

Alfred University to participate in Empire 8-sponsored food drive

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ALFRED The Empire 8 Conference has designated three weekends during the basketball season for all conference student-athletes to engage in a community service effort with this year's event to be a canned goods drive. Student-athletes from all member institutions will take part by promoting the event in their local area or campus, collecting goods from sites in their community or by collecting goods at a home contest. Each institution will donate the goods to their local food bank. AU student-athletes will collect canned goods during this Saturday's men's and women's basketball games against visiting Ithaca College. The women's game begins at 2 p.m., while tip-off for the men's game is at 4 p.m."All of our members are already involved in various community service efforts as individual teams and some as entire athletic departments, but this initiative utilizes the energy of more than 4,000 student-athletes and administrators working for the same cause," said Empire 8 Commissioner Chuck Mitrano. The majority of the Empire 8 Day of Service Food Drive will take place during men's and women's basketball games over two Saturdays, January 31 and February 14, so each school will host the event. Elmira College hosted its event last Friday, January 23rd. "Philanthropy is a shared value of all Empire 8 members," Mitrano added. "As a relatively large organization, we have the ability to make a difference. This effort will have a tremendous benefit for the poverty stricken in our respective areas."The event coincides with the Empire 8 Basketball Coaches vs. Cancer initiative. All proceeds from games played the evenings of Jan. 30 and Feb. 13 will benefit Coaches vs. Cancer.