The mission of the Tufts Occupational Therapy (OT) Program is to “develop an individual’s ability to handle life’s tasks and activities in a way that enhances the quality of life.” In the past year, students from the program have formed close working relationships with a number of groups in the Medford area. Mary Barnes, OT fieldwork coordinator and Tracy Chippendale, associate professor, have placed students at a variety of Medford agencies.

Students from the OT program have worked with The Community Family (TCF) in Medford, an organization that provides day health services for adults with memory loss. The students began an onsite program using the Wii gaming system, assisting six clients once a week—some with advanced memory loss and some who had been recently diagnosed with Alzheimer’s. Students were careful to determine which Wii sports would be appropriate for each client, based on that individual’s mental and physical condition. The program was a huge hit, with baseball, skiing and boxing emerging as favorites, and continued throughout the semester.

Occupational Therapy students also intern with the Medford Public Schools. OT students recently contributed more than 1,000 hours as interns. The OT students worked with children with special needs, providing a range of special education services, including the use of assistive technologies to maintain and improve the Medford students’ functional capabilities.

The Medford Community Rehab Care, which provides rehabilitation and support services to people with neurologic, musculoskeletal or orthopedic injuries or illness, also welcomed two OT students who contributed 480 internship hours.

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Welcome from President Monaco

In the summer of 2011, Tufts welcomed its newest president, Anthony P. Monaco. President Monaco joined us after serving as pro-vice-chancellor at the University of Oxford in Oxford, England, where he worked to broaden public access to the university, create and fund interdisciplinary research ventures and boost support for the humanities.

A native of Wilmington, Delaware, President Monaco attended Princeton University and went on to earn an M.D. and a Ph.D. from Harvard Medical School. He was director of Oxford’s Wellcome Trust Centre for Human Genetics, which focuses on identifying the biological basis of common human diseases. His own research has focused on the genetic basis of disorders such as autism, language impairment and dyslexia.

President Monaco has made one of his first priorities to learn more about Tufts’ neighborhoods. He has attended various events in Medford and continues to look forward to meeting more neighbors to discuss common concerns and interests.

The Office of Community Relations at Tufts is pleased to present this report, which serves as a “snapshot” of the many partnerships and events that bring Tufts and our various host communities together. Tufts University, through its Office of Community Relations and many other departments, works with neighbors, organizations, city government and the public schools to be good neighbors and build strong partnerships. The School of Medicine, the School of Dental Medicine, the Sackler School of Graduate Biomedical Sciences and The Gerald J. and Dorothy R. Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy, occupy a campus in Boston’s Chinatown. The Medford/Somerville campus houses the School of Arts and Sciences, the School of Engineering, the Jonathan M. Tisch College of Citizenship and Public Service, and the Fletcher School. Additionally, Tufts occupies roughly 150 acres in Medford and Somerville, and has a campus in Grafton, Massachusetts that houses the Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine.

ENERGY FROM THE EARTH

Four years ago, Grant Garven, Tufts professor of geology in the School of Arts and Sciences, drilled an observation well to teach his geology students about the properties of groundwater and the surrounding soil and rocks on the Medford/Somerville campus.

Now that observation well has been converted into a 700-foot-deep geothermal well that will heat and cool a classroom in Lane Hall on campus. As the cost of fossil fuels rises, Professor Garven and his students have become part of the growing movement using geothermal energy from the earth as an inexpensive, efficient and environmentally responsible source of energy.

PRESERVING WEST MEDFORD HISTORY

The Tisch College of Citizenship and Public Service and the Office of Community Relations have collaborated with members of the West Medford community to produce two books about this historically African-American community.

A Legacy Remembered, by Tisch scholars Kristen Johnson and Ann Noling, in collaboration with community members led by Dorothy Elizabeth Tucker and Wallace Kountz, uses funeral programs to illuminate the lives and history of hundreds of West Medford citizens.

Place, Race and Memory is the book form of an exhibit that was produced by a Tufts class of the same name taught by Professor Rosalind Shaw. The exhibit has hung in Medford Public Library for the past five years, after being supported and premiered by the Medford Historical Society.

Both books are available through the West Medford Community Center.
Throughout 2011 and 2012, OT students and faculty worked closely with the Medford Boys and Girls Club. The department donated a large screen TV and DVD player to the club’s multi-media exercise room. Four OT students worked in co-leader pairs with the club doing service learning for a Group Theory and Community Based Practice course. Students offered one-on-one assistance with homework and aided other groups at the club with support from staff and a Tufts part-time faculty member. The Occupational Therapy program intends to continue working with the club.

At the Medford Senior Center, students coordinate a social group and a “Boston Book Club”, both of which have been enthusiastically received. The book club read “Hit Man”, journalist Howie Carr’s gripping account of Boston mob culture, and watched the Oscar-nominated film “The Town”. Last spring, eight OT volunteers assisted at the Senior Center with line dancing, Pilates, pottery, arts and crafts, card playing, knitting and tai chi. The students have decided to keep volunteering at the center (assuming they can keep up with the seniors).

As is true in any good outreach program, everyone benefits. Tufts students gain practical experience and enjoy the satisfaction of assisting their neighbors in the Medford community, and local agencies benefit from the talent, skills and energy of Tufts OT student interns.

A Joyful Noise in Medford

Since it opened in 2007 the Perry and Marty Granoff Music Center has become a valued local resource, presenting more than 150 concerts and events each year, most of which are free and open to the public. In 2011, nearly 850 Medford elementary school children enjoyed a free performance of the Tufts Concert Choir. The Center offers a wide range of music programs to the Medford community, including:

- Saturday music classes for children and teenagers from September to May
- Weekday evening classes and ensembles for adults
- Free Saturday Family and Children’s Concerts
- A two-week children’s summer music camp

“Not only are my three children excited about studying music,” says Medford parent Jorge Sonia, “they’ve also made new friends in our larger community.”
Tufts at the Medford Boys and Girls Club

If you visit the Medford Boys and Girls Clubhouse on any given day, you might find a number of Tufts students serving as volunteers. Playing an important role in organizing their efforts is Biz Brauer, a Tufts Tisch Scholar, who works closely with the Medford Clubhouse Director as a Volunteer Coordinator. Tufts students volunteer at the club in several different ways.

PEACE GAMES

Tufts Cooperative Peace Games is an after school program co-sponsored by the Leonard Carmichael Society, a student-run, community service organization, and Tufts Peace and Justice Studies. In this program, student volunteers visit Medford schools to teach 2nd and 3rd graders about teamwork, respect, cooperation, trust, acceptance, and conflict resolution. Peace Games runs in 6-week, hour-long sessions, each week having a different theme. Sessions end with a discussion about what participants felt and learned during activities. Peace Games offers children a safe space to talk about important and sometimes difficult issues.

The program is currently offered at the McGlynn and Roberts schools. In fall of 2011, the program served approximately 30 Medford students total, and four Tufts volunteers worked with each group of children.

DID YOU KNOW?

Student organizations often raise money for Medford programs through various fundraising efforts. In addition, students in the Experimental College’s philanthropy course learning to write proposals have written successful grants for several Medford organizations. In 2012, the Medford Family Resource Center was a recipient.

THE COLLEGE ACCESS MENTORSHIP INITIATIVE

Through this program, Tisch Scholars invited 12 middle school students to Tufts to enjoy a campus tour, student panel, activities, and performances.

THE TUFTS OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY PROGRAM (OT)

Students in the OT Program have worked with a number of youth at the club. The resulting conversations between students and club staff have had a positive impact on the lives of some club members.

STRONG WOMEN STRONG GIRLS (SWSG)

Students from the Tufts Chapter meet weekly with young girls at the Medford Clubhouse to discuss how strong women throughout history can serve as inspiration in the girls’ own personal development.

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION DAY

In appreciation of the students’ contributions, the Clubhouse staff and youth hosted a Tufts Volunteer Recognition Day at the Boys and Girls Club. Jacqueline Rudis, Director of the Medford Boys and Girls Club, places a high value on the partnership with Tufts. “The benefit of Tufts volunteer service to our community’s youth is immeasurable,” she says. “We’re grateful for their support and look forward to building on what has already become a wonderful relationship.”
Tufts Hillel Repairs the World

Tufts Hillel promotes Jewish life at Tufts and beyond, through broad programming and a commitment to building a diverse Jewish community. Through numerous outreach activities, Hillel encourages Jewish students to be active and responsible members of the larger community and engaged members of the Jewish community after they graduate from Tufts.

Their annual “Read by the River” festival invites Medford children to campus for an educational fair promoting the importance of early childhood literacy. Tufts students encourage children to read a book and write a book report, and those who complete the report and attend the event receive a free book. Members of Tufts Hillel, fraternities and sororities, and the Men’s Rugby Team volunteer for this annual event.

Repair the World is a national organization that partners with Jewish and secular organizations to carry out various social justice projects. Hillel’s Repair the World project partnered with The Leonard Carmichael Society to establish Tufts Service Day, in which student groups complete a day of service with various community organizations. The hope is that the relationships formed on this special day continue into the next semester.

At the Medford Public Schools, volunteers worked with elementary school students in afterschool programs, playing games and helping with homework. At the Medford Council on Aging, Hillel volunteers visit with the elderly. For Julie Kalt, student coordinator for Repair the World, involvement with Hillel has been a vital part of her experience at Tufts. “I never knew what it meant to be part of a Jewish community outside of my nuclear family before coming to Tufts,” she says. “It’s a place where I found some of my best friends, where I can grow intellectually and spiritually.”

CEEO—STOMP PROGRAM

In The Student Teacher Outreach Mentorship Program (STOMP) of the Center for Engineering Education and Outreach (CEEO), Tufts engineering students visit a school in Medford each week. The students organize hands-on activities in math, science, and engineering. This year STOMP students are teaching the sixth grade class at St. Joseph School in Medford how to build and program “Mars Rover” robots using LEGO-NXT kits. The children are also learning how to use computer software to encode their robots to follow commands. STOMP provides all the materials used in the sessions. Tufts student Alana Lustenberger is an enthusiastic STOMP participant. “I really enjoy introducing the students to engineering,” she says. “And I learn from their perspective as well.”

BY THE NUMBERS

390
Number of Medford residents employed by Tufts in 2010–2011, totaling $22.3 million in annual payroll

500
Approximate number of Tufts alumni living in Medford and contributing to the local economy

$681,000
Amount Tufts paid in fiscal year 2011 to the City of Medford’s Water and Sewer Department

200+
Alumni with business addresses in Medford, working in the city

$4.5 MILLION
Amount of goods and services purchased by Tufts in fiscal year 2011 from Medford businesses
Emerging Black Leaders (EBL) was founded by Tufts students whose goal was to encourage minority and disadvantaged youth to look to the future with hope rather than pessimism. Through an annual spring symposium, EBL helps youth participants develop a heightened sense of social consciousness and an understanding of the importance of education.

When it was founded in 2006, one of EBL's first priorities was to create a strong partnership with Medford High School. The result has been several community outreach programs sponsored by EBL through their “Project Youth” Campaign.

EBL offers a number of workshops at Medford High during school hours that are designed to support the students in meeting the goal of attending college. Workshops address topics such as choosing the right college, writing personal application statements, understanding financial aid and preparing for the SAT.

In addition, Emerging Black Leaders offer the following outreach activities to Medford youth:

• The College Access Medford Program (CAMP). Medford High students participate in weekly discussions and workshops centered around the college application and financial aid processes.

• The Bernard Harleston Scholar's Award Program (BHSA) is an essay contest for high school students in the Greater Boston area that attend the Emerging Black Leaders Symposium. Three finalists are awarded laptop computers.

• The Sankofa Youth Project (SYP) program offers activities such as a monthly book club, film screenings, and professional development workshops.

According to Emerging Black Leaders President Jessica R. Wilson, “Our organization is a special outlet for students of color to work towards a common goal—the empowerment and advancement of black and minority students. EBL will be expanding into a city-wide chapter this coming academic year; we intend to bring all the black student unions from across the city together as a way of promoting discussion and coordinating activism.”
Community Service and Advocacy

THE LEONARD CARmichael SOCIETY

In 1958 a Tufts undergrad decided, as an act of community service, to begin visiting a local mental hospital. Those visits were the start of what would become The Leonard Carmichael Society (LCS), named for a Tufts University president from the 1940s who was known for his belief that committed volunteers could change the world.

Now, more than fifty years later, LCS is a student-run, community service and advocacy organization serving Medford and Somerville. Each year, LCS places nearly 1,000 volunteers in more than three dozen programs in the following areas: hunger and homelessness, youth development, literacy and education and health. Students volunteer at one-day events as well as in regular programs. LCS highlights include:

- **Kids Day.** For more than 40 years, Tufts students have brought Medford children from kindergarten through third grade to the Tufts campus for this very special event. Kids Day features entertainment, games, magic shows, science experiments, and art activities.

- **Halloween on the Hill** brings Medford and Somerville children to Tufts for a carnival that includes a haunted house, games, crafts, and treats.

- **LCS annual semi-formal.** In 2011, this event raised more than $3,500 for SCM Door2Door Transportation and The Medford Family Resource Coalition.

- **FOCUS**, an undergraduate pre-orientation program, sends incoming Tufts students into the community for a week of service before school begins.

- **Traveling Treasure Trunk**, the LCS entertainment troupe, writes, directs, and performs skits for children. They perform with the Medford Family Network, at local Medford schools, and at Tufts’ annual Community Day.

To read more about the Leonard Carmichael Society’s outreach activities, please visit: [http://ase.tufts.edu/lcs](http://ase.tufts.edu/lcs).

CHEMISTRY DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY OUTREACH

In 2010, the Chemistry Department began an outreach program to provide lab equipment and maintenance to local schools, including Medford High School. This arrangement, called the Chemistry Organized Outreach Partnership, or CO-OP, is a cooperative program, so each of the four schools involved has the opportunity to borrow the equipment. Tufts staff and students coordinate the program, bringing the equipment to each school. In addition, high school teachers are brought to the campus to be trained in the use of the equipment. In the winter of 2012, undergraduate students involved with the CO-OP program volunteered to judge the Region IV Science Fair and Medford High School’s science fair.

F.Y.I.

Tufts has been recognized for its partnership with local schools. In 2010, Tufts received the Outstanding Partnership Award from the Massachusetts Board of Education due to the long-term involvement of Tufts students in the Medford school system.
COMMUNITY DAY

Since 2003, Tufts has partnered with the cities of Medford and Somerville to organize Community Day. Local residents are invited to visit the campus and enjoy music and dance performances, educational demonstrations from various Tufts departments, interactive displays from student groups, kids’ activities, and a free lunch. Dozens of community-based agencies and city departments also attend to share information about their work. Community Day is a much-anticipated event at Tufts—a great opportunity to welcome our neighbors to campus. For more information, visit: cday.tufts.edu.

Contact Information and Web Resources

Tufts Neighbors Page  http://tufts.edu/home/neighbors
Tufts Directory  617.627.5000
Office of Community Relations  617.627.3780
Tufts Police (non-emergency line)  617.627.3030
Tufts Website  http://tufts.edu

Facilities Usage

Medford non-profit organizations can use Tufts facilities for event and meeting space. While there are not any rental fees, some other charges may apply. Recent guests include:

- Medford Elections Department
- Medford Garden Club
- Medford High School’s Graduation
- Medford Service to Science
- Mystic Valley Elder Services
- Tri-City Technology Education Collaborative (TRI-TEC)