



Volunteer and Community Services



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From the Coordinator of Volunteer and Community Services



Greetings from the office of Volunteer and Community Services! During this spring semester students continue to put forth great effort in performing a variety of volunteer and community service activities throughout the local area and beyond. SUNY Fredonia students performed over 14,000 hours of volunteer service during the past year. I am so proud that our students are making such a difference in the lives of others.

Many of our students, which included individual volunteers and groups as well as residence halls, accomplished an array of tasks. Some of these projects involved cooking and serving meals to families in need at the local friendly kitchen; providing social and recreational activities to seniors helping to improve their quality of life; making enhancements to the environment; tutoring and mentoring youth along with many other activities. Our students also showed care and compassion to those who were in the greatest need by helping families through Habitat for Humanity rehab and build affordable housing.

By participating in Operation Breakfast Rescue students helped to collect over 200 pounds of breakfast food items for impoverished families. During the alternative break, STRIVE Ministries, performed over 300 volunteer service hours and assisted nine agencies with various tasks that needed to be done. For the first time, Volunteer and Community Services will partake in the Student Research and Creativity Expo coinciding with the Engaging in Our Community Series: Students in Service. SUNY Fredonia Students will showcase their service projects on posters and others will give oral presentations.

On the Friday before break, one of the most powerful earthquakes ever recorded struck the northern coast of Japan, causing an enormous tsunami that devastated numerous towns and cities. Individuals and families lives have been devastated.

SUNY Fredonia teamed with the American Red Cross to assist in the relief effort for Japan, "Fredonia's Flight of Hope". SUNY Fredonia was committed to sending 1000 cranes to our sister Universities in Japan as a sign of support and healing. Students, faculty, staff, and community members volunteered their time and made 3,000 origami cranes and raised over \$3,000 which was sent to the American Red Cross.

I would like to thank all of the many volunteers (over 100) who worked so diligently and supported this significant endeavor. I would also like to congratulate our students for making such a positive impact in the community and the world.

For further information regarding volunteering, please contact the coordinator, Joyce.Smith@fredonia.edu or call (716) 673-3690. You can also visit us on the web at www.fredonia.edu/campuslife/volunteer.

New Intern in The Office



Hello everyone! My name is Kristen Hadeed, and I am a senior Public Relations major here at SUNY Fredonia. I am originally from Fairport, New York. Interning at the Volunteer and Community Services Office has given me a true insight on the hard work that goes into a successful event on campus such as Operation Breakfast Rescue. I have also learned how essential it is to build sustainable partnerships in the community.

I have always had an interest in volunteering. Being part of Sigma Kappa which is a sorority on campus, I have participated in a variety of community service activities such as Move in Crew, Fall Sweep, Relay for Life, WCA Home, Tuggin' for Tots, and Buffalo News Kids Day.

This is my third internship but my first one on campus. One of my responsibilities is to promote public awareness about volunteering and community service on and off campus. It has been a great new experience and I love being involved at my own school. I have enjoyed interacting with different faculty, staff and students on campus.

I believe it is very important to volunteer and get involved in the community and make a difference in the lives of others. If you would like to contact me my e-mail is hade2567@fredonia.edu.

*Students
Making a
Difference*

In The Spotlight

Colleges Against Cancer

Colleges Against Cancer's main goal is to help fund raise for the American Cancer Society, promote cancer awareness, and establish advocacy programs on campus. In the spring, Colleges Against Cancer organizes Relay for Life of SUNY Fredonia.

The American Cancer Society's Relay for Life is a nation wide event that gives everyone in the community a chance to celebrate the lives of people who have battled cancer, remember loved ones lost, and fight back against the disease. At Relay for Life, teams of people camp out and take turns walking or running around a track. Each team is asked to have a representative on the track at all times during the event.

At SUNY Fredonia, Relay For Life will be held on April 16th in Steele Hall. It will start at 6:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m. There are over 45 teams this year and over 365 participants. In 2010, Relay for Life of SUNY Fredonia hosted by colleges against cancer raised over \$35,000. To learn more about Relay for Life, you can visit the website www.relayforlife.org/sunyfredonia.



Students



Making A

Pink The Rink

Pink the Rink is an annual event that started in 2007. Players on the D3 Hockey team wear pink jerseys to raise both awareness of the need and funding for breast cancer research.

In 2010, a new tradition started where hockey fans are able to buy a pink jersey worn by a hockey player for that night and able to chose a loved ones last name on the back of the jersey. You can buy a jersey for \$250. At the end of the game, every family was awarded their jersey. A picture was taken with the family and the hockey player who wore it for the night. All proceeds went to the American Cancer Society. David Ridos, senior hockey player commented, "Pink the rink is always a special event, and what made it even more special this year for me personally, was that my family bought my jersey in honor of my uncle Doug who passed away from cancer in July 2010. Wearing his name on the back of my jersey for the night, and having my family there to accept the jersey after the game, made the night very special, and one I will never forget."

For more information you can visit the website www.fredoniabluedevils.com.

STRIVE Ministries

STRIVE Ministries previously known as Intervarsity Christian Fellowship, returned early to Fredonia from their winter break to devote their time to community Service. Twenty-three students participated on this alternative break and lived at the Fredonia First United Methodist Church. In just four days these twenty-three students performed over three hundred hours of service in the local community. Every day the students would go to different service locations. The service agencies included Chautauqua County Rural Ministry, Garment Gallery, Dunkirk First Baptist Church, Dunkirk Historical Museum, WCA Home, St. Columban's on the Lake, Northern Chautauqua Boys' and Girls' Club, and Fredonia First United Methodist Church, Faith Baptist Church, Dunkirk-Fredonia Meals on Wheels, and Central Christian Academy. Some of the tasks they were performed were sorting clothes, moving furniture, painting, cleaning, playing games with youth and conversing with seniors. Overall, STRIVE Ministries has had a significant impact on the local community and continues to do so.



Difference



Brad Cooper

Year: Senior

Major: Sports Management
Hometown: Monticello, NY

Activities

Assistant Coach for the Men's
Basketball team

Community Blood Drive

Race for Change, Centaur
Stride

Fall Sweep

Viewpoints on Volunteering: Brad Cooper

I like to volunteer because I feel the younger kids that come to our basketball games look up to us, and it is our responsibility being older to set good examples.

I started a fund raiser this year called "Race for Change" for the Centaur Stride Therapeutic Riding Facility. Centaur Stride Inc. is a not-for-profit therapeutic facility where people with and without disabilities are able to ride horses. I worked closely with Ricky Webster, Julius Bryant and Marissa Gaeten to make this fund raiser possible. My basketball team and I went to the Westfield elementary school to work with the 4th and 5th graders on this fund raiser. Each 4th and 5th grade class would raise money, and at the end a winner would be announced. The winning class was awarded a pizza party and the chance to come to one of our basketball games and would be able to run on the court with our team at the beginning of the game. Students from the winning class would also get a 50% discount on the Fredonia's summer basketball camp. Altogether, Race for Change raised \$1,500. I was very happy with the turnout and I hope next year will be even more successful.

In addition to starting Race for Change I have also volunteered with Fall Sweep and the Community Blood Drive. After I graduate, I plan to find an assistant coaching job and attend graduate school for Sports Administrative.



Meagan Allers

Year: Sophomore

Major: Early Childhood and
Childhood Education with a
concentration in math

Minor: Leadership Development
Hometown: Williamsville, NY

Clubs/Activities

Fredonia for St. Jude

SA Sophomore Class President

Volunteer softball Coach

Buffalo News Kids Day

Fall Sweep

Viewpoints on Volunteering: Meagan Allers

I like to volunteer because I like giving back. I have been fortunate enough to have food, shelter and good health but some people are not as fortunate. I first started volunteering when I was in Girl Scouts when I was younger and have been giving back ever since. Since I have been at college, some volunteer activities I have been involved in include the nursing home playing Bingo and doing crafts with the residents, volunteer softball coach for 12 year old girls, and a Volunteer softball coach at Dunkirk Varsity softball team, Fall sweep, Buffalo news kids day, and I have also been to numerous soup kitchens to help serve.

I am also President of Fredonia for St. Jude. We raise money for the children of St. Jude Children's Hospital to help save lives from cancer. We raised over \$10,000 last year and I was able to go to Memphis, TN and tour the hospital and see where all the money is going. It was very inspirational. I have also gotten other people involved with helping St. Jude.

Being a Representative for St. Jude has also given me opportunities to give presentations for the College Council, and Fredonia Rotary Club. I also reached out to Dunkirk school #7 and helped with a kick off assembly for their Math-a-thon (a St. Jude program for school aged kids). They ended up raising \$4,000. This year our program on campus raised over \$15,000. Doing all this work for St. Jude has made me think about going into Non-profit work as a career.

Flight of Hope**Folding Origami Cranes****Flight of Hope
Relief Effort for Japan**

On March 11, Japan was hit with a 9.0 magnitude earthquake and subsequent tsunami. Our campus demonstrated its support through two actions: made financial donations and folded/mailed origami cranes. The fund raiser "Flight of Hope" was made and a campus committee was composed of Cheryl Drout, Joyce Smith, Saori Sagala, and Amy Beers. The committee had arranged with the Red Cross to collect funds on our campus that will be used in the relief effort for Japan. Every donation resulted in the folding of a separate origami crane, which was placed on display in University Commons. After a week of the cranes being displayed, the university shipped 1,000 cranes to each of our three sister universities in Japan.

In Japanese culture, 1,000 cranes promises that anyone who folds a thousand origami cranes will be granted a wish by a crane, such as long life or recovery from illness or injury. Over 300 volunteers participated in the "Flight of Hope" project which included students, faculty, staff and community and raised over \$3,200 for this important endeavor.

Volunteers Wanted:

Boys and Girls Club of Dunkirk
Centaur Stride
Chautauqua Rural Ministry, Friendly Kitchen
Literacy Volunteers of Chautauqua County
Dunkirk/Fredonia Meals on Wheels
St. Columban's Retirement Home
WCA Home
Salvation Army

Upcoming Events:

Rockin' the Commons
Saturday, April 16th
11:00 am – 8:00 pm, Downtown Fredonia

Relay for Life
Saturday, April 16
6:00 pm – 6:00 am, Steele Hall

Buffalo News Kids Day
Tuesday, April 26
6:00 am – 9:00 am, Streets of Fredonia

**Engaging in our Community Series:
Students in Service-Student Research &
Creativity Expo**
Thursday, April 28th
1:00 pm – 7:00 pm, Williams Center

VCS Advisory Committee

Ms. Joyce Harvard Smith – Coordinator
Ms. Kristen Hadeed – Intern
Dr. Ted Lee - Biology
Dr. Theodore Steinberg – English
Mr. Michael Lemieux – Campus Life
Ms. Dawn Bush – Student
Ms. Barbara Block – WCA Home
Mr. Nate Zager – Student
Captain Lenny Wacenske – Salvation Army
Ms. Renae Bellando- Rural Ministry
Ms. Joan Houck – Dunkirk/Fredonia Meals on Wheels
Ms. Erin Ackerman – Residence Life

Contact Information

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Kristen Hadeed
Intern, Volunteer & Community
Services Williams Center, S-126

Visit us on the web:
www.fredonia.edu/campuslife/volunteer