



# THE GOOD NEIGHBOR BLUEPRINT

ENVISIONING AND IMPLEMENTING BELONGING AND  
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AT BERRY COLLEGE



Office of Belonging and  
Community Engagement



## BERRY COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT

*WE EDUCATE THE HEAD, HEART, AND HANDS –  
TO INSPIRE LEADERS OF INTEGRITY WHO CULTIVATE  
THRIVING COMMUNITIES.*

COMBINING ACADEMIC EXPLORATION WITH MEANINGFUL WORK RESPONSIBILITIES IN A RESIDENTIAL SETTING, OUR APPROACH EMPHASIZES FIRSTHAND EXPERIENCES AND MENTORING. WE INVEST IN THE PERSONAL GROWTH AND PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION OF TALENTED STUDENTS FROM VARIED BACKGROUNDS, WITH AN ENDURING COMMITMENT TO HELP THOSE HINDERED BY FINANCIAL NEED. GUIDED BY CHRISTIAN PRINCIPLES, WE VALUE THE DIGNITY OF INDIVIDUALS, THE SEARCH FOR TRUTH TEMPERED WITH GRACE, AND THE WELL-BEING OF OUR NEIGHBORS.

# OUR GOOD NEIGHBOR STORY

BERRY COLLEGE WAS FOUNDED ON A GOOD NEIGHBOR CULTURE. OUR FOUNDER, MARTHA BERRY WAS TROUBLED BY HER NEIGHBORS' SOCIOECONOMIC CHALLENGES. SHE EMPOWERED THEM TO CHANGE THEIR FUTURES BY BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS AND, ULTIMATELY, A SCHOOL WITH THEM.

THE BERRY COMMUNITY CONTINUES TO CARRY THE HEART OF GOOD NEIGHBOR CULTURE AND IS CONTINUALLY EVOLVING IN OUR UNDERSTANDING OF HOW WE VALUE, TREAT, AND SERVE OUR NEIGHBORS. WE DRAW FROM OUR INSTITUTIONAL VALUES, VIRTUES, AND OTHER RESTORATIVE PRACTICES TO PRIORITIZE THE EDUCATION OF THE HEART AS MUCH AS THE HEAD AND HANDS.



# WHAT'S THE VISION?

IMAGINE THE DIFFERENCE IF EVERY PERSON AT BERRY COLLEGE CARED ABOUT BEING A GOOD NEIGHBOR AND WORKED ON THE **SAME** PAGE TOWARD THE **SAME** END.

WE EXPERIENCE

**BELOVED  
COMMUNITY**

"A COMMUNITY IN WHICH  
EVERYONE IS CARED FOR, ABSENT  
OF POVERTY, HUNGER, AND HATE"

Source: The King Center



# GOOD NEIGHBOR PILLARS

## COLLABORATION

APPRECIATES THAT SUSTAINABLE IMPACT IN A COMMUNITY SHOULD BE DONE IN COLLABORATION WITH RATHER THAN UNTO THE COMMUNITY

## SERVICE

VALUES SERVICE AND CARING FOR THE NEEDS OF OTHERS ABOVE SELF

## INCLUSIVITY

CONSIDERS, INCLUDES, AND EMPOWERS THOSE IN THE MARGINS

## DIVERSITY

BELIEVES THAT A RICH VARIETY OF VOICES, IDEAS, AND EXPERIENCES MAKES BERRY A DYNAMIC PLACE TO LIVE AND LEARN AND PREPARES STUDENTS FOR GLOBAL CONTEXTS

## UNDERSTANDING

APPROACHES AND LEARNS FROM CONFLICTING PERSPECTIVES BY REACHING OUT TO OUR NEIGHBORS WITH PATIENCE, HUMILITY, AND GENEROSITY OF SPIRIT

## RESTORATION

RECOGNIZES THAT RELATIONAL RESTORATION BEGINS WHEN THE COMMUNITY ADMITS ITS IMPERFECTIONS AND PROBLEMS

## SOLIDARITY

UNDERSTANDS THAT LIFE IS BEST LIVED IN RELATIONSHIPS AND THAT WE ARE STRONGER WHEN WE ARE AN ACTIVE PART OF OUR COMMUNITY

## CULTIVATION

LEAVES PLACES BETTER THAN WE FOUND THEM

# BIG PICTURE GOOD NEIGHBOR CULTURE RESULTS



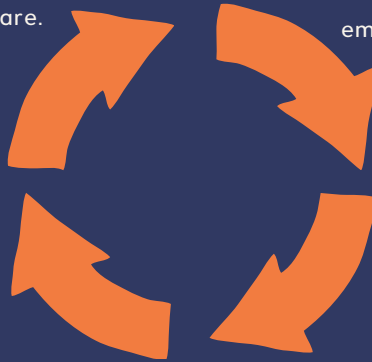
## BETTER EQUIPPED

We have the tools we need to better understand and care.



## BETTER SELF

We are individually impacted as we become more aware, more empathetic, and more kind.



## BETTER WORLD

Berry graduates use the skills, compassion, and sense of community gained at Berry to positively impact the communities they lead.



## BETTER COMMUNITY

Our community becomes one of unity, care, and openness.

*BERRY JOURNEY  
PHASES*

*GOOD NEIGHBOR  
LEARNING OUTCOMES*

**LEARN IT WELL...**

PHASE 1 : LAUNCH



UNDERSTAND WHO I AM, WHAT  
MY VALUES ARE, AND WHAT I  
THINK ABOUT OTHERS

PHASE 2 : DESIGN



IDENTIFY WHAT I WANT TO MAKE  
BETTER AND DESIGN A PLAN FOR  
HOW I WANT TO BE A GOOD  
NEIGHBOR

PHASE 3 : IMMERSE



ENGAGE IN THAT PLAN AND  
PRACTICE THE WORK THROUGH  
SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

**...KEEP IT ALWAYS**

PHASE 4 : CONNECT



REFLECT ON MY EXPERIENCES AND  
PREPARE TO TAKE GOOD NEIGHBOR  
CULTURE WITH ME BEYOND  
THE GATE OF OPPORTUNITY





# HOW DOES DIVERSITY FIT IN TO GOOD NEIGHBOR CULTURE?

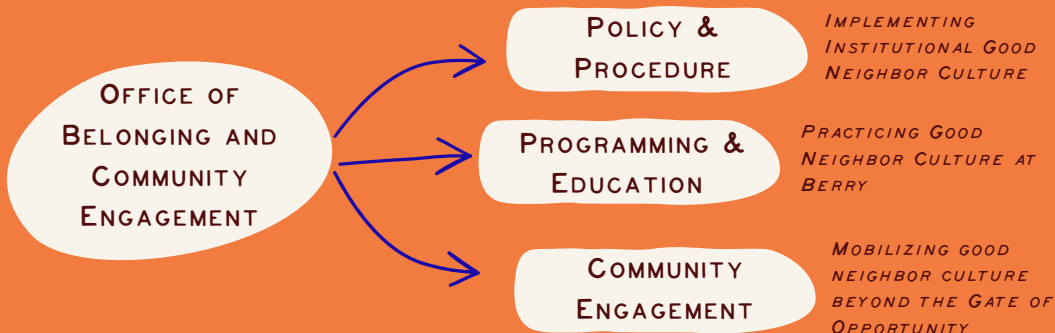
*WHEN YOU TAKE ALL THE THINGS THAT MAKE UP OUR INDIVIDUAL PERSONHOODS, YOU GET A LOT OF DIVERSITY IN A COMMUNITY—EVEN TYPES YOU CAN'T SEE. ON A RESIDENTIAL CAMPUS, DIVERSITY PREPARES US FOR A GLOBAL CONTEXT AND ENRICHES OUR UNDERSTANDING OF EACH OTHER AND OURSELVES.*

## EXAMPLES OF DIVERSITY TYPES

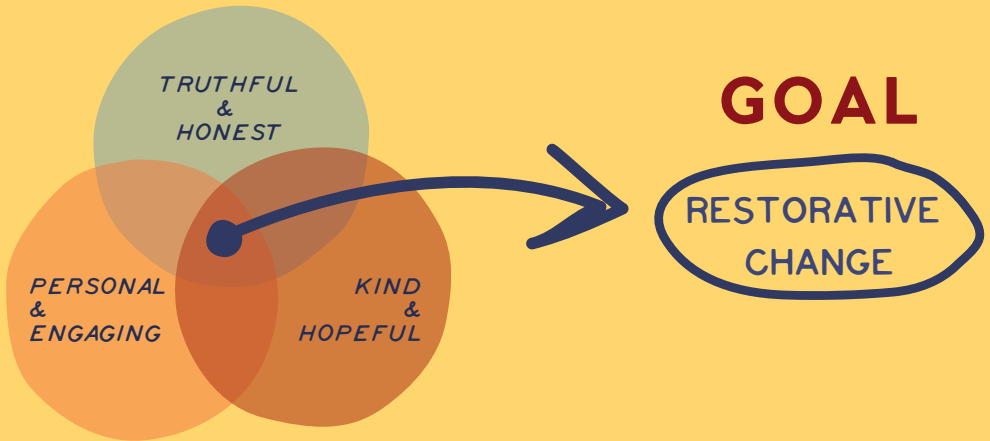
- RACE & ETHNICITY
- AGE & GENERATION
- GENDER & GENDER IDENTITY
- SEXUAL ORIENTATION
- RELIGIOUS & SPIRITUAL BELIEFS
- WORLDVIEW
- NEURODIVERSITY & ABILITY
- POLITICAL IDEOLOGY
- SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS & BACKGROUND
- EXPERIENCES



# OFFICE STRUCTURE



# APPROACH



# COMMUNITY NORMS

**01**

*OUR PRIMARY COMMITMENT IS TO LEARN FROM EACH OTHER. WE WILL LISTEN TO EACH OTHER AND NOT TALK AT EACH OTHER. WE WELCOME DIFFERENCES AMONGST US IN BACKGROUNDS, SKILLS, INTERESTS, AND VALUES*

**02**

*ASSUME GOOD INTENTIONS, BUT RECOGNIZE IMPACT, AND EMERGENTLY RESPOND TO HARM*

**03**

*DEBATE IDEAS, NOT THE INDIVIDUAL SHARING THE IDEA OR PRACTICE*

**04**

*ENGAGE TENSION BUT DO SO WITH LOVING KINDNESS TO OTHERS AND TO SELF*

**05**

*STEP UP & STEP BACK. BE MINDFUL OF TAKING UP MUCH MORE SPACE THAN OTHERS. ON THE SAME NOTE, EMPOWER YOURSELF TO SPEAK UP WHEN OTHERS ARE DOMINATING THE CONVERSATION*

**06**

*RESPECT OTHERS' POINTS OF VIEW (EVEN WHEN YOU THINK AND BELIEVE DIFFERENTLY)*

**07**

*PRIORITIZE CONFIDENTIALITY. SHARE THE LESSON, HOLD THE IDENTITY/STORY (WHAT'S SAID HERE STAYS HERE). OBTAIN CONSENT*

**08**

*BE A CHARITABLE LISTENER. ASSUME ALL YOU ENGAGE WITH HAVE SOMETHING TO TEACH YOU*

**09**

*SPEAK OPENLY TO YOUR EXPERIENCES, VALUES, & PERSPECTIVES*



# TRAININGS AND WORKSHOPS

*THE OFFICE OF BELONGING AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROVIDES TRAINING ABOUT GOOD NEIGHBOR CULTURE TO BERRY STUDENTS, EMPLOYEES, AND OUR GREATER COMMUNITY. SOME EXAMPLES ARE BELOW.*

## LEADING RESTORATIVE CONVERSATIONS

Guiding difficult dialogues that bridge gaps

## NONVIOLENCE365®

Empowering global and life change with Dr. King's nonviolent philosophy and strategy

Created & Led by  
The King Center

## THE BIAS CHALLENGE

An introspective and retrospective workshop focused on revealing, challenging, and removing biases

Created by  
Dr. Vonnetta West

# THE GOOD NEIGHBOR CENTER



FIRST FLOOR OF THE KRANNERT CENTER



# GOOD NEIGHBOR CENTER PURPOSES



**CREATE SAFE &  
BRAVE SPACES**

PURPOSE 1



**FOSTER A GOOD  
NEIGHBOR MINDSET**

PURPOSE 2



**BUILD INCLUSIVE  
COMMUNITY**

PURPOSE 3



**PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES  
TO SERVE**

PURPOSE 4



MEANINGFUL EXPERIENCES



# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

## MOBILIZING GOOD NEIGHBOR CULTURE



## **BERRY IMPACT**

*THE BERRY IMPACT PROGRAM MOBILIZES GOOD NEIGHBOR CULTURE BY EQUIPPING AND ENCOURAGING BERRY COLLEGE STUDENTS AND EMPLOYEES TO IMPACT OUR COMMUNITY THROUGH INTENTIONAL AND MEANINGFUL SERVICE.*

# **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

## **COMMUNITY-ENGAGED LEARNING**

*WE HAVE OVER 30 FACULTY-LED ACADEMIC COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (ACE) COURSES. THESE COURSES INCORPORATE CLASSROOM SERVICE-LEARNING PROJECTS AND COMMUNITY-BASED RESEARCH. IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE DEAN OF ACADEMIC SERVICES.*

## **BONNER**

### **SCHOLARS PROGRAM**

*THE BONNER SCHOLARS PROGRAM PROVIDES DESERVING STUDENTS WHO ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT CIVIC ENGAGEMENT WITH FINANCIAL AID IN EXCHANGE FOR A WEEKLY COMMITMENT TO INTENSIVE AND MEANINGFUL SERVICE WITH LOCAL COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS OVER FOUR YEARS AS UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS.*

## **COMMUNITY EXPERIENCES**

*BERRY COLLEGE COLLABORATES WITH VARIOUS COMMUNITY PARTNERS TO HOST INCREDIBLE EVENTS AND EXPERIENCES FOR THE WHOLE COMMUNITY. THESE EXPERIENCES AIM TO BUILD HOPE, UNDERSTANDING, AND UNITY FOR THE ROME AND FLOYD COUNTY AREA.*

# RESOURCES & COMMUNITY

 BIAS RESPONSE/RESTORATIVE PROCEDURES

 8 IDENTITY-BASED STUDENT ORGS

 4 EMPLOYEE AFFINITY GROUPS

 THE GNC RESOURCE CENTER

 RESILIENCY PLANS

 INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SUPPORT

 INTERFAITH ENGAGEMENT

# IF YOU SAID THIS, CONNECT WITH B&CE

*I WOULD LIKE TO TRAIN MY CLASS OR TEAM TO BETTER UNDERSTAND \_\_\_\_.*

*I HAVE A MISSION-ALIGNED EVENT I'D LIKE B&CE TO HELP PROMOTE.*

*I'D LIKE TO CONNECT OR WORK WITH A COMMUNITY PARTNER.*

*I WOULD LOVE TO GET INVOLVED AND SERVE IN OUR COMMUNITY.*

*I'D LOVE TO USE THE GN CENTER FOR A MISSION-ALIGNED CLASS, MEETING, OR EVENT.*

*I NEED SUPPORT/RESOURCES OR A STUDENT NEEDS SUPPORT/RESOURCES.*

*I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO, BUT I KNOW I WANT TO BE PART OF THE SOLUTION.*

# OUR TEAM



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The Office of Belonging and Community Engagement serves the campus in envisioning and implementing how Good Neighbor Culture is sustainably accomplished at Berry and beyond the Gate of Opportunity.

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More Information: [Berry.edu/Belonging](http://Berry.edu/Belonging)



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