

Organizations benefit from 'Day of Service'

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They came, they saw, they made a difference. Approximately 65 Alfred University students, faculty and staff gathered for a Day of Service to assist more than 15 service projects throughout the region. Volunteers swept, painted, raked, dug, picked up trash, and weeded their way across the region. The event coordinator, Mark McFadden, commented "The participation was fantastic, considering the all-too-typical rainy weather and pending final exams." Despite the cold and rainy conditions, several local residents and nonprofit organizations benefited. "We were fortunate to collaborate with several local agencies like the Steuben Churchpeople Against Poverty, Steuben Arc, ACCORD, Corp, Allegany County Office of the Aging, and Wellness G.I.F.T. Camp, just to name a few, and we had service projects taking place in Bath, Hornell, Belmont, Friendship, Almond, and of course, Alfred," said McFadden., adding "The recipients were very pleased with the work completed and look forward to future service projects with members of the Alfred University community."The Day of Service event concluded with a networking dinner attended by students and representatives from local nonprofit organizations. Interim Provost William Hall expressed his appreciation to the volunteers and the desire to see this become an annual tradition. Cheryl Czworka, nutrition coordinator for the Allegany County Office of the Aging, stated that the dinner was a wonderful venue to meet and discuss future service projects with AU students. In particular, she explored opportunities to join forces with members of the Alpha Phi Omega Service Fraternity on several local projects. McFadden noted that this event would not have happened without the support of the Alfred University community. Hall, a former mayor and now county legislator, said that he would like to see Alfred University continue to have a positive impact on the local region. "Our students, faculty and staff are a wonderful resource and I want to do what I can to connect members of the AU community with local nonprofits and public service organizations," said Hall. If this event continues to evolve, it will become a tradition of sharing, learning and helping others.