Alfred University to take part in annual Celebrate Service, Celebrate Allegany event 9/26/19



Alfred University students helped a local church with outdoor clean-up during the CSCA 2017 event.

ALFRED, NY – Alfred University is one of three area institutions of higher education participating in Celebrate Service, Celebrate Allegany (CSCA), Allegany County's annual fall day of service event, scheduled for several dates over the next month.

Seven years ago, a group from Leadership Allegany organized the inaugural Celebrate Service, Celebrate Allegany service day. The vision of this event was to build relationships between students and community members, enhance student exposure to the county beyond the confines of the campuses, and deliver meaningful help to public and non-profit organizations. Each year since 2012, CSCA has been observed by Alfred University, Alfred State College, and Houghton College on national Make A Difference Day, the fourth Saturday in October.

Since the program's inception, more than 2,400 students from the three institutions have contributed over 11,000 hours of service to county organizations and community projects. Each year, this unique collaborative effort receives financial and in-kind support from all three institutions, as well as county businesses, non-profits, and civic organizations. For 2019, CSCA is supported by Alfred University; Alfred State College; Houghton College; the Greater Allegany Chamber of Commerce, Inc.; the Allegany County Area Foundation; Otis Eastern Service, LLC, of Wellsville, NY; Leadership Allegany; and ACES: Auxiliary Campus Enterprises and Services. T-shirts were printed by Hot Silk Screen Printing of Alfred.

As the CSCA tradition enters its eighth year, administrators from all three campuses decided to broaden the reach of CSCA by adding additional dates for service projects, extending the celebration over the course of four weeks. The 2019 version will begin with Alfred University's day of service on Saturday, September 28, which is also National Good Neighbor Day. Projects on Good Neighbor Day will include the Alfred, Alfred Station, and Almond communities.

Houghton College will hold its celebration beginning October 21, kicking off a week of service and community-building projects. Houghton students will focus their volunteer efforts in the northern and western communities of Allegany County. In addition to the service projects, Houghton's Student Government Association (SGA) is scheduling their annual 5-K Turkey Trot for the morning of October 26, inviting the broader community to participate. All proceeds provide Thanksgiving meals to Allegany County residents.

On Saturday, October 26, Alfred State College students will conclude the collaborative month-long service celebration with volunteer service projects in the southern and eastern communities of Allegany County. Alfred State College organizers expect their students to engage in projects from supporting community events to fall clean-up and other activities."

"Our decision to expand Celebrate Service, Celebrate Allegany reflects the ongoing service and volunteer contributions of each campus to our beautiful county," Alfred University Service Learning Coordinator Corey Fecteau commented. "We have been able to accomplish a lot for local organizations during a single fall day of service, but growing our celebration allows us to also grow our impact, as well as provide greater flexibility for our community partners."

Follow Celebrate Service, Celebrate Allegany 2019 on the event Facebook page.