Community Service

Every year, hundreds of students in the Stern Undergraduate College devote their time and energy to community service. In addition to the satisfaction they receive in helping their neighbors, they also gain valuable work experience. Through NYU’s Community Service Center, students volunteer with dozens of not-for-profit organizations throughout New York City. Community service provides an opportunity to address major social, health, hunger, and environmental issues. Through service, students enhance their leadership skills, find fulfillment in giving back something to the community, and build new relationships while learning more about themselves.

Activities

There are many ways to become involved in activities on and off campus. Students in the Undergraduate College collect canned goods, conduct toy drives, and distribute bag lunches to the homeless. They work in dropout prevention programs that encourage high school students to stay in school. They renovate houses and make them livable again. Students in the Scholars Program participate in ongoing service projects. Whether their involvement is with the sick, the poor, or those who simply need a helping hand, student volunteers give of themselves freely. And they all agree that they get back so much more than they give.

To strengthen and further support community service initiatives, the University sponsors a number of central services, including a central Community Service Office and ServiceNet, an online community service database. In addition, the President’s Office sponsors a special C-Team for service involving over 250 students working as tutors and mentors for young people at sites in Greenwich Village and the Lower East Side. Regular meetings and social events are sponsored by the Office of the President. Members are invited to submit proposals for special projects on their own skills and talents.

The University supports a national service initiative, Project SafetyNet. Members of the AmeriCorps Project SafetyNet, a cross-university corps, work to promote safety among young people at risk through peer mediation and conflict resolution programs. For general information, call 212-998-2094. Any students at NYU interested in joining AmeriCorps Project SafetyNet can contact Lee Frissell at 212-998-5021.

Many student clubs and organizations such as Stern Cares, various scholars groups, Student Council, and Phi Chi Theta sponsor special service projects and philanthropic events throughout the year. To find out more about becoming involved, contact the Student Council or Inter-Club Council at 212-998-4052.

The NYU Community Service Center, 212-998-4614, provides students with information about service opportunities. Hundreds of volunteer positions are on file in this office. Center staff are available to provide advice and support. A community service handbook, a helpful guide for doing community service, may be obtained at the center. The center also sponsors special events such as Alternative Spring Break, Weekend Service Projects, and the annual Hunger Clean-Up. In addition, the center welcomes organizations to post volunteer positions.