



The Community Service and Service Learning Program at Winston-Salem State University operates under the name of **Project GIVE** (Getting Involved {through} Volunteer Experiences).

The goal of the program is to provide opportunities for WSSU students to combine classroom learning with real-world experiences. **Project GIVE** benefits students, local communities and the university by students contributing their skills and abilities in service to agencies and organizations in the greater Winston-Salem community, the WSSU campus or their hometowns. While serving these communities, students develop leadership skills that create well-rounded, community-sensitive citizens ready to contribute to the common good of all.

Project GIVE coordinates community volunteer placement and training for the following:

- (1) Freshman Seminar & Nursing Success Strategies students
- (2) Honors Colloquium students
- (3) University Scholarship recipients
- (4) Members of student organizations
- (5) Courses incorporating service learning in its curriculum and structure
- (6) Students prepared to give to others

PROGRAM SCOPE

WSSU students benefit from volunteer participation in the following ways:

- Enhanced sense of worth and confidence;
- Recognition for work well done;
- Developing a network of references for future educational and employment prospects;
- Improvement of communication skills (both listening and speaking);
- Gaining the experience of working in a professional environment;
- Enhancement of leadership skills;
- Creating potential career offers;
- Satisfaction from contributing freely to the uplift of others and the community while learning more about the community;

OUTCOMES

During the 2006-2007 academic year, a total of 858 students submitted Project GIVE reports indicating a total of 14,015 hours of volunteer service. Eleven students participating in the final year of the North Carolina Incentive Scholarship program submitted a total of 950 hours of service as part of their award requirements while student organizations contributed 2,222.5 hours. This creates a cumulative total of 17,187.5 hours of service conducted by WSSU students.

The wide spectrum of student volunteer efforts during the academic year is evidenced by 104 agencies and organizations that were beneficiaries of student volunteer efforts along with 33 WSSU departments or organizations. In addition, the service impact extended beyond Forsyth County borders to impact 68 agencies or organizations across the state and the region.

The impacted extended to local elementary and secondary schools where 164 WSSU students volunteer in 19 Winston-Salem/Forsyth County schools with 1,716.5 hours of service and an additional 210.25 hours to 12 schools in other North Carolina counties. An outstanding commitment by WSSU students at neighboring Jefferson Davis Diggs Magnet School for Visual and Performing Arts lead to the awarding of a special citation by the schools administration.

Additionally, WSSU students were recognized by the Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest North Carolina with the "CAN-DO" University Award in May 2007 for their overall efforts in supporting the organization's mission and in addressing hunger in an 18 county region.

CONTACT

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