



COMMUNITY SERVICE & ENGAGEMENT

Students served approximately 8,500 hours throughout the fall semester! We look forward to continuing to serve our local and global communities throughout the spring semester.

Volunteer Hours Fall 2021



Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service was rescheduled to multiple dates throughout January and February due to inclement weather on 1/17. Throughout this time, students will serve the needs of local organizations such as **Southern Middle School, Mercy Ministries, Mary's Shelter, Hope Rescue Mission, Reading Public Works, Reading Firefighter's Museum, Cafe Esperanza**, and more! The kick-off event happened the morning of Martin Luther King Jr. Day as a group of Alvernia students served alongside **Mayor Eddie Moran** and **Senator Judy Schwank** to hand out hot chocolate, snacks, scarves, and hats to City residents. Read more about the story [here](#).

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Throughout December and January, the Career Development team reflected on the fall semester and brainstormed for the spring. Some highlights from the fall include presenting to **26 classes** (a mix of SEARCH seminars and upper-level classes) and hosting **127 individual career coaching appointments**. Resume reviews remain the most frequently requested appointment topic, with internship search strategies and general career coaching as other popular topics. In early January, the team enjoyed welcoming new student staff members. Career Development will continue to ramp up programmatic and advising offerings through partnerships with faculty and student organizations this spring.

READING YOUTH INITIATIVE

Throughout the Fall 2021 semester, RYI assisted over 440 1st through 12th grade students throughout the four programs (Millmont Elementary, Tyson-Schoener Elementary, Southern Middle School and Reading High School). Our service-learning partnerships, SPE 110 and PSY 208 students contributed **over 600 hours of community service** to the RYI programs!

12 RCSP students made the **Dean's List** which includes every person in Cohort 8 (our freshmen cohort)! We are so proud of them!



RCSP Cohort 8

We are also happy to welcome our newest team member, **Angie Drebusenko**, to the team as our RYI Program Coordinator. Angie brings to the team a lot of experience and we are so happy to have her join us! "Teaching has always been a passion of mine, whether I was teaching preschool students, directing a summer playground program, working with students pursuing a career in ECE, or most recently guiding students in their career development from writing resumes to finding employment. I am excited to share my experience with the Alvernia community and help guide the RYI Program and Alvernia students in their education and service learning."

SUSTAINABILITY

The **EcoHouse** is partnering with Alvernia's student-led **Outdoor Adventure Club (OAC)** to facilitate a 1-week trip during spring break to Portland, Oregon. Two of our Bog Turtlers, **Alex Kabrich** and **Ethan LaVerdure**, will join four other students and two faculty/staff facilitators, **Mikaileigh Baker** and **Dr. Alicia Sprow**, as they engage in programming around sustainability, regenerative agriculture, and outdoor adventure. The group will be staying at **Tabula Rasa Farms** in Carlton, Oregon where



Tabula Rasa Farms in Carlton, Oregon

Alvernia alumnus, **Vinny Pinto**, works as the Hospitality and Sales Manager. Vinny will help facilitate the experience for our students that will include service activities, educational programming, and adventuring in the outdoors. This experience opens up new internship and research opportunities for our students to pursue in the Pacific Northwest.



SERVICE-LEARNING COMMUNITY PARTNER APPRECIATION!

Thank you to our community partners and service-learning partners for another great semester of partnership!

COM 290: Health Communications with Dr. Jodi Radosh, partnered with Berks Vaccination Coalition

Com 342: Social Media Marketing with Dr. Jodi Radosh, partnered with Reading Film Festival and Violins of Hope

THR 142: Creativity Workshop with Jessica Warchal-King, partnered with Reading Film Festival

PSY 208: Human Development Across Life Span with Dr. Ana Ruiz, partnered with Reading Youth Initiative

BUS 332: Operations Management with Dr. Kathleen Nevel, partnered with Berks Catholic High School and Diocese of Allentown Office of Education

SPE 110: Intro to Exceptionalities in Children and Youth with Lucinda Schaeffer, partnered with John Paul II Center, Shady Hollow Assisted Riding, Unending Promise, and Reading Youth Initiative

OT 427 & 538: Adapting and Grading High Technology with Dr. Gregory Chown, partnered with individual clients

OT 517: Advanced Interventions with Alison Foura, partnered with Reading Science Center and Tyson Schoener Elementary School

SPA 390: Advanced Healthcare Topics with Antonella Merolla

AT 101: Athletic Training with Tom Franek, partnered with the Reading Science Center

BIO 216: Nutrition with Diane Kraft, partnered with Reading Science Center



HORSES WITH HEART



Alvernia University
Reading Youth Initiative

