

## Presidents' Community Partner Award

# Growing Up Healthy

St. Olaf College



Since it began in 2006, Growing Up Healthy has worked tirelessly to increase community connectedness of marginalized families in Rice County with children under the age of five. Over the past several years, the organization has partnered extensively with faculty and students at St. Olaf.

Over the past two years Growing Up Healthy (GUH) has collaborated with faculty to provide high-quality service-learning and civic engagement opportunities for students in at least seven courses, including courses in Psychology, Political Science, American Studies and Social Work. Specifically, students have worked with GUH to research civic involvement among immigrants in Faribault, produce a multi-cultural cookbook, support a “know your rights” campaign, plan a mental health summit and develop educational resources for elementary school teachers. GUH also regularly supervises student interns and volunteers.

Janet Lewis Muth, GUH Coordinator, is very skilled at identifying and supporting student projects. According to Professor Kathy Tegtmeyer Pak, who has partnered with Janet on a number of projects, “Janet has proven herself to be an energized and energizing community partner, who excites the students about projects. She keeps me motivated to keep trying to craft interesting, worthwhile learning experiences for my students that also provide some value to the community.”

