



SERVICE LEARNING AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT THROUGH HIGHER EDUCATION

JAMES A. AGAN | UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

EMPOWERING STUDENT-LED COMMUNITY IMPACT THROUGH ASSET-BASED SERVICE-LEARNING

ABSTRACT:

This interactive workshop introduces Path to Purpose, a program that empowers students to address community challenges through asset-based service-learning (ABSL). Participants will engage in activities adapted from the program to experience ABSL principles firsthand, exploring how to connect personal values with social issues, identify community assets, and co-create solutions with community partners. The workshop will provide practical strategies and resources for implementing ABSL in higher education settings.

THEMATIC FOCUS: LISTENING CLOSELY | PLAYING AROUND | LEARNING THE CHORDS

BIO(S):

JAMES A. AGAN

James Agan is the Coordinator for Immersive Service Programs at the University of Florida, where they cultivate student leadership and community engagement through asset-based service-learning. As an AmeriCorps VISTA, James built collaborative relationships with community partners and secured funding for impactful projects. They previously managed the Florida Alternative Breaks program, facilitating 16 service-learning trips and developing comprehensive training for student leaders. James also honed their program development and evaluation skills while consulting with local nonprofits. They are committed to fostering collaborative service and building stronger, more equitable communities.

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