movement Meaningful: A Case for Energy-Creating Exercise Equipment

Finn Connor '23*

Project Horizon: Manual for Working Effectively with LGBTQ+ Clients

Emma Conover '24

Decolonize the Soil: Case Studies in the Restoration of Traditional Ecological Knowledge

Tyrese del Casal '23*

The Moral Community of Indigent Defense: Chief Public Defender Appointment Process and Standards of Representation

Kate Dewing '23

Poverty Porn: How Media Depictions of Poverty Threaten Human Dignity

Gabby Emge '23

Decarceration: A Promising Approach to Closing the Educational Attainment Gap

Jillian Gallardo '23

Wonderings of a Fake-ipino: Essays on Food, Identity, my Parents, my Parents' Parents, and so on

Kamryn Godsey '23*

Why the Prince Switched Places with the Pauper: An Evaluation of Proximity to Poverty as a Social Status

Brianna Hatch '23

Ambiguous at best, discriminatory at worst: College involuntary leave policies strip disabled students of agency and opportunity

Alexxis Hatfield '23*

Rockbridge Area Prevention Services: Emotional Literacy for Pre-School Students

Katherine Ho '23*

It's All About Balance: Examining the Factors that Drive a Firm's Integrated Social Performance

Maggie Johnston '23

Analysis of Women's Reproductive Health Care and Prenatal Care in Rural Virginia

Katie Klingler '23

Gentrification in the Inner City: Theory, Implications, and Washington D.C

Kit Lombard '23*

"My Motherland": Efforts and Obstacles of Russian Adoptees Reestablishing Ties to Their Birthplace

Elisabeth Matthews '23

Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Against Refugee Women: Finding Solutions Based on Women's Perceptions

Tanjia Moya-Green '23*

Investigating Group Threat's Role in the Relationship Between Attitudes Towards Black People and State-Level Punitiveness

Mary-Kathryn Murphy '23*

Exploring the Impact of Neighborhood Safety and Accessibility on Access to Cultural Capital

Posi Oluwakuyide '24

Investigating the Roots of Mass Incarceration: A Critical Analysis

Bryson Parker '23

Racial Inequities in Opioid Use Disorder Treatment

Ellie Penner '23*

Aesthetics of Independence: Life of Buddha paintings in the Ladakh Budh Vihar

Hannah Puckett '23*

Woods Creek Montessori: Needs Assessment for Rockbridge County Childcare

Alex Qian '23*

Post-Apocalyptic Hope: Persistent Change in Octavia Butler's Parable of the Sower

Blake Sanchez '23

Revolutionizing SUD Recovery: The Crucial Role of Nutrition in Breaking the Cycle of Poverty and Substance Abuse

Mimi Sherrill '23*

The Reality of Food in Schools

Jonah Sohn '23

Vanishing into Society: The Harsh Reality of Living without an ID

Alessandra Stankewich '23*

Exploring Geographic Dimensions of Poverty and Urbanity of Environmental Health Risk Factors

Jessica Sorensen '23L

The True Cost of a Ticket

Matthew Todd '23

Execution Workers: Mental Health Policy Recommendations

Ashley True '23*

Examining the Effectiveness of Preschool Program Interventions on Long-term

Katie Yurechko '24

Marginalization through Content Moderation: An Interdisciplinary Analysis of the Silencing of Marginalized Voices on Social Media

Community Voices

By Kelsey Goodwin



Course instructor Marisa Charley and the city's youth program director, Tammy Dunn

Students in Professor Marisa Charley's POV102 course helped local elementary school children tell stories this fall through photovoice research.

Marisa Charley, an instructor of poverty studies and associate director of the Shepherd Program at Washington and Lee University, coordinated a unique research project in the local community last semester. Charley and a group of undergraduate students from her Fall Term course partnered with the Lexington City Office on Youth (LCOOY) to offer participants in an afterschool program an opportunity to take part in a photovoice project that elicited their responses to the world around them.

Photovoice is a research method that uses photography as a tool for collecting and analyzing qualitative data in the social sciences. It was first developed in the 1990s to give voice to marginalized communities, who are often the subjects of research, but have limited opportunities to express their own perspectives.

For this project, six W&L students enrolled in POV102, an introductory course in the Shepherd Program, to work with eight local elementary school students who were regular participants in LCOOY's afterschool program. Along with the course instructor, Charley, and the city's youth program director, Tammy Dunn, the group engaged in an exploration of how the design of public, physical spaces can impact how welcome and included youth community members felt in the public spaces they encounter in their day-to-day lives.

"Tammy Dunn played such an essential role in the success of the project," Charley said. "Her ability to help us connect in more authentic ways with the kids, and willingness to offer logistical support to help the project feel like a win for everyone involved, was invaluable. She is unceasingly

generous with her time and talents and constantly finds new ways to show so many of us what it is to love others well."

The POV102 course is often tied directly to a topic relevant to a community partner. Charley rooted the Fall 2022 course partnership with LCOOY in an exploration of respectful and responsible community-engaged work through concepts of physical design. Students were asked to examine the ways special design can promote opportunity for some, but not others, and how civic health can be promoted through the design of outdoor, public spaces.

In photovoice research, participants are given cameras or smartphones and asked to take pictures that reflect their experiences, thoughts and feelings about issues or questions. They then come together to discuss and share their photographs, and researchers use these images as a starting point for further inquiry. The group gathered to share their photos at the Lexington Office on Youth on Nov. 14 and reflect on their time with Charley's class.

"What resulted was a series of conversations and practices that were thoughtful, eye-opening and sometimes very, very silly," Charley said. "The images and reflections that were produced as part of this project are the result of the interest and support of many friends and neighbors, and they provided the opportunity to engage in the experiences, stories and senses of an incredible group of youth participants."

Sion Jang '23, a math major and education minor, said that working on the project made her reflect on her aspirations as a future educator.

"The children were so thoughtful and observant in their reflections," she said. "It was truly inspiring." ■

VOLUNTEER VENTURE

Volunteer Venture (VV) is a service-learning Leading Edge program for incoming students. Sponsored by the Shepherd Program, VV allows participants to build meaningful relationships and explore issues related to poverty, injustice and opportunity through service with community-based agencies, guest speakers and group discussions related to a thematic issue. Topics for the 2022 experience included food and housing insecurity, law and justice, and the social determinants of health. ■

6 Trips | 6 Cities | 26 Peer Leaders | 76 First-Year Participants



The VV Baltimore Law and Justice trip served at Paul's Place, a facility that provides support services. Participants had the opportunity to see how choice and autonomy are prioritized in the agency's client services.

Service.

“ The most valuable aspect of my VV experience was being able to visit local service sites. I was able to learn so much about how they operate and how much of an impact these people make. I also was inspired by how selfless the volunteers are to engage in this field of work. ”

— VV 2022 Trip Participant



Roger Hart '26 volunteers in the City Blossoms Garden at the Girard Children's Community Center in the Columbia Heights neighborhood of D.C.

Learning.

“ The most valuable aspect of my VV experience was the discussions that our group had following our service projects. Hearing different perspectives about our common experience was very interesting and meaningful. Also, I enjoyed our conversations with alumni who demonstrated how their work at W&L and with the Shepherd Program manifested into careers relating to food and housing insecurity. ”

— VV 2022 Trip Participant



Leader Ben Hess '23 and VV Food and Housing Insecurity trip participants pack desserts for community members at Manna Meal in Charleston, WV.

Community.

“ I loved my leaders and the perspectives they were able to bring that I otherwise would not have considered. They also did a fantastic job facilitating discussions and making everyone feel that their opinions matter. ”

— VV 2022 Trip Participant

BONNER

W&L's Bonner Program is an initiative of the Corella and Bertram F. Bonner Foundation and the Shepherd Program. Bonner Scholars are committed to working alongside communities to develop as professional and civic leaders, foster relationships, cultivate community, and work to create increasingly compassionate systems.

Bonniers serve in internship-style community partnerships for 8-10 hours per week throughout their time as a student, and complete at least one summer of service. In addition to the professional development offered by these opportunities, students participate in a credit-bearing academic developmental model that is rooted in the poverty and inequality studies curriculum of The Shepherd Program. Critical and creative reflection, paired with trans-disciplinary approaches to complex social issues, creates a rich landscape for exploring the problems associated with poverty and inequality, and for developing a purposeful civic life. ■



Lindsey Pérez meets with first-year Bonner students to share volunteer opportunities at RARA.

Community Impact.

“ We love working with Bonners because they truly become a part of RARA during their time in school. Their passion, new ideas, and eagerness to learn can make a big impact! ”

— **Lindsey Pérez,**
Executive Director
Rockbridge Area Relief Association

Bonner Programming.

“ The Bonner experience at W&L has allowed me to develop bonds between my community and peers that have been an integral part of my transition into college. Throughout my first year as a Bonner Scholar, I have been able to explore my interdisciplinary academic and personal passions as I have connected with a variety of community partners. This summer, I served eight weeks as a counselor at the Sensory-Friendly Theatre Arts and Recreation (STAR) camp in Lexington. The most enriching part of my experience with STAR camp was developing meaningful relationships with the children in the program and observing their growth. This experience, made possible because of the Bonner Program, gave me a greater understanding of the importance of making programs for children with neurodivergence accessible to communities. I look forward to continuing my work with my community partners this upcoming year and beyond as I explore my interests. ”



— **Kat Repka '26**

STAR camp Bonner interns were Daniel Reiter '26, Kat Repka '26, and Parker Sparks '25.

Bonner Milestones.

Last October, the Shepherd Program hosted a reception to mark the 20th anniversary of the founding of W&L's Bonner Program. Bobby Hackett, president of the Corella and Bertram F. Bonner Foundation, and Howard Pickett, director of the Shepherd Program, gave remarks to honor the occasion after an introduction from Bonner Program director Marisa Charley.

Students, faculty, staff and alumni gather to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the Bonner Program at W&L.



CAMPUS KITCHEN

The mission of The Campus Kitchen at Washington and Lee (CKWL) is to strengthen bodies, empower minds, and build communities through food. Student leaders coordinate food preparation and delivery logistics, attend events and discussions, and work with staff to facilitate financial stewardship and development for the organization. ■



Strengthening Bodies.

At CKWL, we promote nutrition and address the issues of food waste and food insecurity in Lexington and Rockbridge County. We work towards this by transforming food that would otherwise go to waste into balanced meals for low-income members of the community as well as collaborating with community organizations to provide groceries through our Mobile Food Pantry, Backpack and Produce Delivery Programs.

Meals Delivered: 12,141

Nutrition Education Instructional Hours: 2,072 hours

Lbs to MFP and Produce Programs: 36,396

Backpacks: 42,692

CKWL Leadership Team members Joyce Yoo '26 and Kiera Stankewich '25 prepare food at a CKWL cooking shift

Building Community.

We collaborate with other student organizations at W&L and the wider Rockbridge County in joint events around relevant topics to the food system. During students' time with CKWL, they develop meaningful relationships with clients that go beyond service. Our students learn to think critically about the variety of ways that they can have a lasting impact within our community by supporting existing organizations and projects.

Volunteer Hours: 3,434

#HungerFighters Cohort Members: 16

Campus Kitchen Leadership Team Members: 52

CKWL Leadership Team member Austin Winslow '26 serves soup at CKWL's annual Souperbowl fundraiser

Empowering Minds: Just Food.

This year, the Campus Kitchen planned and executed an exciting new event series looking at the way that food systems interact with issues of justice. This series, titled Just Food, featured discussions of the interaction between food and the carceral system. The Campus Kitchen develops student understanding of the context in which food insecurity and food waste arise, and this public event series engaged participants beyond the Campus Kitchen Leadership Team. By cultivating an understanding of the broader system in which food insecurity persists, the Campus Kitchen fosters students' abilities to identify the root of the issues they are passionate about addressing, and encourages them to think beyond the meals they provide to the ways in which we can all work to ensure equitable access to food in the future.

Total Unique Event Attendees: 213

Average Event Attendance: 50 people



BLUE RIDGE MILE

The Blue Ridge Mile (BRM) started in 2021 as a partnership between Buena Vista District Court Judge Robin Mayer, President and CEO of Drive to Work Sara Wilson, and the Shepherd Program. BRM expanded its role both inside and outside of the courtroom throughout AY '22-23 and now operates a student organization, a research and policy group, and an improved service program.

Blue Ridge Mile service operations commenced with 11 advocates in Fall '22. With a new and improved 1-credit training course, advocates felt more prepared to begin their in-court service work in Winter '23. Blue Ridge Mile, originally operating in-person in Buena Vista and remotely in Staunton, expanded in-person services to Lexington/Rockbridge and remote services to Waynesboro. Blue Ridge Mile not only doubled its geographic coverage, but successfully increased client caseload by over 100%. ■

Clinic.

The Blue Ridge Mile clinic expanded its partnerships with ESOL, Project Horizon and 50 Ways Rockbridge in service to non-US clients seeking Virginia Driver Privilege Cards. Additionally, the BRM Clinic was recognized by the Omicron Delta Kappa (ODK) James G. Leyburn Award, given to a university or local organization that demonstrates outstanding community service.



Blue Ridge Mile guest speaker, Jesse Crosson. He has over a million followers on his social media account @second_chancer434.

Research & Policy.

The BRM Policy and Research team also initiated operations this year, meeting with partners across Virginia to develop research projects and strategies. Beginning in Fall '23, BRM researchers will begin tracking funding for law libraries on behalf of the Lynchburg Legal Archives. BRM will also perform research for Drive to Work (DTW), a non-profit law firm supervising and consulting on BRM operations.



Student Organization.

Blue Ridge Mile successfully launched its student organization this year. The group's events included viewing an unreleased documentary made by the American Civil Liberties Union on the Virginia prison system and meeting with prison reform and re-entry advocate Jesse Crosson. The Blue Ridge Mile student organization serves as the only undergraduate student organization specifically focused on equity in the criminal justice system.



Blue Ridge Mile advocates and advisor

NABORS SERVICE LEAGUE

The Nabors Service League, in collaboration with community-based agencies, connects students with opportunities to learn, serve and reflect on issues of poverty and justice. The student leadership team is comprised of four committees: Local Service, Educational Programming, Alternative Breaks and Good Nabors Mentorship. The Good Nabors program provides a first-year cohort of students a structure for community engagement, reflection and learning. ■

Tech Equity.

NSL's educational series focused on tech equity, featuring Katie Yurechko '24, whose academic interests shaped this year's focus, and Shepherd alumni Anjelica Hendricks '15L, Sejal Mistry '17, Jamila Seaton '09, and Alvin Thomas '14. The series was designed to spark enthusiasm within the Washington and Lee community about the power of technology to shape society into a more (in)equitable space.



First-year students attended and engaged in NSL's educational programming.



NSL student Elizabeth Sjovold '24 power washes wheelchairs at a service site, MedShare, in Atlanta.

Community Engagement.

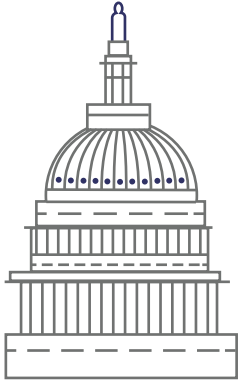
This year, NSL hosted three Nabors Service Days, connecting W&L students with opportunities at agencies in the greater Rockbridge community. Alternative break trips also returned this year, creating opportunities for students to engage issues of food and housing insecurity in the Rockbridge community over the fall Reading Days and to learn about and work to address issues of public health in Atlanta, GA.

Good Nabors.

Through the Good Nabors program, NSL offers the opportunity for first-year students to intentionally commit to service in the Rockbridge community and learn and reflect on critical issues related to poverty and inequality with peers and peer mentors.



Members of the Good Nabors cohort volunteered together at a Campus Kitchen backpack packing shift.



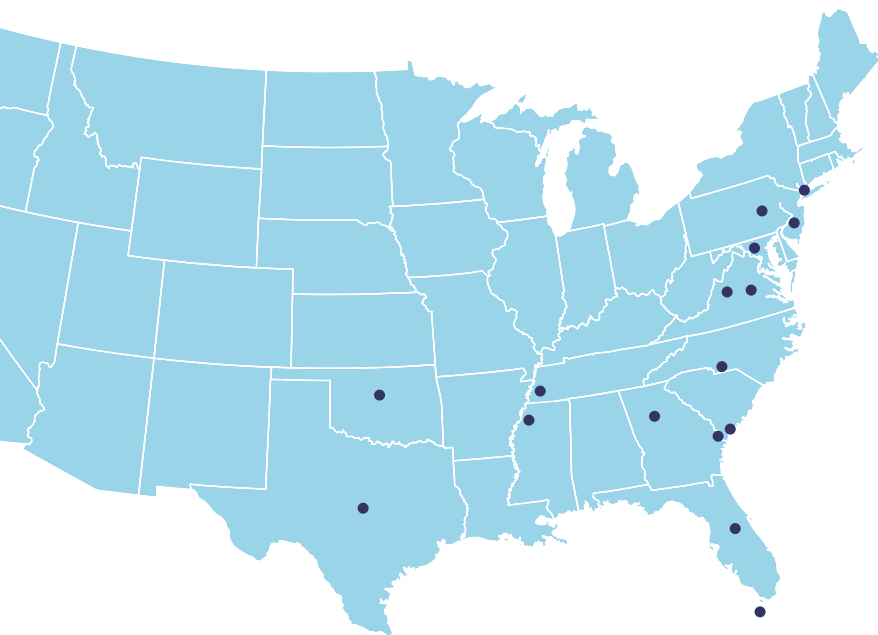
D.C. *Shepherd Careers Trip.*

The Shepherd Program hosts an annual trip to Washington D.C. for students to meet Shepherd alumni and learn from their career experience. The 2023 trip featured visits with Charles Allen '99, Erin Ferber '18, Elizabeth Mugo '19, Shiri Yadlin '12, Elspeth Suber '21, Cynthia Cheatham '07, and Rebecca Beeson Etzel '10. ■

Touring the Wilson Building with DC Councilmember Charles Allen '99



Students and alumni met over a career panel at Mathematica, Inc.



SHEPHERD INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Number of participants: 46

We provide opportunities for students to understand the causes and consequences of poverty and inequality in ways that respect the humanity of all people through eight-week summer internships. While students approach the experience with an eye toward professional development, it is equally important for them to understand that important lessons are learned outside the internship experience and will come in ways they least expect.

Shepherd internships are located in various urban and rural sites in the United States and globally, with a focus on education, health care, legal services, housing, hunger, social and economic needs, and community-building efforts.

Many W&L students intern through the Shepherd Higher Education Consortium on Poverty (SHECP). Additionally, students support organization in the Lexington area, participate in international internship programs, and propose their own internships in communities all over the United States. ■

Mason Davis '24

My placement was in Cusco, Peru where I worked as a medical aid in a local hospital. I not only used skills from my EMT training to assist nurses and doctors, but also had the opportunities to talk many patients, helping them with translating, explaining medical procedures, or simply providing a little comfort in a busy place. I was living with a host family while taking Spanish lessons, allowing me to experience a truly immersive introduction into Peruvian culture.

One of the most touching highlights was the emotional hugs we got from one Israeli patient, severely injured in a car accident many months prior. Being able to encourage her to look forward, hold her hand, translate when she needed updates from doctors, and watch her leave for her home to complete her healing was amazing. The returns of caring for others in stressful environments like a hospital in a foreign country, a country with limited medical resources no less, make a difference. Helping people find hope is powerful and it returns a sense of beauty about humanity. Interestingly enough, my work at the

hospital while eye-opening and inspiring was not the best part about my experience. It was traveling the country with friends from around the world that truly put this experience in context. Specifically, adventuring not only outside of my own country but also adventuring outside of the comfort of the known city streets of Cusco, into the countryside. One particular experience sticks out. For 5 days, we woke up at 4 am, hiked between 16-18 miles, and traveled across terrain between 8,000 feet and 15,000 feet in elevation. We stopped at many local villages, made coffee from beans harvested along the trails, visited Incan ruins and ancient potato farms, and enjoyed amazing Peruvian food. It was pure, raw, and one of the most demanding physical tests I have ever had. But it also opened a window into the beauty of a country, beyond the confines of a hospital and tourist stops. While I hope I was able to make an impact during my short time at the hospital, the country, my host family, my friends, the people I worked with and the patients I worked around gave me a

sense of connectedness. They helped make my work seem so much more important than a volunteer experience. Sure, this internship allowed me to work in a medical setting which is what I was seeking, but it surprised me. It broadened my world view. I made connections to people from around the world who were traveling through Peru. These interactions have now begun to shift my focus away from traditional paths to medicine in the United States and towards opportunities in public health or international nursing. While the 240 clinical hours I acquired definitely help in applying to graduate programs in healthcare, it was the impact Peru and the people of the world made on my life that are going to have the biggest impact on my future. ■



Lauren Hollis '24

My SHECP internship with the Camden Coalition in Camden, New Jersey was hugely impactful and exposed me to more than I knew existed in the realm of public health prior to this summer. They keep their mission rather short and sweet: to improve the well-being of individuals with complex needs. But they have seemingly countless ways by which they endeavor to achieve that lofty goal. Among these many programs is Pledge to Connect, the team I was assigned to for eight exciting weeks. Essentially, we connect patients who go into the ER with low-acuity mental health drivers to outpatient care since

the ER is not set up to facilitate such connections, and without our follow-up, they would unfortunately be left exactly where they started after their ER visit. Courses in poverty studies on the various struggles that people may face and discussions on the just allocation of resources in medical ethics class have led to a build-up of textbook knowledge on “what” it might be like to work in an under-resourced community. However, actual experience is what brings out the “why” and “how” of it all. Being a part of the team helping people overcome the odds piled against them and fighting to remove those barriers

on a systemic level inspires me to push through the courses ahead of me and to a career continuing their good work. This internship has exposed the world of public health in a way that no reading ever could. The passion of people in the field and the challenges posed by the work they do is both overwhelming in themselves and overwhelmingly inspiring to me. ■



Jeniffer Ventura '25

My SHECP internship with the REAL LIFE program was great. I learned so much about myself and others. The program's mission is to serve individuals who have been impacted by incarceration, homelessness, or substance use disorder by giving them an opportunity to overcome the personal and community barriers that hinder their pathway to a thriving life. As I worked there I had many roles to complete. I assisted program members by creating resumes, helping program

members search and apply for jobs, interviewing members for webpage blogs, researching topics for the module, and creating presentations for career development. My favorite part of the job was conducting interviews with program members. Every single individual had different backgrounds and situations, but they wanted to change and become better versions of themselves. I learned that it is important to treat people with dignity and most importantly to not treat people for the worst thing that they have

done. I know now that I am definitely interested in working to help people. I also learned that I am the type of person that works best with people. I liked being able to connect with the people in the program. Because of this internship, I am more interested in rehabilitation after prison. ■



Ryan Schwartz '25

The Diversion Hub is a nonprofit in Oklahoma City that aims to decrease the number of people involved in the criminal justice system. Oklahoma has one of the highest incarceration rates per capita in the U.S. as well as the world. Many people working in the criminal justice system saw that change was needed, and through the help of politicians, voters, and lawyers, the Diversion Hub was founded in June of 2020. The three main parts of this program are justice navigators, case

managers, and on-site partners. This experience is important to me because this is one of the most underserved communities in Oklahoma and the country. Coming into this internship, I did not think that I wanted to work in the nonprofit sector, and although I love my time here and am very passionate about this line of work, I think that I would still like to pursue a career in the health profession. Working at the Diversion Hub, we see so many people who walk in with different health

problems, such as bad teeth, people with bad vision, and those who cannot afford their medications. I would love to help the underserved population in some way, whether that is a full-time profession or taking my free time to assist in clinics. ■



2022 INTERNSHIPS

<i>Student</i>	<i>Internship Partner</i>	<i>Location</i>
Mohammed Dyaa Albotabeekh	Cabbage Patch Settlement House*	Louisville, KY
Kristina Ayers	So Others May Eat, Inc.*	Washington, DC
Christian Basnight	Higher Purpose Co.*	Clarksdale, MS
Eric Bazile	Austin Chamber of Commerce*	Austin, TX
Georgia Bernbaum	Holocaust Memorial Resource & Education Center of Florida	Maitland, FL
Lawson Brantley	Rockbridge Area Relief Association and Blue Ridge Mile	Lexington, VA
Lela Casey	Campus Kitchen at Washington and Lee	Lexington, VA
Cydney Clark	Defender Association of Philadelphia	Philadelphia, PA
Mason Davis	United Planet, Health Clinic	Peru
Kate Dewing	Project Horizon	Lexington, VA
Allie Doyle	Austin Chamber of Commerce*	Austin, TX
Jillian Gallardo	Community Foundation of Ireland	Ireland
Natalie Gresham	Food As Medicine, Grady Health Foundation*	Atlanta, GA
Drew Harrell	Richmond Public Defender's Office*	Richmond, VA
Kelly Hayes	Campus Kitchen at Washington and Lee	Lexington, VA
Lauren Hollis	Camden Coalition of Healthcare Providers*	Camden, NJ
Jana Hulsey	Office of the Public Defender Brunswick Judicial Circuit*	Brunswick, GA
Maggie Johnston	Academic Programs International API	Spain
Colleen Karlovich	Blue Ridge Legal Services	Lexington, VA
Avani Kashyap	Camden Coalition of Healthcare Providers*	Camden, NJ
Brynn Martinson	Matthews Free Medical Clinic	Matthews, NC
Elisabeth Matthews	Brightside Child & Family Advocacy*	Savannah, GA
Barbara Merryman	Law Office of the Shelby County Public Defender	Memphis, TN
Elise Molinaro	Forsyth Farmers Market*	Savannah, GA
Andrew Morse	Rockbridge Area YMCA	Lexington, VA
Tanjia Moye-Green	Chainless Change	Sunrise, FL
Jessica Pachuca	YWCA Greater Austin*	Austin, TX
Jordynn Palethorpe	Rockbridge Area Relief Association	Lexington, VA
Jackson Parker	Rockbridge Area Relief Association	Lexington, VA
Cameron Perales	Federal Public Defender- Eastern District of Virginia	VA
Derek Qu	Rockbridge Area Transportation Services and Rockbridge Area YMCA	Lexington, VA
Amanda Romano	Susquehanna Legal Aid and Education for Adults and Youths*	Shamokin, PA
Ryan Schwartz	Inasmuch Foundation Community Fellowship	Oklahoma City, OK
Kamron Spivey	Habitat for Humanity	Lexington, VA
Kiera Stankewich	New Roots, Inc.*	Louisville, KY
Gretta Syrett	Tharros Place*	Savannah, GA
Julia Thomson	Bowery Residence Center*	New York, NY

Internships Continued...

Jalen Todd	Life Pieces to Masterpieces*	Washington, DC
Shannon Tozier	Park Place Outreach*	Savannah, GA
Liv Ullman	Good Samaritan Health Center*	Atlanta, GA
Allyssa Utecht	Deep Well Project	Hilton Head Island, SC
Jeniffer Ventura	Real Life Program*	Richmond, VA
Michael Wang	Campus Kitchen at Washington and Lee	Lexington, VA
Ava Wilkes	Campus Kitchen at Washington and Lee	Lexington, VA
Kierstyn Wise	Boxerwood Education Association	Lexington, VA
Sofia Zarazua	New American Pathways*	Atlanta, GA

**Indicates SHECP Internship*

SOCIAL IMPACT CAREERS SUMMIT

The Social Impact Careers Summit, held in November, featured four alumni panels: Medicine and the Social Determinants of Health; From Humanities Major to Social Impact Career; Environment, Law, and Public Policy; and Designing for Access and Equity. The summit also featured opportunities for personal connection between students and alumni. ■



Alvin Thomas '14 discusses public health with students during the industry specific networking session.



Norman Kim-Senior '05 meets with Shepherd student Maddy Hayes '26



Kamryn Godsey '23 and Howard Pickett moderate the Designing for Access and Equity panel, featuring Cynthia Cheatham '07, Charles Allen '99, and Leah Gose '15.

mentorship programs

SHEPHERD ALUMNI MENTORS

Shepherd is—and always has been— special because of the people involved! The connections and community here are invaluable to what we do and why we do it. In the Shepherd Alumni Mentor Program, our goal is to make and maintain meaningful connections that provide encouragement, advice, opportunities, and enjoyment, especially during life’s transitions from college to career, from one career to another, and beyond. The program creates a supportive community of alumni and community partners with a shared interest in living out the Shepherd mission through their professional and civic lives. ■

Shepherd Alumni Mentors

Shepherd Graduates

Emmanuel Abebrese '15	Maggie Johnston
Duke Cancelmo '80	Katherine Ho
Kate Corr '09	Grace Donahue
Bethlehem Dammlash '06	Ashley True
Leah Gose '15	Megan Kanaby
Mason Grist '18	Ashlyn Doane
Anjelica Hendricks '15L	Tanjia Moye-Green
Tran Kim-Senior '05	Alexxis Hatfield
Lacy McAlister King '14	Mary Katherine Murphy
Melissa Caron Medeiros '09	Blake Sanchez
Sejal Mistry '17	Allie Stankewich
John Nolan '70	Kit Lombard, Matthew Todd
Maisie Osteen '14L	Ty del Casal
Alex Prather '14	Jensen Rocha
Jo Simeu '20	Jillian Gallardo
Sonia Siu '07	Caitlin Barnes
Stacy McLoughlin Taylor '02	Kamryn Godsey
Chris Washnock '12	Emily Brookfield
Morten Wendelbo '12	Elisabeth Matthews, Ellie Penner
Jonathan Wortham '04	Diana Rodriguez
Shiri Yadlin '12	Hannah Puckett



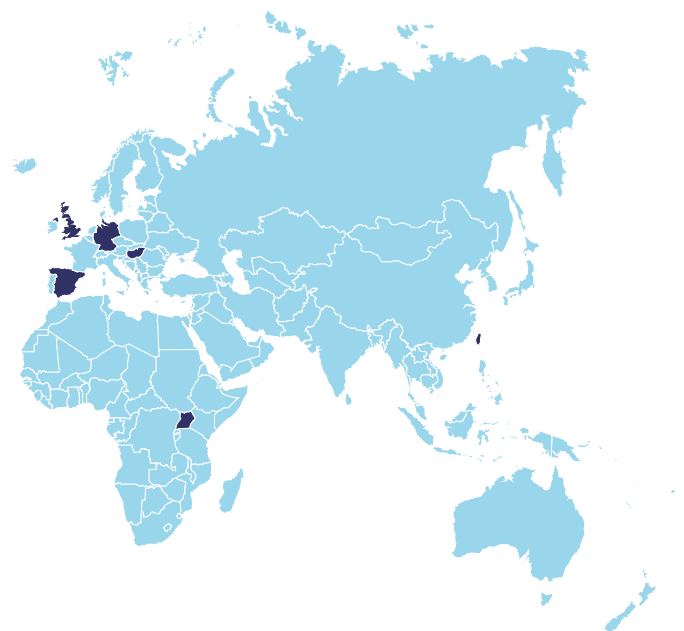
The Shepherd team and graduates pose in front of our Mattingly home.



Campus Kitchen leaders in a group hug with coordinator Ryan Brink '18.

COMMENCEMENT

The Shepherd Program hosted a commencement breakfast to celebrate our program's 2023 graduates. Five Shepherd graduates and a young alumna were awarded the Fulbright Awards: Finn Connor '23 (Germany), Maggie Hawley '23 (Spain), Kamryn Godsey '23 (Taiwan), Allie Stankewich '23 (Uganda), Tanajia Moye-Green '23 (United Kingdom), and Annie Talton '21 (Hungary). ■



SHEPHERD CORE MEMBERS



Tim Diette

Interim Director of the Shepherd Program 2023-2024
Executive Director of the Shepherd Higher Education Consortium on Poverty; Professor of Economics



Melina Bell

Professor of Philosophy and Law



Ryan Brink

Campus Kitchen Coordinator
Assistant Director, Shepherd



Marisa Charley

Associate Director
Bonner Program Director
Instructor of Poverty Studies



Jenny Davidson

Associate Director
Instructor of Poverty Studies



Jon Eastwood

Professor of Sociology;
Sociology & Anthropology
Department Chair



Fran Elrod

Associate Director
Instructor of Poverty Studies



Art Goldsmith

Jackson T. Stephens Professor of Economics



J.D. King

Clinical Professor of Law
Director of Experiential Education
Director of Criminal Justice Clinic



Molly Michelmore

Professor of History
History Department Head



Karla Murdock

Director of the Mudd Center for Ethics
Jo M. and James M. Ballengee
Professor of Cognitive & Behavioral Science



Marcos Perez

Assistant Professor of Sociology



Howard Pickett

Associate Professor of Ethics
and Poverty Studies



Katie Shester

Professor of Economics



Alexander C. Sutton

DeLaney Postdoctoral Fellow



Erin Taylor

Associate Professor of Philosophy



Shaun Shaughnessy

Roger D. Groot Professor of Law, Emerita

*Congratulations to Professor Shaughnessy
on her retirement!*

ADVISORY BOARD

Emmanuel Abebrese '15
Green Bay, WI

Charles Allen '99
Washington, D.C.

Cynthia Cheatham '07
Washington, D.C.

Bethlehem Dammlash '06
Washington, D.C.

George Foote '71
Alexandria, VA

Leah Gose '15
Cambridge, MA

Mason Grist '18
Austin, TX

Anjelica Hendricks '15L
Philadelphia, PA

Norman Kim-Senior '05
Alexandria, VA

Tran Kim-Senior '05
Alexandria, VA

Melissa Medeiros '09
Washington, DC

Elizabeth Mugo '19
Washington, D.C.

Jamila Seaton '09
Green Bay, WI

Kerriann Shabanowitz '13 '16L
Burke, VA

Sonia Siu '07, Chair
Boston, MA

Alvin Thomas '14
St. Louis, MO

Christopher Washnock '12
New York, NY

Morten Wendelbo '12
Denmark

Jonathan Wortham '04,
Immediate Past Chair
Atlanta, GA

Shiri Yadlin '12
Washington, D.C.



The Shepherd Advisory Board met and advised current students during their annual meeting on campus. Pictured is SAB Chair Sonia Siu '07 speaking with students during the Social Impact Careers Summit.



Drew Harrell '24 presents learning from his Shepherd Internship at the Richmond Public Defender's Office.



The Mattingly Living Room is a second home for seniors Emily Brookfield, Ben Hess, J.C. Ward and Hannah Puckett.



Shepherd students Jess Pacchua '25, Alina de Zoysa '25, and P Barnes '25 march in the local MLK Day parade.



Volunteer Venture student leaders reflect with Professor Howard Pickett on the goals of the program.



Professor Tim Diette teaches POV 101 students.



Students and alumni sang and ate cake to celebrate 25 years of the Shepherd Program during the Social Impact Careers Summit reception.