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3 R's of Volunteering

Responsibility

Reward

Recreation

From the Coordinator of Volunteer and Community Services



Greetings from the office of Volunteer and Community Services! During the semester students continue to put forth great effort in performing a variety of volunteer and community service activities throughout the local area and beyond. This Fall over 100 students were in attendance at the Community Service Fair. Students performed over 20,000 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 not only in the local community but throughout the region and beyond.

Many of our students, which included individual volunteers and student groups as well athletes accomplished an array of tasks. Student volunteers will again participate in the annual Days of Service event. Over 100 students participated this past year in the mini-maker Faire, which combined volunteer efforts and service-learning projects at various locations throughout the community. Some of these projects involved cooking and serving meals to impoverished families at the local friendly kitchen; providing social and recreational activities to seniors helping to improve their quality of life; making enhancements to the environment; assisting local youth and senior citizens along with many other activities. Our students also showed care and compassion to those who were in the greatest need by assisting families through Habitat for Humanity rehabbing and building affordable housing. Student volunteers helped to collect pounds of nonperishable food items for impoverished families by students faculty, staff and community for the Feeding Fredonia Challenge. Students will join groups across campus in the eleventh annual Fall Sweep to rake lawns in the Fredonia community and form a better relationship with local residents.

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.

Intern in the Office

Hello! My name is Madeline Little, and I'm excited about interning in the Office of Volunteer and Community Services for the Fall 2019 semester. I am a senior majoring in Journalism with a minor in African American Studies. I am from Buffalo, New York. However, for the past few years Fredonia has been my home. I chose this internship because I am passionate about making a change in more than just my community. I believe volunteering makes you more grateful, understanding, and a better person all around!

I am currently the President of Fredonia's Divine Sound Gospel Choir, Vice President of Brother to Brother, a group that provides a safe space for men of color, and former PR Chair of two other Executive Boards. I am also the PR Intern for the Intercultural Center here at Fredonia. While in these positions I am able to truly see what it feels like to make a change in the community. I've participated in Fall Sweep, Safe Halloween, Ice Cream Socials, and volunteered at The Boys & Girls Club many times.

Volunteering is such a great feeling. I would encourage everyone to volunteer somewhere. Giving back to your community and others is what it's all about! For more information, students can stop by the Office of Volunteer and Community Services to find volunteer opportunities. If you would like to contact me, you can reach me at litt2193@fredonia.edu



Viewpoints on Volunteering: Gail Sharpe

I am a Vacation Bible School teacher at Higher Ground Church of God of Prophecy in Rochester, NY. I teach children ages 3-10 about the bible and it's stories. I am the Divine Nine Intern. For my position, I am in charge of contacting the Divine Nine organizations, organizing and planning events for the office of NPHC Greek Affairs, and keeping in contact with students about their interest in the organizations and answering any questions they might have..

I have participated in Fall Sweep, Safe Halloween and leading the Divine Sounds Gospel Choir at Open Door #3 Church of God in Christ. I love working with and helping others learn and grow especially children. I have learned how to be more patient with others. It makes me feel good to know that I contributed something. I would absolutely encourage anyone to volunteer because it can put you in a position that you wouldn't otherwise be in. Volunteering shows you things that you like and dislike about yourself and things you might choose to pursue in the future.

.On campus, I have given students of Fredonia knowledge about something that not only is a part of Black History, but something we hope to incorporate at Fredonia in the near future. I plan to continue doing volunteer work as long as I can.

Viewpoints on Volunteering: Timothy Highway Snider

I have been involved in several activities that I have either helped in planning or have attended. I was previously part of the Community Service Fraternity- Alpha Phi Omega which does a lot of close work with the campus and the Volunteer and Community Services Office. I am also an RA which is hugely based on helping fellow students that live on campus in multiple capacities whether it is through helping them with a challenging class or just being there when they need someone to talk to. I also volunteer at the local Animal Shelter "Little Angels" where they take in small pet animals that have been abandoned by their previous owners.

This past fall semester several of my peers and I helped raise money for the Tree of Life Synagogue in PA that was struck by tragedy due to gun violence. I have always been a person that believes that the universe gives back to us what we put out. When I was younger my family relied heavily on the support and kindness of our local community to make it by sometimes. Being in a somewhat better position it is my duty to take advantage of giving back. I hope that by me doing my part it will help someone the way that the community has helped me and my family.

When I leave Fredonia I will be looking at how involved is the group or company that I work for, and how much they support or give back to the local community.

Viewpoints on Volunteering: Israel Ortiz

I volunteered in a church back home in Rochester, a shelter for homeless and abused women, as well as for the Rochester Red Wings baseball team. My Great Grandmother and I would cook large meals. I even helped her while she ran a low cost clothing store for the church. That work just continued on as I grew up. I've volunteered at parks, during the Lake Ontario flooding, helped underprivileged people move into homes, and volunteered at soup kitchens.

As the Rugby teams Vice President I have been working to bring in more volunteer opportunities for our team. As a leader of Blackhorse Rugby this is a huge endeavor for me. I love my team and I see each player as a brother of my own. Being put in the position where I get to help lead these leaders and teach them whatever I can on and off the field is a true blessing. Seeing their success and them thrive motivated me to take on the challenge.

I have gained so much from playing rugby and being class President. Rugby teaches you how to rely on someone else. It helped make me the person that I am. Being class President has already taught me so much, and it has helped open my eyes to all the wrongs and issues we have on campus. My main focus when running for President was representing the student who feels like they have no voice.

I will continue to advocate for the students of my class but also any student at the State University of New York at Fredonia who needs me. I seek to do a better job of making underrepresented groups feel adequate, like students of color and people of the LGBTQIA+ community. I feel as though the community has gained someone who will fight for it, and someone who won't turn their back on it. They gained someone who will put themselves on the line to save another. My quest for the saving of humanity and the chase for equality will never end.



Gail Sharpe

Year: Senior

*Major: Music Education
Hometown: Rochester, NY*

Activities

Fredonia Divine Sound, Brother to Brother, and D9 Intern



Timothy Snider

Year: Junior

*Major: INDS Ethnic & Gender Studies & Social Work
Hometown: Niagara Falls, NY*

Activities

Little Angels, Resident Assistant, Exploration Days



Israel Ortiz

Year: Sophomore

*Major: Political Science
Hometown: Rochester, NY*

Activities

Blackhorse Rugby, Sophomore Class President



**Men's Baseball Team
at
Ed Eagan Complex**



**Enfusion Dance
Team at Pep
Rally**



**Kappa Sigma at
Activities Night**

In the Spotlight

Men's Baseball Team

The Men's Baseball team is the team to talk about. Matthew Palisin has successfully coached the team for 16 seasons. Last season the team finished at 17-13. But playing baseball is not all this team does.

The Baseball team participates in a number of volunteer projects every year. They do a field day to cleanup the Fredonia Little League Field, help with set up and tear down for the Mini Maker Faire, ring bells at Walmart and Tops for the Salvation Army in December, and they also help with the Move In Crew every year, and host four Kids Night Outs and four baseball clinics at the college.

He believes people need help and at some point, every person benefits from a volunteer and it makes our community a community. Which is why he encourages his team to volunteer.

The players gain an appreciation for the amount of time individuals from a community donate and how important it is to make things run.

The community gains an appreciation from the baseball team and a positive image. They get a lot of thank you's from people in the community when they are seen around town. The baseball team is spoken highly of, not just for helping them, but for helping in an energetic and positive way.

"The team plans on heading back to the Boys and Girls Club to help with their Halloween Party." says Palisin.

Enfusion

EnFusion is a multicultural dance group. They have participated in the Jamestown Out of the Darkness walk to help raise awareness for suicide prevention. They are also raising money for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.

Ashley Gonzalez, President of Enfusion says "Our team wants to partake in this because we feel suicide prevention is a very important conversation to have and something necessary in terms of receiving support and help." Suicide affects us all greatly and we want to stand behind survivors and those who've lost people due to it.

EnFusion has also done Fall Sweep, Safe Halloween, and many more volunteer services that allows them to give back to the community. As a dance team on campus we want to be more than just a dance group. Not only can we dance and perform but we are people too that recognize the need in our community. We just feel that it's important to give back.

Kappa Sigma

Kappa Sigma has been involved with many community service events around campus as well as the Dunkirk and Fredonia community. Their biggest event takes place in April of the spring semester. Which is their Egg Hunt. They decided to host this event because they wanted to be active in the local area showing that Greek life isn't solely focused on partying. The fraternity also took part in the annual "Walk for Alzheimer's," supporting the families with relatives suffering from this disease to show their gratitude.

Vice President, Shaqri Ransome says "Our group has obtained structure from the service and time we've dedicated into the community. We teach our brothers, as well and our new brothers, that community service builds character."

They plan to continue to help others as long as we exist on this campus. They understand that community service can be anywhere from appearing at an event, down to the smallest action like giving someone a hug who looks sad, or even reading a book to an elderly person.

Kappa Sigma wants to continue to be an active group in the Dunkirk and Fredonia area setting precedents of how Greek life should be involved.



**Divine Sound at
Fall Concert**



**Student Volunteers
at Feeding Fredonia**



**Brother to Brother
memorial fundraiser**



**Divine Sound
volunteers at Fall
Sweep**

Make-A-Wish

Make- A- Wish is a wish granting organization. They strive to create life changing wishes for children with critical illnesses. They transform lives, one wish at a time. Children get to choose from five categories of wishes. Over 100 plus wishes for children in Western New York are granted each year.

Student volunteers are important to the Make-A-Wish agency because volunteering is one of the most rewarding experiences in one's life. Wishes are only made possible with the help of our volunteers. "Sometimes the biggest donor doesn't have to be so big! Our Kids For Wish Kids and Wish makers on Campus Programs help school young children and young adults discover the importance of philanthropy and community service." says Stephanie Kolowaski, Program Services Manager at Make-A-Wish.

This program is about kids helping other kids. Without student volunteers they wouldn't be able to fulfil the Make-A-Wish mission.

Source: wny.wish.org



Volunteers Wanted:

Boys & Girls Club

Chautauqua County Nursing and Rehab Center

Friendly Kitchen

Habitat for Humanity

Lakeshore Humane Society

Salvation Army

St. Columban's Home

St. Vincent's Home

WCA Home

Volunteer Events:

Mini Maker Faire

Saturday, October 19th

10:00 am — 4:00 pm

Williams Center, MPR & Science Center

Safe Halloween

Sunday, October 27th

9:00 am — 12:00 pm

Mason Hall

Fall Sweep

Saturday, November 2nd

9:00 am — 12:00 pm

Williams Center MPR

Red Cross Blood Drive Day

Tuesday & Wednesday, Nov. 5th & 6th

11:00 am — 5:00 pm

Williams Center ,MPR

VCS Advisory Committee

Joyce Harvard Smith, Chair, Volunteer and Community Services

Madeline Little, VCS Intern

Emily Staniszewski, Student Representative

Mike Igoe, Communications Department

Lucas Butchko, Residence Life

Kim Killion, Boys and Girls Club of NCC

Sue McCavoy, St.Columban's on the Lake

Retirement Home

Robert Earhart, Lakeshore Humane Society

Contact Information

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Volunteer and Community

Services Intern

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