

AU, Allegany County Youth Court merge resources to bolster community service efforts

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The Gary Horowitz Service Learning Program at Alfred University recently merged with the Allegany County Youth Court in Belmont. This partnership creates a unique combination of resources to initiate and promote service, leadership, and community outreach for both programs. Jessica Jennings, who had served as the Allegany County Youth Court coordinator is now Service Learning coordinator in Alfred University's in the Career Development Center. The combination of resources from these two programs will enable AU to serve as the hub of service learning for campus and community members. In her new position, Jennings is looking to assist faculty in creating and implementing service learning components on their own by providing direction, partnership opportunities, and support for incorporating service learning into their courses. Kathy Woughter, Alfred University vice president for Student Affairs commented: "The ability to now have a full-time person working on service learning will elevate this program to the next level, providing additional opportunities for community partnerships, infusion into syllabi, and promotion of service learning concepts across campus." Jennings, from Angelica, graduated with a bachelor of arts degree in psychology and art from Houghton College. She served as coordinator for the Allegany County Youth Court for almost three years. The Allegany County Youth Court provides an immediate response for first-time offenses that may represent warning signs of future serious or violent delinquency. This early intervention also offers the defendant a second chance to make amends for his/her offenses. More information on service learning at Alfred University can be found at www.alfred.edu/academics/..., by contacting Jennings at Jennings@alfred.edu, or by calling 607.871.2162.