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2021

THRS 324/WMGS 324 Women and the Bible 2021

Saint Norbert College

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WMGS/THRS **324**

Women in the Bible

WMGS/THRS 324

- **Students to learn to think critically about both gender and religion**
- **Core assumptions of this course is that we cannot really understand the Bible without engaging the complex legacies of biblical texts**
- **Texts can be harmful and liberating to women**

16 students served a total of **320** hours working with **4** different community partners

Students had the option to engage that ethical question in a concrete way: by interfacing with local organizations that seek to improve the lives of women and their dependent children.

Community Partners



1. **Wellspring:** a daytime resource center for women in the Green Bay area
2. **COMSA:** a community-based organization that serves refugees and immigrants, especially refugees from Somalia
3. **Golden House:** a domestic abuse shelter for women, children, and men in Green Bay
4. **Wise Women Gathering Place:** a daytime resource center associated with the Oneida Nation.
5. **Violence Against Women Act (VAWA):** a project to reduce sexual assault, stalking, and violence against women on campus





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Until my service at Wellspring, I had not taken much time to engage with members in the community, especially with those who are older and lead a different life than myself. However, as soon as I started my service I felt very connected to the women at the shelter. They made me feel welcome and appreciated even though I did not do much other than help them prepare their breakfast. I spent a lot of time talking with the women and listening to their stories which is what helped me grow closer to them. One day in particular, I felt very connected to the women at the shelter as they shared their stories about struggles they faced in their lives. I realized that I had encountered challenges very similar to theirs, and I never truly felt understood until I listened to what they had to say. Even though the women at the shelter and I have very different lives– especially because I am fortunate enough to have a roof over my head and the opportunity to attend college– I realized that I am more connected to them than I had thought. My service really connected me to members of the Green Bay community and I felt as though they helped me more than I could ever help them. These women are strong, resilient, and wise, and they became a sort of inspiration to me. Overall, I am so grateful that I was able to serve at Wellspring, and it was truly the highlight of my fall semester. -Sarah Cardenas Fall 2020 Participant ”