Student Volunteering 2016/17
Impact Report

Making a difference and having an impact on the wider community of York is a key part of thousands of student’s University experience, whether they are giving just a couple of hours or committing to projects and regular volunteer roles every week, be this through Careers, Colleges, YUSU, GSA or faith organisations. The hours given are astonishing and we extend our thanks to all of them for their time and enthusiasm.

I would like to thank the Shepherd Group for their generous support, which makes it possible for our students to realise their ideas and to continue to raise the aspirations of young people through York Students in Schools (YSIS). It is fantastic to see the impact and commitment of our students and long may it continue.

Professor Matt Matravers, Chair of the Volunteering and Community Committee

2,668 Volunteer Opportunities

65,763 Approx. Hours given

£473,493 Value at minimum wage

YUSU team up with SNAPPY for a sporting delight

SNAPPY is a play and activities group for children and young people with disabilities. Working with the charity YUSU’s volunteering officers and sports teams came together to make a difference to the lives of young people with special needs. They led a sports takeover day at the charity, making a wide range of sports accessible to the young people.

National success for History students

Over 50 first year history students joined students from English, History of Art, Politics and Education to tackle a range of projects for community clients over the summer term. The resources including films, research materials and educational resources are being picked up at a national level by English Heritage, the National Trust and Robertson’s Construction.

Students tackle key issues for York

This year we have seen students start up projects to support older people through a CommuniTea project with medical students and Woolnough Care Home. Another group took up the challenge to inspire young people through a one day conference on the right to education, as part of the move towards York declaring itself the first Human Rights city in the UK.
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Teams of volunteers from Colleges helped to transform Tang Hall Community Centre

In June over 200 volunteers, including 40 students helped to transform Tang Hall Community Centre outdoor spaces, including the building of raised beds, removing the basketball court and building a pizza oven. Student volunteers worked alongside employee volunteers over three days. Alcuin volunteers also worked with Portakabin over Student Volunteering Week to make a garden for Applefield School.

Volunteer ‘one to watch’ for Undergraduate of the Year

Adam Tilley, a management undergraduate was listed in the top 10 to watch in the Undergraduate of the Year awards. Adam helped set up a new project to promote sustainability in primary schools. He worked with Tesco’s to help Acomb primary Eco-Council reduce the school’s food waste. Adam’s success landed him an internship for the summer in Jersey.

Coming up next year

- Piloting a social enterprise project to support student’s mental health and wellbeing through the growing, creation and giving of flowers.
- Launch of a tutoring scheme for young people most in need of support to improve attainment in Maths and English
- Development of a learning gain tool to measure the impact of volunteering on student’s confidence, skills and employability.

About us

The Volunteering and Community Committee include representatives from across Careers, YUSU, Colleges, GSA, chaplaincy and external relations. It shares best practice, identifies and supports areas of community need, and assists students to start, lead and learn from voluntary experience. Find out more at www.york.ac.uk/volunteering.

£120,734.46
Fundraised through Raising and Giving

20
Student Volunteering Awards presented

£1000
Awarded to start up projects through the University Community Fund

19
New partners

Discover the city. Make an impact. Build your future.