Habitat Teams with Incoming Freshmen During Orientation

Winthrop University

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ROCK HILL, S.C. - Incoming Winthrop freshmen will be given an opportunity to volunteer with Habitat for Humanity of York County during Orientation sessions this summer.

One of the evening activities available to new students is an on-campus Habitat for Humanity build called "Shed a Little Light on Service." Two 8x8-foot sheds will be built near Wofford residence hall, with one going to a house that Habitat will be building this summer for a local family. The other shed will be auctioned off by Habitat for Humanity of York County, with proceeds going toward future builds.

The service component of the orientation process is important, particularly as Winthrop looks to continue its role as a leader in the realm of civic engagement, said Jason Weil, Winthrop's volunteer and community service coordinator. "Having new students see the benefits of social responsibility so early in their college careers will benefit not only the community, but the students as well. We consistently find that engaged students are more likely to be successful students," Weil said.

Orientation is a program designed to assist new students and their families in adjusting to life as a Winthrop student. During Orientation, new students meet current student leaders, receive information on the academic and social aspects of college life, are advised and register for classes.

All freshmen entering in the fall are required to attend one of four three-day Orientation sessions offered each June. The sessions will be held June 5-7, June 12-14, June 19-21 and June 26-28. The Habitat activity will be offered from 6:30 to 9 p.m. on June 5, 12, 19 and 26 near Wofford.

If anyone is interested in bidding on the additional shed, contact Lori Benson, the executive director of Habitat for Humanity of York County, at 803/323-1728.