

YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY



*Center for
Nonprofit
Leadership*

ANNUAL REPORT 2024-25

**Prepared
by:
Laura J.
Dewberry,
Director**

Center for Nonprofit Leadership Overview

The YSU Center for Nonprofit Leadership, housed in the Williamson College of Business Administration, offers a unique academic program that includes the Certificate in Nonprofit Leadership, the Nonprofit Leadership Minor, and nonprofit-specific business upper division electives. Both the certificate and minor can be paired with any major. Academic and co-curricular experiences, through the Student Nonprofit Leadership Organization (SNLO), are designed to prepare students for entry-level careers in the nonprofit sector and volunteer community leadership positions. Students enrolled in this program have a strong desire to “make a living while making a difference.” Networking opportunities with nonprofit professionals and real-world experiences, including internships and fellowships, are integrated into the curriculum to enhance student learning.

2024-25 Graduates

Certificate in Nonprofit Leadership

Fall 2024 (3): A. Schwiger, M.

Umbel, & E. Durham

Spring 2025 (7): W. Arnim, M.

Eliser, L. Lewis, E. Maurice, M.

Serrecchio, K. Stinson, & N.

Trikilis

Required Certificate Courses (11 hours):

-Nonprofit Leadership (BUS 3720), 3 s.h.

-Nonprofit Community Service (BUS 3740), 1 s.h.

-Financial Management and Fundraising for Nonprofit Organizations (BUS 3780), 3 s.h.

-Business Professionalism (MKTG 3702), 1 s.h.

-Fundamentals of Management (MGT 3725), 3 s.h.

2024-25 Course Enrollments

BUS 3720 (Web-based)*

Fall 2024: 40; Spring 2025: 42

BUS 3740 (Traditional)*

Fall 2024: 7; Spring 2025: 6

BUS 3780 (Web-based)

Fall 2024: 32; Spring 2025: 40

BUS 4841 (Web-based & Traditional)*

Summer 2024: 4; Fall 2024: 1;

Spring 2025: 3; Summer 2025: 13

*=Community Engaged (CE) course





Photo: SNLO Members with Society of St. Vincent de Paul Representatives

**Pay It Forward:
Student Philanthropy Initiative**

BUS 3740 (Nonprofit Community Service) course enrollees and members of the Student Nonprofit Leadership Organization (SNLO) gained hands-on experience in philanthropy through the *Pay It Forward: Student Philanthropy Initiative*. The students awarded \$3,000 in funding to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in Warren, OH in spring 2025. The funding supported their Hearth & Home Rent/Mortgage Assistance Program. This program helps individuals and families facing housing instability to prevent eviction or foreclosure.

2025 Pay It Forward Finalists: Sight for All United, Sleep in Heavenly Peace (Trumbull), Society of St. Vincent de Paul (Warren), & YNDC.

Students reviewed applications for programs/projects addressing the following needs in the Mahoning Valley: childhood poverty, food deserts, literacy / education, and workforce development. This initiative began with seed funding from Ohio Campus Compact (now Community Campus Coalition) in 2010 and is sustained by student fundraising efforts. In total, students have awarded over \$60,000 to local nonprofit organizations through this initiative.



**Society of St. Vincent de Paul
Northeast Ohio District Council**
Since 1930...Providing Help for today...Hope for tomorrow
Providing services in Trumbull, Ashtabula & Portage counties

2025 Nonprofit Leadership Summer Fellowship Program

The Center for Nonprofit Leadership at YSU was awarded a grant from The Wean Foundation to implement the 2025 Nonprofit Leadership Summer Fellowship Program, AKA the "Wean Fellowship Program." This biennial program matches YSU students seeking career-related experience in the nonprofit sector with nonprofit organizations in the Mahoning Valley looking to build organizational capacity. This program gave twelve (12) YSU students the opportunity to work full-time for 12 weeks, for a total of 480 hours, or part-time for 300 hours between May 12th and August 1, 2025. All fellows were paid \$18/hour. The Nonprofit Leadership Summer Fellowship Program also occurred in the summers of 2011, 2013, 2015, 2017, 2019, 2021, and 2023 with 80 YSU student participants to date.



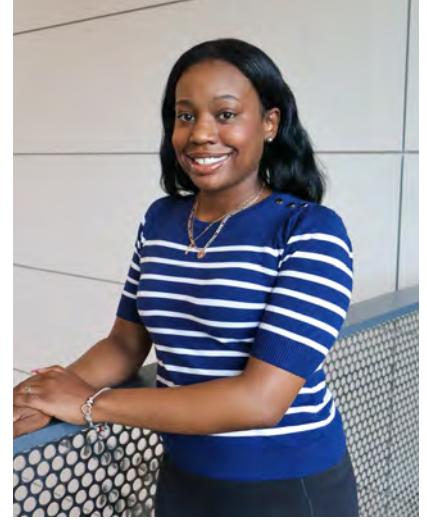
2025 Wean Fellows



Serene Awad
Environmental Studies
Mahoning County Land Bank
Program Management Fellow



Kevin Balella
Marketing
Mercy Health Foundation
Mahoning Valley
Panerathon Fellow



Miya Brown
Accounting
YWCA Mahoning Valley
Accounting Fellow



Danuneka Cargill
Business Administration
United Way of
Trumbull County
Marketing & Events Fellow



Haya Farhan
Public Health
YMCA of Youngstown
Marketing & Development
Fellow



Mackenzie Harrington
MBA
Andrea Mahone Foundation
Marketing & Social Media
Fellow



Melea Johnson
Social Work
Inspiring Minds
Youngstown
Site Instructor Fellow



Sabrina Johnson
Psychology
YNDC
Neighborhood Stabilization
Fellow



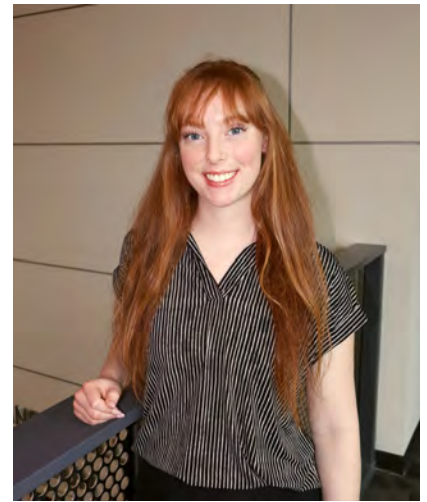
Suje Navarro Negrete
Business Administration
NOAS
Community Engagement
Fellow



Aicha Sawaneh
Communication Studies
Oh Wow!
Marketing & Events Fellow



Connor Tapp
History
MVHS
Community Engagement
Fellow



Tara Wine
Marketing
Meridian HealthCare
Marketing & Development
Fellow



and proud.





WCBA Dare to Care!

Dare to Care is an annual opportunity for WCBA's students, faculty, and staff to volunteer at the United Way of Youngstown & Mahoning Valley Volunteer Resource Center. New in Fall 2024, the Center for Nonprofit Leadership planned the United We Care event. 70 WCBA students, faculty, & staff volunteered at the United Way of Youngstown & Mahoning Valley Volunteer Resource Center.

The WCBA Dare to Care Event on Friday, April 11, 2025 had nearly 100 participants (WCBA students, faculty & staff) volunteer at 10 nonprofit organizations (Beatitude House, Habitat for Humanity - ReStore, Junior Achievement of Eastern Ohio, Mahoning Valley Historical Society - Archives Storage Facility, Oh Wow!, Potential Development Elementary School, Rescue Mission of the Mahoning Valley, The Rich Center, SMARTS, and the Youngstown Steel Museum). Students completed projects including the set up and clean-up of sites, outdoor clean-up, assembling exhibits, taking inventory, and reading to students.

WCBA
United
We Care!



SNLO Site Visits 2024-25!

Executive Team 2024-25

President: Maggie Byers

Vice President: Montana Eliser

Secretary: Lawalyn Lewis

Treasurer: Brielle Robinson

Social Media Chair: Ellie Maurice

SNLO Site Visits & In-Class Presentations

Fall 2024 (4): Grant Center at the
Public Library, The Youngstown
Foundation, Youngstown
Business Incubator, &
Youngstown Steel Museum

Spring 2025 (6): Mercy Health
Foundation Mahoning Valley,
Sight for All United, Sleep in
Heavenly Peace, Society of St.
Vincent de Paul, YNDC Glenwood
Fresh Market, & YWCA
Mahoning Valley



Grant Center at Public Library



The Youngstown Foundation



Youngstown Steel Museum



YNDC Glenwood Fresh Market

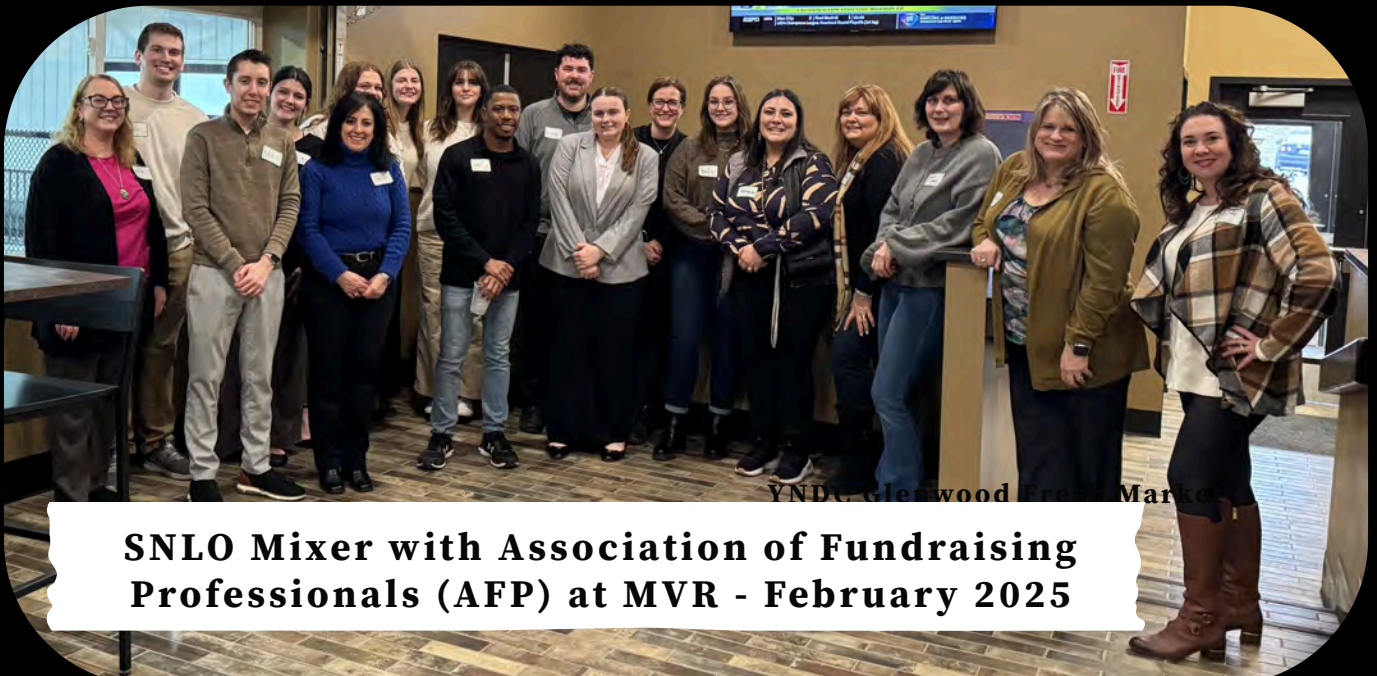
SNLO Networking Activities 2024-25!



**WCBA Student Organization
Fair - October 2024**



**Maggie Byers & Laura Dewberry accept
YSU Community Engagement
Symposium Best Faculty / Student
Poster Award - April 2025**



**SNLO Mixer with Association of Fundraising
Professionals (AFP) at MVR - February 2025**

Center Director



Laura Dewberry has served as the Director of the Center for Nonprofit Leadership and as a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Management & Marketing since 2009. She teaches a variety of courses in both the traditional and web-based format including the nonprofit leadership electives (BUS 3720, BUS 3740, BUS 3780, & BUS 4840/4841), Foundations of Business (BUS 1500 & BUS 1500H), and Collaborating, Writing, and Presenting in Business (BUS 2610).

Summary of Service Activities:

- Executive Board Member & Volunteer, Junior Achievement of Eastern Ohio (JAE0)
- Board Member & Mentorship Chair, Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) Mahoning – Shenango Chapter
- Manager, the YSU Zoldan-Yampolsky Family Executive Fellows Program
- Manager, the YSU Nonprofit Leadership Summer Internship Program, funded by the Wean Foundation
- Member, YSU Community Engagement Council