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NEWS RELEASE

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APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY WILL HOST LOVE YOUR COMMUNITY ON FEBRUARY 14, AN OPPORTUNITY TO GIVE BACK TO WATAUGA COUNTY

A community-centered service opportunity for Watauga county

Boone, N.C.— Appalachian State University will host a service event, Love Your Community, on Valentine's Day, February 14, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. According to the US Census, more than 30% of Watauga County residents live below poverty level, which makes this event vital to the community. There are three different ways to contribute to this event. One way is to donate non-perishable food at the Panhellenic building, located at 949 Blowing Rock Road. You can stop by anytime from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. to donate cans for the Hunger and Health Coalition. Another way is to read books to children from 3 - 5 p.m. at the Watauga County Library located at 140 Queen St. The third way is to meet at the Belk Library on Appalachian's campus between the hours of 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. to pick up garbage around the community. There will be a team leader every hour to supervise trash pick-up throughout the community and the Greenway.

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The Appalachian Popular Programming Society (APPS) is a student organization that works to select, plan, and provide a variety of entertainment that will better the social and cultural life of Appalachian students. APPS will be hosting a charity concert at Legends, which is located at 190 Hardin St. The band Strictly Strings will be performing. Tickets are \$5 each, and all proceeds will be donated to the Hunger and Health Coalition.

Strictly Strings is known for playing “old time music” although they perform bluegrass and Celtic music as well. Strictly Strings was a part of the Junior Appalachian Musicians (JAM) Program. “We are excited to welcome Strictly Strings back to campus to help us with this wonderful charity event. Watauga County residents need our help, so please bring your family and friends to help us give back to the community,” said Chancellor Sheri N. Everts.

Appalachian State University, in North Carolina’s Blue Ridge Mountains, prepares students to lead purposeful lives as global citizens who understand and engage their responsibilities in creating a sustainable future for all. The transformational Appalachian experience promotes a spirit of inclusion that brings people together in inspiring ways to acquire and create knowledge, to grow holistically, to act with passion and determination, and embrace diversity and difference. As one of 17 campuses in the University of North Carolina system, Appalachian enrolls about 18,000 students, has a low faculty-to-student ratio and offers more than 150 undergraduate and graduate majors.

Founded in 1982 as a labor of love, the Hunger and Health Coalition strives to be a resource for individuals and families within our community who are struggling to provide

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themselves with basic needs such as food and prescription medicines. The Hunger and Health Coalition today offers multiple services to people in need within our community: food, prescription assistance, snacks for children, clothes and much more.

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