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## From the Coordinator of Volunteer and Community Services



Greetings from the Office of Volunteer and Community Services! During the Fall 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 past year students performed over 20,000 hours of volunteer service and continue to make a significant impact in the area. I am so proud that our students are continuing to make a difference in the lives of others not only in the local community but throughout the region and beyond.

Many of our volunteers include individual students, student groups, and athletes. In the past they have accomplished an array of tasks and continue to do so. Approximately two hundred students along with faculty and staff participated in the thirteenth annual Community Service Fair. The Move-in Crew event was again a great success. Over one hundred and ninety three students participated in this important endeavor. Other service projects that student volunteers will engage in includes cooking and serving meals to impoverished families at the local friendly kitchen; providing social and recreational activities to seniors while 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 have shown 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, faculty, and staff helped to collect over four thousand seven hundred pounds of nonperishable food items for impoverished families for the Feeding Fredonia Challenge. Student groups raked over two hundred and twenty five lawns in the village of Fredonia for the annual Fall Sweep event.

I would also like to congratulate our students for making such a positive impact in the community and the world.

For further information in reference to volunteer and community services please contact the coordinator, [Joyce.Smith@fredonia.edu](mailto:Joyce.Smith@fredonia.edu) or call (716) 673-3690. You can also visit us on the web at [students.fredonia.edu/volunteer](http://students.fredonia.edu/volunteer)

## Intern in the Office

Hello! My name is Courtney Winter. I am a senior at the State University of New York at Fredonia. I am majoring in Business Administration with a concentration in Marketing while pursuing a Leadership Studies minor. I am from a small town known as East Aurora, New York. I am very excited to be given the opportunity to intern for Fredonia's Office of Volunteer and Community Services. I hold a strong interest in giving back to the local community and making a positive, lasting difference in people's lives.

Becoming involved in club organizations has not only expanded my leadership abilities but also allowed me to gain learning experiences beyond the classroom setting. I am a member of one of Fredonia's National Honor Societies, Alpha Lambda Delta. Throughout the semester we volunteer at The Lakeshore Humane Society and St. Columban's Retirement Home. In addition, I am a member of Fredonia Enactus, an international non-profit organization that uses entrepreneurial action to help our nearby communities thrive economically, environmentally, and socially. I volunteer at the Boys and Girls Club of Northern Chautauqua County and the Dunkirk High School, where I teach the youth valuable skills in business and leadership to help prepare for their futures.

I encourage all students to become involved with volunteer and community service during their college years. It enables you to reach out to the local community and build new relationships with others. It is truly a rewarding experience. If you would like to contact me to learn more I can be reached at [cwinter@fredonia.edu](mailto:cwinter@fredonia.edu).



**Students**

**Making a**

**Difference**

## Students



## Making a



## Difference



## In the Spotlight

### *Blue Ice Step Team*

The Blue Ice Step Team's main mission is to bring a diverse style of dance and physical activity to the Fredonia campus and community.

The Blue Ice Step Team performs at several events on campus. Some of their performances take place at Homecoming, Relay for Life, and Rock Out for Cancer. Aside from their physical talent, the team realized that they wanted to become more involved in volunteer activities. The President Dayna Edwards says, "we want to learn the purposes behind the events."

While the Blue Ice Step Team was volunteering for Relay for Life and Rock out for Cancer, another organization sparked their interest. They started volunteering for The Boys and Girls Club of Northern Chautauqua County. They have participated in The Boys and Girls Club Day for Kids, bringing students, families, and children together. Dayna comments, "a lot of the members on the team live far away from home and miss their siblings." The Boys and Girls Club allows them to build meaningful relationships with the kids and treat them as family.

This semester, the Blue Ice Step Team plans on coordinating a Tie Dye Day at the Boys and Girls Club and would like to host a Skate Night at Fredonia for the kids. They also wish to have a bake sale where all proceeds will go towards purchasing more children games for the Boys and Girls Club.

### *Men and Women's Swim and Dive Team*

The Swim and Dive team at Fredonia focuses on working hard in the pool and volunteering during their spare time. Their mission is to make Fredonia a clean and pleasant community for students and residents.

The Swim and Dive team lend a hand to the community by participating in beach clean ups in Dunkirk, New York. Over the last four seasons, the team helps clean up unwanted waste and vast debris on the beach. From their volunteer experience, Taylor Chwalinski, a captain on the team says, "we are more self conscious of keeping our home away from home clean!"

On Earth Day, the team is also involved with Electronics Recycling Day. They give assistance to individuals dropping off old and used electronics they do not want or need.

"Volunteering is a great way to help our community and also spend time with each other," Taylor says. The team encourages and supports one another while giving back to the community. Taylor is also the President of Colleges Against Cancer and the Swim and Dive team help her promote the event Relay for Life and fundraisers. Troy Lubanski, another captain on the team says, "our current and past work in the community has provided us with memorable team bonding experiences all while being able to lend a hand to those in need." Troy remarks that the team will continue to preserve Fredonia and Dunkirk's environment and keep it beautiful for years to come.

### *Fredonia Radio Systems*

Fredonia Radio Systems is one source of media on campus that helps people keep up-to-date on the latest news and music trends. The primary mission of Fredonia Radio Systems is to be the voice of the campus and community. Rebecca D'Hilly, the station's General Manager, states, "we want to serve the people of the Fredonia and Dunkirk areas and connect with them to bring us all closer together."

Fredonia Radio Systems enjoy volunteering for Safe Halloween, Fall Sweep, as well as participating in open houses on campus. In addition, they coordinate an event known as Rockin' the Commons which takes place every year in the Fall. This is a Team Cure event that supports The Roswell Park Cancer Institute. This event occurs right in the heart of downtown Fredonia. This activity is a day of fun comprising of live local music, basket raffles, chicken dinners, bounce houses, and more.

Fredonia Radio Systems is motivated in community service because they continuously love working with people and serving others in a variety of ways. Rebecca says, "it is mainly about bringing people together to accomplish one goal." They are always looking for ways to help make a difference. The Fredonia Radio Station is also a great way for people of the local area to tune in and learn more about volunteer opportunities.

## Viewpoints on Volunteering: Shane Meenaghan

I have been involved with helping others and doing community service since I've been young. A lot of my family members enjoy giving back to the community and focusing their lives around community projects. This has inspired me to become a volunteer.

I am the President and Founder of Fredonia's Habitat for Humanity Club. We are a group that assist our local affiliates in the Chautauqua and Buffalo areas. Habitat for Humanity relies on donations of people and volunteers giving their time. Habitat for Humanity's goal is to create stability and a positive environment within the community locally and internationally. I have gained a lot of skills and knowledge while volunteering at the different building sites. I've learned the importance of leadership, how to delegate tasks, and personal skills when interacting with people. It is always rewarding on the inside looking back on what we have accomplished.

I have participated in the blood drives on campus for Fredonia For St. Jude and been engaged in local beach cleanups. I am a part of Fredonia Radio Systems, and assisted with the coordination of the Rockin' the Commons event. In addition, I have volunteered at school districts in Silver Creek.

I'm going to school to be a teacher and I hope to bring my love of community service into the classroom. I want to show my students that they can give back to the community as well. I hope to host fundraisers at my school in order to make a difference in the lives of others within their community.

## Viewpoints on Volunteering: Dayna Edwards

After I visited the Boys and Girls Club of Northern Chautauqua County with Brother 2 Brother, I decided to become more involved with helping youth in the community. Being far away from home, seeing the kids made me miss my own siblings. When we visit their faces light up and it has inspired me to come back.

In my hometown, I serve at a soup kitchen called *Pots* during major holidays. I also assist with the after school program for Sacred Heart. While at Fredonia I volunteer for the Boys and Girls Club. In addition, I am the President of the Blue Ice Step Team where we perform and participate in events on campus including Relay for Life and Rock out for Cancer.

I have gained a better relationship with the community and it has given me more ideas on ways to become engaged. I plan on getting more campus groups to volunteer at the Boys and Girls Club. The kids love when we visit from Fredonia, therefore I would like to see student organizations come together and plan an event for them. It is important to reach out to our youth, because they are the next generation, the future. I love being a mentor for them, especially talking about school and getting them excited for college.

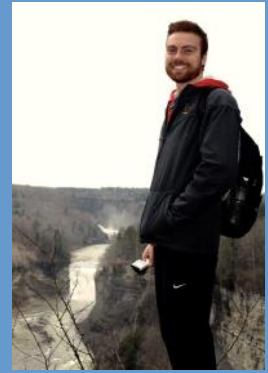
I am proud of my Blue Ice Step team members because the volunteer and community services they have accomplished at Fredonia motivates them to volunteer in their hometowns as well.

## Viewpoints on Volunteering: Brittany Fenimore

All throughout high school I was motivated to join various clubs that were community service oriented. I am committed to make a difference in the community and individual's lives. As a student in college, I have been actively involved in various clubs including Fredonia for St. Jude, Habitat for Humanity, Operation Smile, and Friends Across Borders.

Friends Across Borders mission is to fundraise for the benefit of families all around the world. I also volunteer for Fredonia For St. Jude, whose primary mission is to provide fundraising activities for children at St. Jude's Research Hospital. I am a member on the E-board where I am responsible for recruitment. I raise awareness about Fredonia for St. Jude's event Up 'til Dawn to different student clubs. Students create teams of six and partake in fundraising activities from 10:00 pm until 3:00 am. All proceeds go towards St. Jude's Research Hospital. I have gained an appreciation for everyone who is involved in this process and learning about its purposes. It is very important for individuals to participate in community service activities in order to help improve the lives of others.

For the past three years, I have been involved with various blood drives on campus. I always try to give blood when I can and I assist other donors to make sure they are comfortable and feeling well. I will continue to volunteer because it is important to help others throughout my community and the world.



**Shane Meenaghan**

*Year:* Junior  
*Major:* Early Childhood Education and Childhood Education (concentration in Biology)  
*Hometown:* Pendleton, NY

**Activities:**  
Habitat for Humanity Club  
Fredonia Radio Systems



**Dayna Edwards**

*Year:* Junior  
*Major:* Sports Management and Criminal Justice  
*Hometown:* Bronx, NY

**Activities:**  
Boys and Girls Club  
Blue Ice Step Team



**Brittany Fenimore**

*Year:* Junior  
*Major:* Early Childhood Education and Childhood Education (concentration in Math)  
*Hometown:* Buffalo, NY

**Activities:**  
Friends Across Borders  
Fredonia for St. Jude

## Lakeshore Humane Society

The Lakeshore Humane Society is an animal adoption center located in Dunkirk, New York. Their mission is to find forever homes for unwanted or abandoned animals in Northern Chautauqua County.

The Lakeshore Humane Society is operated by all volunteers. They are continuously looking for more people to help. Fredonia State students began volunteering when their new adoption center opened in July 2012. Robert Ehrheart, the current Treasurer and past President of the Lakeshore Humane Society says, "seeing an operation like the Lakeshore Humane Society that runs entirely on volunteers is a great way to learn what volunteerism is all about." A Fredonia student started volunteering with the Humane Society when he was in high school. He graduated from Fredonia last May and then started Vet school this past August.

The organization hosts Adoption Days, where people from the local community have the opportunity to visit and learn more about the animals they are wishing to adopt. There continues to be a need for more volunteers. The Lakeshore Humane Society is a benefit to Fredonia students because many students miss their pets from home. Spending time with the animals is a win-win situation for all.



**Lakeshore Humane Society  
at Fall 2016 Community  
Service Fair**



**Kappa Sigma Phi loading  
donated food for the  
Feeding Fredonia Challenge**



**Habitat for Humanity Club  
rehab home Jamestown, NY**



**Days of Service  
Students volunteer for  
Fall Sweep**

### 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:

**Fall Sweep** (in conjunction with DOS)  
Sunday, October 30  
9:00am-12:00pm  
Village of Fredonia  
(meet in Williams Center MPR)

**Days of Service**  
October 31-November 1-3, 8, and 9  
Various times and locations

**Operation Breakfast Rescue**  
Donations/Collections: November 3  
Williams Center G103B  
Donations: November 1 and 2  
9:00am-3:30pm, Reed Library

**Up 'til Dawn**  
Sat. Dec. 3, 9:30pm– Sun. Dec. 4, 3am  
Williams Center  
Sign up and create teams at:  
[www.events.stjude.org/](http://www.events.stjude.org/)

### VCS Advisory Committee

Joyce Harvard Smith – Coordinator  
Courtney Winter – Intern  
Marc Wilcox – Comm. Disorders/Sciences  
Adrienne Sader – Residence Life  
Barbara Jones – WCA Home  
Linnea Carlson – Salvation Army  
Linda Chase—Chautauqua Cty. Nursing &  
Rehab Ctr.  
Shane Meenaghan—Student Representative

### Contact Information

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**Courtney Winter**  
Intern, Volunteer and Community Services  
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**Please visit us at:**  
[students.fredonia.edu/volunteer](http://students.fredonia.edu/volunteer)