

February 5, 2023

Dear West Virginia Campus Communities,

In an effort to grow community engagement and service, the Advisory Council of Students (ACS) is working to facilitate a Statewide Month of Service, February 5th-29th, 2024. The Advisory Council of Students represents all 2 and 4 year higher education institutions in the state of WV. We encourage our fellow West Virginian institutions to participate so that we may create a wide impact in every region.

The February Month of Service will seek to alleviate various areas of hardship faced by our communities. We hope to address the four following areas of emphasis:

- Food Insecurity
- Health and Hygiene
- Literacy and Education
- Community service back to our respective communities

To address these areas, we will seek donations from our students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community members to benefit the following regional charities and locations,

The Giving Palm, A.D. Lewis Center, Huntington and Morgantown Communities, Morgantown Public Library, Marshall University Food Pantry, WVU's Food Pantry: The Rack, WVU Women's Resource Center, Morgantown's Rape & Domestic Violence Center, Marshall Thrift Store, the Salvation Army, NEST Pantry, Ram Pantry, Wheeling Coalition for the Homeless, Ohio, Berkley, & Jefferson County Schools, WLU Food Pantry, Corporation of Shepherdstown, Catamount Care Closet, Bethany College FSC, etc.

The outline of events will proceed as follows:

- Collecting donations from each category
- Giving back to communities

Food drives at each campus will seek the following non-perishables:

- Canned fruits and vegetables
- Dry pasta
- Jellies, jams, and sauces
- Granola or protein bars

- Low-sugar cereals
- Shelf-stable milk
- Grains
- Mac and cheese
- Can openers

Hygiene drives at each campus will seek the following:

- Toilet paper
- Shampoo and conditioner
- Body wash/soap/deodorant
- Toothbrush, toothpaste, and mouthwash
- Towels and washcloths
- Menstrual products (pads, tampons, etc.)
- Acne cream/wipes
- Shaving supplies/lotion
- Baby wipes/diapers
- Nail files/clippers
- Sunblock

Book drives at each campus will seek the following:

- Gently used new picture and board books appropriate for babies through elementary school students, and graphic novels
- Culturally relevant and diverse books for ages 5-18
- <https://www.thegivingpalm.org/donate>
- <https://www.mympls.org/>

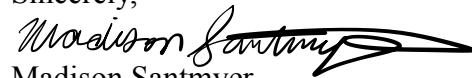
In-person donations can be delivered to the prospective universities student centers. For more information on how to contact your university's student center, please contact your respective university or Madison Santmyer (madison.santmyer@mail.wvu.edu).

To learn more about ACS please visit our website:

<https://www.wvhpc.edu/west-virginia-advisory-council-of-students/>

It is our collective hope that we can positively contribute to our fellow West Virginians now and for years to come. We look forward to your participation and contribution!

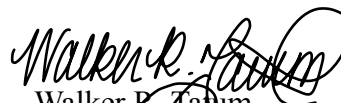
Sincerely,



Madison Santmyer

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ACS Chair



Walker R. Tatum

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ACS Vice Chair