COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENTS

At New Jersey Institute of Technology, the athletic department prides itself on giving back to the local community. Student-athletes, coaches and other members of the athletic staff participate in a variety of activities throughout the year.

Below is a listing of activities where the NJIT athletic teams have been involved in community engagement projects during the school year.

MEN’S SOCCER

NJIT men’s soccer volunteered their time on May 1, 2015 at the Boys & Girls Club of Newark. The team helped the boys and girls with homework and participated in other after school activities. They led a discussion on what it takes to accomplish personal goals and succeed in college and on a collegiate sports team. The players emphasized commitment, hard work, taking responsibility for your actions and developing a passion for what you are doing.

The team also took to the gym for some soccer skills demonstrations and training with the boys and girls.

"It was really a great day for everyone," said NJIT senior captain Josh Mercer. "The boys and girls were just so enthusiastic and fun, and they got to see, from us, just what it takes to succeed at a high level and how to set big goals to strive for. And we as student-athletes learned about some of the challenges inner-city youth face on a daily basis and how, by lending a helping hand, you can positively impact the lives of others."
Team members of the NJIT men’s soccer team met with the After School All Starts of Newark to talk about school work and sports. After speaking with the children, the team did soccer skills demonstrations, and were able to do 1-on-1 skill instruction.

With the assistance of the Bloomfield Township Health and Human Services Department, members of the NJIT men’s soccer team went to an elderly couple’s home in order to help them with the clearing of leaves from their property.
Members of the NJIT men’s soccer team volunteered their time on November 21, 2014, by spending part of the day helping St. Rocco’s Church in Newark prepare for upcoming coat and food drives.

The Highlanders helped clean, prepare, and sort clothes at St. Rocco’s, which expected to distribute coats to more than 500 people.

In addition, they assisted the church and an affiliated church, St. Anna’s, prepare for a Thanksgiving dinner for more than 400 people.

"I really appreciate our players taking time from their studies and other activities to help St. Rocco's," said head coach Didier Orellana "It was a great chance for them to appreciate how fortunate they are and to understand the importance of helping those who are less fortunate in our own city. It was a combination of holiday spirit and NJIT at its very best."
The NJIT men’s soccer team volunteered their time on Friday, February 21 2014 at St. Rocco’s Food Pantry in Newark.

The team packed hundreds of bags and filled them with different items of food for the homeless that live in the City of Newark and Essex County. Players and coaches unloaded trucks that were filled with food, clothing, shoes and survival kits.
MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TENNIS

NJIT men’s and women’s tennis teams participated in the myFace Holiday party in New York on December 7. The teams helped with the setup and cleanup processes, assisting with guest check-in, raffle table monitoring, greeting guests and gift distribution with Santa.
BASEBALL

NJIT baseball volunteered at the Goodwill Rescue Mission in Newark on Saturday, December 6 and again Saturday, December 13.

The athletes helped to set up and break down the event, including clean-up. They also helped serve food to people in need.
NJIT baseball volunteered their time on Saturday, October 18, 2014 assisting the Newark community at the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk.

The team set up, unloaded water, hung banners and placed mile markers for the Breast Cancer Walk which was held at Military Park in Newark on Sunday, October 19, 2014.
MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD TEAMS

The NJIT men and women’s track and field teams spent Saturday, December 6, 2015 working with a local middle school class on various track and field skills.

Students from Newark Christian School interacted with various members of the Highlander track teams and were able to ask questions about balancing college life, academics and track and field.
MEN'S BASKETBALL

The NJIT men’s basketball team volunteered their time at the Camden Street Elementary School in Newark to participate in the “Dunk with Dad” event on November 21, 2014.

The players were in attendance to support the event by refereeing games, partaking in game commentary and a few filled roles as “Dad” for some young men not fortunate enough to have their fathers in attendance.

The NJIT men’s basketball program hosted an Alex’s Lemonade Stand on Saturday, September 27 2014.

The team prepared a stand Madison, NJ during the towns “Bottle Hill Day” street fair. The team sold cups of lemonade and cookies. Proceeds from each cup went to the research from childhood cancer and its cure.
MEN’S SWIMMING AND DIVING

The NJIT men’s swimming and diving team for its third year in a row, volunteered at the Community FoodBank of New Jersey on November, 18 2014.

The team packed 380 boxes, about 10,000 lbs. of food and drinks into care packages that will be distributed to families in need throughout the greater Newark area for the holiday season.
WOMEN’S SOCCER

The NJIT women’s soccer team volunteered their time on Friday, October 24, 2014 at the Boys and Girls Club in Newark.

The team spoke with children about their college experiences at NJIT and played soccer with club members.

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

NJIT women’s basketball visited Brick Avon Academy in Newark on Tuesday, June 17 2014 and hosted a free clinic for the students. The clinic included individual skill work, conditioning and team play.