



# ADVENTURE RECREATION

*By Lisa Murray*

Every year the Adventure Recreation department organizes a Grand Monadnock climb in September. This annual tradition is a fun way for freshmen as well as upperclassmen, faculty, and staff to get to know Mount Monadnock – up close and personal. About 120 took part in the 2012 Grand Monadnock climb, which ended up in a surprising way for many people in the group. About 35 students, faculty, and staff assisted an injured woman they encountered near the summit of the mountain. They took turns carrying her down one of the steepest trails on a stretcher (and through the rain), along with members of the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department, and volunteers from the Upper Valley Wilderness Response Search and Rescue Team.

The letter of thanks on this page was sent to the University. The Franklin Pierce community is proud of the generous and caring (not to mention physically fit!) individuals who reached out to help so readily.

10/15/2012

To whom it may concern,

This letter is written to offer a great gratitude to the Franklin Pierce students who helped us in a time of alarming need.

On September 8, 2012, a group of individuals from UMass Lowell and Mill City Church in Lowell, MA hiked Mount Monadnock. On the summit of the mountain, one of our friends, Mia Parviainen, fell and broke her ankle very badly. We were confronted with the reality that we were atop a mountain with nowhere to turn and with a serious injury on our hands. It was then that a group of young men from Franklin Pierce stopped and helped us - they contacted the mountain patrol, helped wrap the ankle, kept Mia calm, and thought through the best plan of action. When the mountain patrol reached the summit, they explained that we would need to carry Mia down the mountain on a stretcher. It was estimated to be an 8 to 10 hour excursion, with rain on the way. Not only did those 4 young men offer to help, but the entire Franklin Pierce group that was hiking decided to serve us by helping carry Mia down the mountain. Our "8 to 10 hour" expected time proved wrong - with Franklin Pierce's help, we were able to get Mia down the mountain and on her way to the hospital in just 3 hours.

The purpose of this letter is to thank everyone who helped us out that day - the students and faculty who decided to sacrifice their time, energy, (and seeing the mountain top!) to offer their hands in our time of trouble. Please make sure this thank-you letter is circulated among the students and faculty who decided to offer their strength, kindness, and ability to see that our friend Mia made it down the mountain safely.

We are so thankful that you were all hiking that day. Every one of you made a huge difference. We had prayed for God's provision in Mia's situation, and we believe that He answered those prayers in you. Know that your selflessness is deeply appreciated by all of us!

With sincere gratitude,  
Your friends at UMass Lowell and Mill City Church

