

# Libby Ellis

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*Volunteerism*  
*Leadership*  
*Collaboration*  
*Legacy*



## STORIES OF SERVICE

There have been three influential women in my service story. The first is my mother, who taught me from a young age to dedicate my time and efforts to others. She has spent her entire adult life working for non-profit organizations and always helping others. She has worked with a wide range of people, from Latinos, to battered women and children, to people who are simply less fortunate.

My first leadership and service experience here at Georgia College & State University began with Circle K International, a service organization under Kiwanis. I became president and had the chance to go to conferences to learn more about leadership and help my peers find and participate in service opportunities being offered around campus. This was my first real taste of leading an organization and being service oriented.

The second person who influenced me was a sorority sister in Phi Mu, Ashley Hall. She was the Philanthropy Chair in Phi Mu when I pledged and was also on the committee for the first Dance Marathon. I immediately knew that I wanted to be just like Ashley Hall, and have tried very hard in my college career to catch even a glimpse of what she accomplished. I became Philanthropy Chair of Phi Mu, joined the executive committee of Dance Marathon as fundraising chair, and worked hard in my daily life to follow her excellent example of leadership and service.

The final person who has greatly influenced me during college is Kendall Stiles. She probably doesn't know this and might deny her "fabulousness", but she is one of the most amazing women I know and has been a true mentor to me over the last four years. Under her tutelage, I continued in Dance Marathon as director and then Recruitment/Morale Chair. I have also enjoyed serving on the GIVE Team under Kendall for two years.

These three women taught me many things about service and leadership. I learned that no matter who you are serving, you should put your whole heart into it. I have served and lead my fellow students, my sorority, the community, and especially and closest to my heart, the children of Central Georgia. My service at Georgia College has changed my life. I can not express the feeling when you see the smiling face of a child and their parents. I would not trade these four amazing years for anything, and my happiest memories will always be of the service I have done and the people I did it with.

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