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Stony Brook Community Outreach Day:

A Huge Success!



Special Edition: Stony Brook Community Outreach Day

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On October 21, 2009 at Stony Brook Community Outreach Day, the simple goal of recognizing those who are passionate about community outreach became a phenomenon. In addition to hosting 37 student organizations and 25 Long Island nonprofits, the event generated **3,171** pounds of food, clothing, and personal care donations for nine of the nonprofits in attendance.

Stony Brook Community Outreach Day, part of the weeklong series of Inaugural Events celebrating Stony Brook's new president, recognized the community outreach contributions of students, faculty, and staff. The event contained four main components: a Community Outreach Showcase, a Student Center, Long Island nonprofit organizations, and nine collection stations for individuals to drop off donations of much-needed

items. The Community Outreach Showcase highlighted student organizations heavily involved in service through poster board displays. The Student Center featured on-campus student organizations recruiting potential members and signing them up for future community service activities. Twenty five- Long Island nonprofit organizations were on hand to speak to students about the diverse internship and volunteer opportunities they were offering, and nine of those 25 nonprofits were "adopted" by student organizations which collected much-needed items for their respective underserved populations. By the end of the night, 3,171 pounds of non-perishable food, personal care and baby items, and clothing was collected from Stony Brook community members.

Another memorable moment occurred when Stony Brook's new President, Dr. Samuel L. Stanley, visited with students and agency representatives then said a few words to the crowded ballroom. After an introduction from Career Center Director, Marianna Savoca, Dr. Stanley praised the accomplishments of the event participants, saying, "I have had the chance to interact



with people and they know the kind and positive things you are doing in so many different realms, whether it's building houses, helping to teach, getting involved with important programs dealing with domestic violence. You give and you get. You give the course of your time, you give your knowledge, you give your energy... The skills you learn are skills with working with people. You are learning to communicate and develop specific skills. This is a time to really set your path."



In collaboration with Community Outreach Day, Student Health Services hosted a Point of Distribution (POD) station for students for the H1N1 vaccination, free of charge. Over 350 vaccinations were given to students.

Stony Brook Community Outreach Day was spearheaded by the Career Center, with contributions from the Community Service and Service-Learning Committee, the Undergraduate College of Leadership and Service, the School of Social Welfare, Catholic Campus Ministry, and the Center for Prevention and Outreach. The nine nonprofit organizations who received donated items as a result of the event include Big Brothers Big Sisters of Long Island, Nassau-Suffolk Coalition for the Homeless, Island Harvest, Pax Christi Hospitality Center, St. James Food Pantry, the Mental Health Association, The-Inn, Community Housing Innovations, and Options for Community Living.



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