FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS: SERVICE PLUNGE 2022

What are the requirements of being a Service Plunge participant?
Salve students who are committed to social issues, direct service, making a difference and having fun are invited to apply. After, participants are expected to share their unique experience with others in the community.

How do I apply?
Applications open in April and close June 30, 2022 at noon. Click on following link for application:

Timeline?
April: Applications online
June 30: Application close online at noon
July 1: Plungees notified of their acceptance
Mid-July: Waitlist activated
July 30: Plungee participants non-refundable $25 due online to Salve Regina University Business Office
July 30: Service Plunge participant schedule and packing list emailed to participants.
August 27: Move into your residence hall
August 27-September 1st : Service Plunge Weekend 2022

How much does the Service Plunge cost?
The cost for Service Plunge is $25. It is non-refundable and payable to the SRU Business Office before July 30th.

How does the application process work?
The Service Plunge applications must be received before June 30th at noon to be given full consideration. The Center for Community Engagement and Service has Student Service Plunge facilitators who will review all applications. All candidates will be notified of their acceptance or waitlist by email.

How many spots are available?
The Service Plunge program only has 30 spots available, due to the housing requirements.

Do students have to participate in the entire Service Plunge?
Yes, student participants are required to participate in the entire Service Plunge.

When do I move in?
Participants will move in early to their Salve residence hall (or a temporary residence hall) on August 27, in order to partake in the Service Plunge. (More details about move in time, will be shared closer to the date.)

Do Salve students help me move my stuff into my new residence hall?
Due to the fact that the fall semester has not begun, there are no Salve upperclassmen available to help move your items. All participants will need to move their items on their own.

Where will I be staying?
All participants will be staying on campus in their own residence halls.

What will I be doing during the Service Plunge?
All participants will be getting dirty cleaning up the God's Community Gardens, volunteering with children at Child & Family Services on Aquidneck Island, helping the Rhode Island Food Bank, Gifts to Give, and various community partners. Participants will be participating in name games, leadership activities, tour Aquidneck Island, and meet new friends before the semester begins.

How am I transported during the Service Plunge?
Participants are transported to each site by a bus and will always have supervision.

What do I eat during the Service Plunge?
All food menus are planned in advance according to specific dietary restrictions and allergies. There is always plenty of food and water. However, breakfast usually consists of cereal & granola bars. Lunch consists of PB&J sandwiches, fruit, and various snacks. Dinner is adjusted according to the nightly volunteer schedule. All participants must bring their own water bottle, to keep consistent with being Ecofriendly!

What happens if I get injured or sick during the Service Plunge?
All participants will have the access to call their parents regarding any major situation.

If am a fall athlete; can I still participate in the retreat?
If you are participating in fall athletics, the Service Plunge program will conflict with your athletic season. We encourage you to apply for Service Plunge 2.0 in the spring semester.

If am an MLK Scholar; can I still participate in the retreat?
Yes, if you are participating in MLK Scholarship Program, you can still apply for Service Plunge.

Center for Community Engagement and Service Website?
https://salve.edu/center-for-community-engagement-and-service

Information about some of our potential (and not limited) Community Partners:
Child and Family Services: *Welcome to Child & Family, where we strengthen families, their members and the communities in which they live. At Child & Family, we hold two core beliefs. That individuals and communities thrive when supported by strong families and that a community works best when it accepts responsibility for all of its members. These beliefs influence everything we do and have guided our growth since we first opened our doors in 1866. Volunteers will be assisting in the Sandpipers division, and working with little children.*
https://childandfamilyri.com/

Gods Community Gardens: *The Master Gardener, Linda Wood is the driving force behind the garden, its growth and tremendous outreach efforts. The garden, begun at Calvary in 1996 by Bishop Dale White as a small Methodist outreach effort, has increased significantly in recent years and involves houses of worship and community volunteers from all over the island. The project has also expanded exponentially in both produce volume and variety, and has produced literally tons of fresh vegetables and herbs. Thousands of pounds of vegetables are donated annually to area soup kitchens, senior centers, shelters and food pantries. This past summer a farm stand was set up at St. Paul's in Newport to complement our Calvary stand for seniors and other low income families. Volunteer opportunities exist for digging, picking and caring for the plants in the gardens and working the farm stand.*
http://www.middletownmethodist.com/missions.html

Rhode Island Food Bank: The Rhode Island Community Food Bank distributes food to people in need through a statewide network of 160 member agencies. These agencies include food pantries, meal sites, shelters, youth programs and senior centers. Each month, 59,000 struggling Rhode Islanders receive food assistance at these agencies. One in three served is a child under the age of 18, and one in five is over the age of 60. The Food Bank solicits food donations from the public and from the food industry, including supermarkets, food manufacturers and growers. To keep up with the high demand for food assistance, the Food Bank also purchases food at a low cost from wholesalers. Last year, the Food Bank distributed 9.2 million pounds of food.
http://rifoodbank.org/

Gifts to Give: Thousands of local children come here to engage in giving and service. We call it Tangible Philanthropy and Big Citizenship. Kids donate their “gently-used” clothes, toys, books and things they no longer need or use and volunteer at our huge re-purposing center to process, organize and package tons of donations, transforming them into thousands of individual gift packages. Hundreds of local agencies and care givers go on-line

and order customized gift-packages for homeless and at-risk children in their care. All this is made possible through the skill sets and commitment of our volunteer management team.
http://www.giftstogive.org/