

Impact Beyond The Classroom

By Emma Stoddard

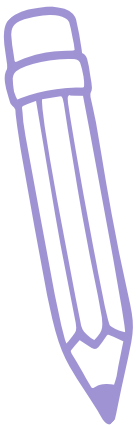
EQ NEWS



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Make an Impact With Equiduct: Featuring Kaitlyn Klopenstine

Between classes, studying, work, clubs, and everything else that comes with being a college student, adding another commitment can feel overwhelming. However, volunteering does not have to take up all your free time to make a difference. With Equiduct, even a small amount of your time can have a meaningful impact on students in the Lansing community. Equiduct is a nonprofit that brings college students and the Lansing community together through tutoring, mentorship, STEM programs, and other opportunities. Volunteering gives MSU students a chance to step outside the college bubble, support local youth, and feel more connected to the community around them.



Beyond the Schoolwork

One of the most meaningful parts of volunteering with Equiduct is building real connections. Tutors do more than help students with schoolwork; they can also become mentors and positive role models. Kaitlyn Klopenstine, a senior at Michigan State University majoring in Psychology with a minor in Environment and Health on the pre-PA track, began volunteering with Equiduct in 2025 and has experienced these connections firsthand.

**“I love seeing the students each time I come in,
and it makes me so happy to notice even small
improvements and know that I’m contributing to
their education,”**

Klopenstine said, reflecting on her experience working with students in the ECAC program.

“I also cherish the unforgettable relationships as I grow with the kids within the program.”

Her experience highlights how volunteering goes beyond academics. Sometimes simply showing up, helping a student understand an assignment, or encouraging them when something feels difficult can make a lasting difference.

What Our Tutors Say

Equiduct's volunteer feedback shows that volunteers especially value working with the same students and building relationships with them over time. Sometimes simply showing up, helping a student understand an assignment, or encouraging them when something feels difficult can make a difference.



More Than Volunteer hours

Volunteering is also a great way to grow personally and professionally. Students can develop communication, teamwork, mentorship, and leadership skills while meeting new people and giving back. Whether you start as a tutor or eventually take on a larger leadership role, volunteering can provide experiences and skills that stay with you beyond college.

Equiduct Serves You

One reason students may hesitate to volunteer is time. Equiduct also offers different volunteering days and times, making it easier to get involved even with a busy college schedule. They also offer carpooling to make transportation easy, so students can volunteer whenever they are available. This is not a financial burden for Spartan tutors!



Make a Difference With Your Time

There are many ways to spend your time in college, but volunteering gives you the opportunity to use some of it to make a difference. Whether you have a little time or a lot, Equiduct lets you support Lansing youth, build meaningful relationships, develop leadership skills, and get more involved in the community around MSU. Sometimes making a difference starts with simply showing up.

Want to get involved? Learn more and sign up at Equiduct.org