

IFC Service Officer Resource



IFC

OFFICER RESOURCE • nicfraternity.org/ifcsop

Congratulations!

You have been chosen by the representatives of your Interfraternity Council to represent the fraternity community for the upcoming year.

As the IFC Service and Philanthropy officer, the coordination of community service opportunities and philanthropic efforts rests with you. Community service is a pillar of most, if not all, member chapters, and is a great public relations tool for the fraternity community. Service events also allow members to give back to the campus and the surrounding neighborhood. The discussion of community service opportunities and events should take place at the start of every semester.

While this guide was intended to be used in conjunction with the Interfraternity Council, the information in this guide is meant to be fully inclusive of the fraternity communities led by the Inter-Greek Councils and can be easily shared with NPC, NPHC, NALFO, NMGC, NAPA, and other organizations. This type of interfraternal cooperation will increase the likelihood of successful implementation and maintain positive relations between all elements of the fraternity community.

Fast Five for the IFC Service/Philanthropy Officer

Much of your role of the IFC Service and Philanthropy officer can be divided into different categories. Here are the NIC's *Fast Five* expectations for your time in this position.

1.

Beginning of Semester Discussions

- The discussion of community service opportunities and events should take place at the start of **every semester**.
- Some **questions to consider** in this conversation include:
 - In what capacity do individual members want to serve? (Group projects, individual opportunities, or a large scale IFC event, etc.)
 - How often will community service initiatives take place a semester? Per year?
 - What local agencies or campus departments would benefit from the service?
 - Is there a certain cause or campaign that members want to become involved?
 - What can the IFC do to make the service impactful and significant to the member performing the service?
- It is important to survey the general membership to see what their **expectations** of community service and philanthropic efforts are so that the council can program to the needs of the members.
- Planning events that members have no interest in attending or are too cumbersome will diminish the value of the service performed — especially

if the IFC plans an event with a local agency or campus department and men do not show up. That not only looks unfavorable upon the men that did not come, but the IFC, and may hinder that agency or department in working with the organization once again.

2.

Event Ideas

- Service opportunities:
 - **Building community relations**
 - Street clean up
 - Volunteering at a homeless shelter
 - Volunteering at a nursing home
 - Tutoring at a community school
 - Adopting a highway
 - Volunteering at a soup kitchen
 - Volunteering at a nearby children's hospital
 - Building wheelchair ramps for those in the community
 - Help neighbors paint or repaint their homes
 - Create birthday cards for the elderly
 - Volunteer at a local museum or children's museum
 - **Working with animals**
 - Volunteering at the humane society
 - Work with a local zoo
 - Organize a community dog wash
 - Pet therapy at local rehabilitation centers or nursing home
 - Volunteer at a national, state, or local park
 - Find out information about volunteering at a local wildlife sanctuary
 - **On-campus ideas**
 - Tutoring on campus
 - Volunteer with a campus blood drive
 - Help with landscaping around the campus
 - Set up a community garden
 - Voter registration campaign
 - Ask if a department needs help cleaning out old files
 - **Drives**
 - Organize a food drive for a local food pantry
 - Clothing drive for a consignment shop
 - Teddy bear drive for the local children's hospital
 - Collecting animal products (toys, food, collars, leashes) for the local humane society
 - Hosting a blood drive
 - Gently used book drive
 - Penny wars to donate money to a local or campus charity
 - School supply drive for back-to-school needs

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Philanthropy ideas <i>Note: Any money collected through these efforts should be donated to the corresponding cause or chosen organization of the IFC's choosing.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Participating in an awareness walk (juvenile diabetes, autism, leukemia, etc.) ○ Hosting a pancake breakfast ○ Hosting a senior citizen prom ○ Holding a sports tournament ○ Fundraise through various restaurant chains ○ Hosting a Halloween party for school-aged children ○ Host a dance marathon ○ Host a talent show/competition ○ Participate in St. Jude's Up 'til Dawn |
| <p style="font-size: 2em; color: #90EE90; margin: 0;">3.</p> | <p style="color: #00AEEF; margin: 0;">Interfraternal Service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In an effort to promote interfraternalism and continued support for the surrounding community, all Greek organizations should join together at least once a year to collectively provide service or raise funds for a worthy charitable organization. • In planning a successful event, representatives from every chapter should be fully involved to ensure a high level of communication and participation. Establishing and utilizing this diverse group of Greeks will also help create a more interfraternal experience for everyone. • In selecting a project which will provide a quality experience for everyone involved and receive positive public attention, the IFC should consider ideas which benefit the entire campus or local community in some way. The Greek volunteers should also be able to relate to the endeavor on a personal level. |
| <p style="font-size: 2em; color: #90EE90; margin: 0;">4.</p> | <p style="color: #00AEEF; margin: 0;">Publishing Service Hours and Philanthropy Dollars</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The IFC should publish an annual compilation of service hours performed and dollars raised by the community during the year. • The report should be circulated among all key campus officials, faculty members, chapter advisors, media contacts, community leaders, general fraternity headquarters, and the NIC. |
| <p style="font-size: 2em; color: #90EE90; margin: 0;">5.</p> | <p style="color: #00AEEF; margin: 0;">Integration in New Member Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The IFC encourages community service as an important element in all new member education and assists chapters in identifying potential projects. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The IFC should actively promote community service endeavors among its new members. Community service is also an excellent source for group bonding and spending time together helping others. |

Helpful Resources

NIC Staff

Contact the NIC for all of your resource and educational needs, campus community development issues and questions about implementing the SOP.

- Complete staff list can be found at nicfraternity.org/staff
- Email campus@nicfraternity.org

Interfraternity Council Standard Operating Procedures

The mission of an IFC is to foster a healthy and vibrant fraternity community. The IFC Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) provide structure and support - a baseline for policies and practices - for IFCs to operate in accordance with NIC Standards, endorsed by all minter/national member fraternities of the NIC.

Categories in the SOP include:

- Academic Enrichment
- Accountability
- Finances
- Governance
- Health and Safety
- Public Relations
- Recruitment
- Reporting
- Responsible Growth

Read the full the SOP here: nicfraternity.org/ifcsop