

2019-2020

Local - City of Defiance, Eastside Neighborhood

McMaster Fellow

Jo Ann Burkhardt, Ph.D., Professor of Education

McMaster Associate Fellow

Bridgette Winslow, Dean, Institute of Pre-Health and Wellness Studies

McMaster Scholars

Rylea Amspaugh, Criminal Justice and Psychology

Kaitlyn Borgelt, Sophomore, Early Childhood Education

Alicia Breneman, Junior, Education - Integrated Math

Dia Lee, Sophomore, Exercise Science

Cohen Nies, Junior, Accounting

Juan Olvera, Sophomore, Biology

Kalyn Pickens, Junior, Biology

Breeta Strauss, Sophomore, Early Childhood Education

This project was developed during spring 2019 and as such there is still a good amount of listening that needs to be done to allow this initiative to develop to the point wherein each Scholar is proposing an individual research project. For this year all the scholars will be working collectively to build the trust necessary for a long-term academic and community partnership. Before community needs can be identified and addressed, the Eastside Neighborhood needs to know that the McMaster team values their community, recognizes its strengths, respects its residents, honors its history and culture, and listens effectively. The McMaster Fellow and Scholars will use oral histories, their collection and preservation, and the transcribed interviews to help engage the Eastside Neighborhood and begin to build a trusting relationship with its members. Oral histories will be used as a tool for community members to share their values, beliefs, strengths, accomplishments, history, and culture. By collecting and preserving the community's oral histories, Defiance College through the McMaster School will begin to show the Eastside Neighborhood that it is valued, respected, heard, and honored.