

Stockton University Joins With Community In Three Counties for MLK Day of Service

About 1,000 Participate in Southern New Jersey's Largest Event

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Galloway , NJ - Community members from throughout southern New Jersey joined Stockton University students, faculty and staff today on service projects designed to make a difference both locally and globally during the university's 12th annual Martin Luther King Day of Service.

Bob Rothhouse, from Egg Harbor Township, N.J., was among those assembling prosthetic hands made by 3D printers for e-Nable, a non-profit volunteer organization. He said this was his first time putting together the plastic components, held together with pins and synthetic string similar to fishing line. But he noted that Ken Tompkins, Stockton Professor of Literature Emeritus, sitting next to him, was "a good teacher."

The flexible prosthetic hands are comprised of about \$30 in materials but would cost about \$20,000 if made commercially, said Robert Heinrich, Stockton's chief information officer. Lowering the cost makes it possible for children to get new prosthetics as they grow.

Heinrich is helping to spearhead the project here, along with Lynne Kesselman, wife of President Harvey Kesselman and herself the president of the New Jersey Computer Science Teachers Association. Melissa Krupp, a member of the association who teaches at Southern Regional High School and is a Stockton graduate and adjunct, said, "It's really pretty cool that it's a grassroots effort and more than a Band-Aid. It's sustainable and ongoing."

Students in Computer Science will continue working on improving the prosthetics' design while faculty from the Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy programs will provide consultation and online therapy services once patients are fitted with the prosthetics.

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