FY26 VOLUNTEER IMPACT REPORT

Volunteerism from
July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026















NIU VOLUNTEER

NIU FOUNDATION

THANK YOU

To over 1,500 amazing volunteers!

NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION | FY26 VOLUNTEER IMPACT REPORT

VOLUNTEERISM OVERVIEW

Over **1,500** volunteers made a positive impact in Fiscal Year **2026** and furthered the university's mission. Of these volunteers, over **85%** were alumni who found meaningful ways to give back and showcase the power of our alumni network!

**Volunteer data is based on NIU Alumni Association recruited and campus-partner reported records. Impact data is primarily based off recruited volunteer activities and available campus-partner records.*

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

530+
VOLUNTEERS

Over **530 unique volunteers** supported the career and professional development of more than **1,200** students, faculty and staff.

Includes: *Career Success Clinic, Professional Interviews with Alumni.*

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

$38K+
RAISED VIA HUSKIES UNITED

Over **360 unique volunteers** advocated for the Huskie community and created nearly **250** touchpoints with legislators. Volunteers also raised awareness for Huskies United, our annual day of giving, directly raising over **$38,000** for various campus programs.

Includes: *Advocacy Day, Huskies United Advocates, Commencement.*

STUDENT SUPPORT

1,600+
STUDENT CONNECTIONS

Over **330 unique volunteers** supported more than **1,600** current and future students through acts of service and care.

Includes: *Huskie Finals Notecard Project, Scholarship Review.*

STUDENT RECRUITMENT

20,000+
FUTURE HUSKIE CONNECTIONS

Almost **90 unique volunteers** connected with more than **20,000** future Huskies to support student recruitment.

Includes: *College & Career Fairs, Recruit a Huskie Postcard Campaign, Preview Days.*

WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT VOLUNTEERISM?

Visit **niuforward.com** and see all the ways you can get involved!

AFFINITY GROUP PROGRAM

Over **120 volunteer leaders** connected through shared identities, regions and interests to support their fellow Huskies through a variety of events and activities that help drive the NIU mission.

22 Total Events

1000+ Event Attendees

$64,600+ Raised in Support of Student Success

VOLUNTEER LEADERS

There are a variety of council and leadership roles across campus that support the university's mission. In FY26, almost **550 unique volunteers** helped shape and support both academic, co-curricular and athletic units through their leadership and guidance.

NORTHERN LIGHTS AWARD

This October, the NIU Alumni Association will recognize **Nancy Prange, M.S. '97, M.P.H. '21, Ph.D., '21,** and **Pattie Schiele, '86,** as the 2026 recipients of the Northern Lights Award — honoring volunteers that embody the spirit of the Huskie Pack and the enduring legacy of Liz McSpadden, '10, M.B.A. '16.

NANCY PRANGE and **PATTIE SCHIELE** were chosen for their committed volunteer contributions and for embodying the qualities that made McSpadden a truly impactful volunteer: generosity, initiative, reliability, joyfulness and curiosity. **Read their stories here.**



NANCY PRANGE, M.S. '97, M.P.H. '21, Ph.D., '21
Director of graduate studies in Nutrition & Dietetics within NIU's School of Rehabilitation and Performance Sciences



PATTIE SCHIELE, '86
Corporate Communications Professional

WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT NIU?
Visit **niuforward.com** and see all the ways you can engage!



FORWARD

The Campaign for NIU

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