Tulanians volunteer across New Orleans area for student-led day of service

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Hundreds of Tulane students volunteered across the city for Outreach Tulane, the university’s largest and longest running student-led day of service, on Saturday, Oct. 16.

The event was originally scheduled to take place on Aug. 28, however Hurricane Ida necessitated a change in plans.

Following the storm, the 2021 Outreach Tulane board updated the list of community partners to include some projects with a focus on Hurricane Ida relief efforts. More than 20 organizations, such as New Orleans City Park, New Orleans Habitat for Humanity, and Hagar’s House, were community partners for this year’s day of service. Around 700 students participated in service projects.

“Outreach Tulane continues in its 31st year to serve as a bridge between the Tulane student body and the City of New Orleans, providing them with a space to bond with peers, engage in meaningful community service projects, learn valuable civic skills, and exchange thoughtful dialogue and stories to strengthen the threads of this magical city so many call home. Contrasted against the fear and uncertainty of this pandemic, this service opportunity reminds us that hardship can never prevent us from looking out for each other and caring for even those whom we do not know — acting not for oneself, but for one’s own,” Sam Rawlins, 2021 Outreach Tulane board member, said.

(Photos by Paula Burch-Celentano and Rusty Costanza)
The sun rises as students gather on the Berger Family Lawn before loading buses to the various service locations. (Photo by Paula Burch-Celentano)
Tulane President Michael Fitts thanks students for their resilience following Hurricane Ida and their commitment to helping New Orleans. (Photo by Paula Burch-Celentano)
Students clean up at New Orleans City Park. (Photo by Rusty Costanza)
Tulane junior Michael Xu helps secure an aging shed at Hagar’s House NOLA, which provides transitional housing and resources for women and children. (Photo by Paula Burch-Celentano)
Students help clean up at Bethany United Methodist Church. The fence and surrounding roofs received damage from Hurricane Ida. (Photo by Rusty Costanza)
(Left to right) Students Adia Handy, junior majoring in management, Taylor Hurt, first-year graduate student in public health, and Micailah Guthrie, also a first-year graduate student in public health, help clean up the yard around the church. (Photo by Rusty Costanza)
(Left to right) Daniel Marglous, Andrew Terrebonne and John Nuttli weed and freshen up a path in the community garden at Hagar’s House NOLA. The garden is filled with herbs for cooking and making medicinal teas. (Photo by Paula Burch-Celentano)
Students cross Oretha Castle Haley Boulevard to distribute bag lunches to individuals experiencing homelessness in the Central City neighborhood. (Photo by Paula Burch-Celentano)
Students clean up along Press Drive in the Pontchartrain Park subdivision. (Photo by Rusty Costanza)