

## Service-Learning Final Project: Fall 2012

### Assess & Recommend Changes for the Dining Environment at Lifebridge

#### AND

### Staging the Dining Room

Each day dozens of individuals and families share meals at Lifebridge. These meals are consumed in Lifebridge's large communal dining room, a space that is functional but perhaps not inspired or ideal for dining. Lifebridge staff, administration and clients have, for some time, been interested in rethinking and revising the dining room and dining environment for their guests. The final component of your service-learning work this term is a project that responds to this need. You will, in effect, be serving as dining-environment consultants. You will observe, learn and make recommendations for substantive changes to the dining room environment. You will also stage the dining room for one afternoon, showing what might be possible with only minimal changes.

**This project requires you to work in groups and to synthesize and make use of all that you have learned in *Sow, Reap, Consume* this semester.**

You will draw on the knowledge and skills from both your community service and from each of the three learning community courses to assess the current dining environment and develop and present ideas to improve it. In addition, you will stage the dining room for one afternoon showcasing what may be possible in the short term without major changes. The general goal of this project and your final recommendations is to create a plan for a dining environment that responds to needs of guests, clients and staff while enhancing both human interaction and the dining experience based on best practices.

This project will be completed in groups (group assignments will be made by faculty early in semester) and is composed of four parts.

- 1) **Assess/Evaluate the current dining environment/space**
  - a. What works? What could be changed? What do diners like? What suggestions do they have? What is present? What is missing?
- 2) **Based on your assessment/evaluation in #1 and drawing on materials, knowledge from all three LC courses, you will develop recommendations for changes and suggestions on how to carry out these changes.**
- 3) **In your working groups, present your recommendations in a public setting at Lifebridge on December 19<sup>th</sup> 2-5 pm using powerpoint or another presentation method.**
- 4) **As a whole class, you will stage the dining space for that afternoon, showcasing ways to make changes using what is already there.**

The Details:

- You will be completing this project in groups. Each group will present a set of recommendations during the final presentation session in December.
- As part of this project, **each group will be partnered with one Lifebridge client-consultant** who has agreed to speak with you at least once to share ideas, respond to your thoughts and help you develop your recommendations.
- As the semester progresses, students (as a whole class) may decide to carry out certain portions of the project jointly (e.g. developing a survey or comment cards that could be read/used by all groups). These types of decisions will be explored during our LC days throughout the semester in consultation with professors and Lifebridge staff.

**The final presentation must include the following elements:**

1. Findings from assessment/evaluation
2. Recommendations
  - a. These must respond directly to your assessment/evaluation findings
  - b. These must reference/draw from at least three (3) specific readings/materials/information from LC courses representing each of the three LC classes (HIS 101; IDS189; SMS 194)
3. Staging of the dining room for the afternoon of Dec. 19.

At the end of the presentation you will submit the following materials:

- 1) **Groups** will hand in the group presentation
- 2) **Each member of a group** will hand in an individual assessment of his/her work and that of his/her group-mates. Details on this will be handed out later in the term.

**Grading:**

The following are the criteria upon which your final project grade will be based.

50% of the grade will be an individual grade

50% of the grade will be a common grade

Criteria:

How Assessed

**Individual:**

Attended and participated fully in all group meetings  
As determined by group. Includes meeting with client-consultant

Faculty observation; self/team assessment document

Leadership on and full completion of at least one component of final group project

Faculty observation; self/ team assessment document

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Attendance and full participation in final event on 12/19 Lifebridge	faculty observation & self/team reporting
Successful completion of self-assessment/group assessment on time	faculty assessment of this document
Completion of one portion of the staging for 12/19	faculty observation and self reporting
<b>Group:</b>	
Final Presentation (Written)	Faculty assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Includes all component parts</li> <li>• Correct grammar/syntax</li> </ul>	
Final Presentation (Oral/Public)	Faculty& Lifebridge staff assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Well-rehearsed</li> <li>• All group members involved</li> <li>• Professional</li> <li>• clear</li> </ul>	