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For immediate release

609 volunteers serve the Arkadelphia community for Spring 2019 Tiger Serve Day

By Mercedes Mata

April 15, 2019

For more information, contact OBU's news bureau at newsbureau@obu.edu or (870) 245-5208



ARKADELPHIA, Ark.— A grand total of 609 students, faculty and staff gathered to serve the community of Arkadelphia on Saturday, April 6, as part of Ouachita Baptist University's semi-annual service blitz, Tiger Serve Day. The community-wide event consisted of 110 projects completed by the volunteers while focusing on this year's theme of "Lending a Hand."

Tiger Serve Day "shows that we all need each other," said Ian Cosh, vice president for community and international engagement and director of the Elrod Center. "It is about burden lifting and burden sharing as a life style.

"It is a signature event of the Elrod Center designed to demonstrate our unity and neighborly care," Cosh added.

During the half-day event, teams of six to eight volunteers work on various projects around Arkadelphia, ranging from yard work to cleaning and organizing. The projects seek to impact individual community members as well as local businesses and organizations like Lighthouse Ministries.



"I love the energy, excitement and joy of the crowd as they are all together right before going out to serve, and I also love to hear the stories of the volunteers as they return," said Judy Duvall, associate director of the Elrod Center. "They go out to serve others but are so blessed by the people and the work they get to do."

"The connections that are made make an impact in people's lives, and they feel like they are still loved and cared for," said Chanelle Pieterse a senior elementary education major from Harare, Zimbabwe and member of the Tiger Serve Day Leadership Team. "As a student, I think it is rewarding to spend time serving, loving and being loved by Arkadelphia's community."

For more information, contact Judy Duvall at duvallj@obu.edu or (870) 245-5320.

PHOTOS AVAILABLE TO DOWNLOAD AT <https://obu.edu/news/2019/04/15/609-volunteers-serve-arkadelphia-community-spring-2019-tiger-serve-day-mercedes-mata/>