Service was a defining characteristic of the student body. A large majority regularly participated in existing service organizations. However, a few motivated individuals started their own, driven by the desire to help those in need.

Project ALL directly served youth in need. “The students I work with as a part of Project ALL have had a rough time in their lives,” Samantha Tiver said. “We can never promise that they won’t have a rough time ahead, but we can help them become stronger. They’re young people right in our neighborhood who are largely forgotten; the least I can do is pay attention,” Tiver said.

Others were empowered to start service organizations after hearing stories from influential people in service. “I was motivated to start Campus Kitchens after hearing Robert Egger speak about founding the D.C. Central Kitchen,” junior Jess Kim said. “He mentioned that college campuses were starting their own Campus Kitchens, and I was so excited and went to talk with him about it. And then things just went from there,” Kim said.

The creation of new service organizations was a common occurrence on campus, and fledgling organizations grew quickly.

“Students’ Petersburg Initiative for Community Engagement is a new service organization this year,” junior Mallory Johnson said. “We do community development work in the economically distressed community of Petersburg, VA. My experiences in Petersburg have been amazingly transformative, and I want to create opportunities for everyone at William & Mary to have the same kind of experience,” Johnson said.

A common desire to serve fostered participation in and even the creation of service organizations. Furthermore, many saw serving as truly enjoyable and life-altering.

> Judi Slafani