

# Community Project

**Service Learning**

# What is the Community Project?



In the Community Project, action involves participation in service learning or service as action. You may engage in one or more types of action.

**Direct Service**: Students have interaction that involves people, animals, or the environment. Ex. tutoring, walking dogs, helping at the food kitchen.

**Indirect Service**: Students engage in actions that benefit the community or environment. Ex. creating boxes of school supplies for needy children, food drives, environmental clean-ups.

**Advocacy**: Students speak on behalf of a cause or concern to promote action on an issue of public concern. Ex. awareness campaign on community hunger, countries or areas without access to clean water, bullying

**Research**: Students collect information, analyze data, and report on a topic of importance or influence policy or practice. Ex. study of non-native species invasion, most effective means to reduce red-tide blooms

# What is a Community?



*Definition:* a social group of any size whose members reside in a specific locality, share government, and often have a common cultural and historical heritage.

Community can be:

Local - school, neighborhood, Fort Myers, or Florida

National - United States

Global - other countries, regions, oceans, our solar system, etc.

# Which community will you serve?

## Brainstorm!



1. Fold a piece of paper into 3 columns.
2. Label the columns: Local, National, Global
3. Take about 5 minutes and brainstorm 3-5 problems under each community label.
4. As the class shares, add to your list.
5. Select a problem or issue that interests you.

# How do I get started?

## Step 1 - Introduction

### → Mind Mapping



- ◆ On the back of your brainstorming paper, draw a mind map with your problem/issue in the center. Below list root causes, and effects on individuals and the community.
- ◆ Consider the following questions:
  - What are issues facing your community?
  - What are the root causes of this problem?
  - What are the effects on the individuals and the community?
- ◆ What are some ways you can help directly or indirectly?

# What is a Process Journal?

→Begin documenting all your brainstorming and ideas in your **Process Journal**.

→A Process Journal can be any of the following:

- ◆ spiral notebook
- ◆ folder with notebook paper,
- ◆ a journal
- ◆ A composition book
- ◆ an online journal on google docs
- ◆ or even paper just stapled together

# What's next?



## Step 2 - Investigating

- Decide on a need within the local or global community
- Identify prior learning - What do you already know about this?
- Define your goal to address the need you have identified
- Research - select relevant sources to gather information. This could include web-based research on specific organizations, causes, issues, needs, etc. It could also include interviews, surveys, and personal experiences.
- Record **EVERYTHING** in your Process Journal

# Okay, now what?



## Step 3 - Planning

- Develop your proposal for action!! This is where it gets real! There are all kinds of things you need to take into consideration. Most places will not let you volunteer without a parent present. Will your parents have the time and energy to take you someplace? Are there other ways you can help?
- Continue your research so you can develop the best plan possible
- Be realistic about what you will be able to accomplish. It's all about making a difference, no matter how big or small. What change can you bring?
- Record EVERYTHING in your Process Journal



# Action!



## Step 4 - Taking Action

- Carry out your service as action! Now you need to actually do what you say you are going to do! Follow your plan!
- You are required to spend a minimum of **15 hours** on your community project. Not all 15 hours have to be spent volunteering, some of it can be spent working on your Process Journal, and putting together your presentation.
- Record your time spent working on your Community Project on the Activity Log or create your own log in your Process Journal.
- Record information, experiences, developments, pictures, videos, evidence, in your process journal.

# Finish line!



## Step 5 - Reflection

- Evaluate the quality of service as action against the proposal - [in your Process Journal](#)
- Reflect on your learning - [in your Process Journal](#)
- Prepare a Presentation for your Community Project
- Submit your Process Journal with your presentation
- Complete a bibliography of research resources
- Complete the Academic Honesty Form

# What has to be turned in for grading?

- Presentation - Get creative! How can you best showcase your Community Project? Video, PSA, poster board, presentation board, graphs, diagrams, report, slide show?
- Process journal - This should include all your entries, research, reflections, plus a bibliography of research resources, activity log, personal inventory
- Academic Honesty Form - filled out completely!

# Important Dates

→ You must be prepared to meet with your mentor ( Shine Time Advisor) at least 3 times to discuss progress and implementation of your plan. This will be recorded on your Academic Honesty Form.

- ◆ September 30, 2016 - 1st Mentor Meeting

- ◆ October 28, 2016 - 2nd Mentor Meeting

- ◆ November 29, 2016 - 3rd Mentor Meeting

→ Community Project Due Date! -

- ◆ December 13, 2016

→ Project Presentations -

- ◆ December 13, 15, 19, 21, 2016