



Service Project Support

Service projects afford you the ability to give back. This giving back can be for your location, your community, and for your larger global community.

Requirement

Two (2) service projects per year – One (1) directly serving the location and one (1) serving the community.

Ideas for a School

1. Coordinate any service projects to directly support active-duty military, veterans, national guard, etc., and their families with your School Liaison at your nearest installation. Ideas can include adopting a service member or veteran, Holiday goodies, letters/cards, installation needs, service member appreciation days, gift bags, etc.
2. Create a mentorship group. Working with elementary and middle schools in your area, create a group where you can go to give aid to younger age youth.
3. Host an Earth Day event at your location.
4. Create a garden or rock garden.
5. Hold a school supply drive and give the items to your teachers.
6. Thank you! Create thank you notes for the teachers and staff at your school. Have the notes put in their mailboxes for a pleasant surprise.
7. We See You. Write encouraging notes or find motivational quotes and leave them in books in your school library for the students to find.
8. Trash Pick Up Day. Take a walk around your campus and pick up trash to keep your school looking great!
9. Fall Festival. Does your local elementary school host a fall festival? Connect with them for volunteering opportunities, such as running a game booth or food stand.
10. Collaborate with your school's foreign language club. Collect books and send them to schools in another country that may need them.
11. Welcome to the Neighborhood. Create a list of popular local places, restaurants, and parks for a new student.
12. Random Acts of Kindness Day. Create a day at your school, and encourage students and staff to do acts of kindness. Have a central bulletin board where people can share what they did.
13. If your school has a JROTC program, collaborate with them for a day of recognition for veterans.
14. Create a hero wall at your school to showcase students who have joined the military.
15. Clean out your Closet Day. Donate clothing to a local shelter.
16. Share your Voice. Start a letter-writing campaign to your local representatives on areas that you feel need a voice.
17. Create a tutoring club.
18. Collaborate with the music and drama department at your school and host a talent night, with proceeds going to projects at your school.
19. Have the senior class write a letter to the incoming freshmen giving advice and tips for managing high school.
20. Create a welcome basket for new teachers and staff members, including a welcome card.

Ideas for a Teen Center

1. Coordinate any service projects to directly support active-duty military, veterans, national guard, etc., and their families with your School Liaison at your nearest installation. Ideas can include adopting a service member or veteran, holiday goodies, letters/cards, installation needs, service member appreciation days, gift bags, etc.
2. Create a sports club that you can hold at your location or at a local youth center.
3. Art Auction. Have the members of your teen center create art and hold a gallery night with the proceeds going to your chosen charity or a center's need.
4. Free Hot Cocoa Day. On a cold day, set up a hot cocoa station for those in the teen center to enjoy!
5. Mural of Us. Create a wall mural at your center highlighting all the activities you do.
6. Baking party. Bring the items to your local police/fire station or any important people on an installation.
7. Movie Night. Pop the popcorn and invite your fellow teens for a movie night in. You can host a movie night for the local youth center as well!
8. Create a recycling station at your center.
9. Sponsor an animal at the zoo.
10. Plant trees or start a garden for your center.
11. Connect with a local youth center and see what needs they have that you can help meet.
12. Clean out your closets and take the unneeded items to a local shelter.
13. Talent Share. Do you like to sing? Play an instrument? Draw? Share your local talents with other teens in your center.
14. Create bookmarks and deliver them to your local library.
15. Create a holiday party and invite your local youth center to come. Have food, games, and other treats for the youth.
16. Collect coloring books and crayons and donate them to a hospital waiting room.
17. Decorate pillowcases and take them to your local children's hospital.
18. Book Exchange Party. Bring in books you may no longer want and host a book exchange. Donate any left-over books to a local school or youth center.
19. Help people learn English. Connect with a local literacy group to see what volunteer opportunities they have.
20. Parent Night Out. Collaborate with your local youth center to offer babysitting services for a few hours once a month.



Ideas for the Community

1. Connect with and tour a local food bank. Find out what resources they need, and make a plan to hold a drive to assist them. Holding a drive outside standard holiday times can be something to consider, as most food banks have fewer items during these times.
2. Does your community have public gardens? Connect with those in charge and set a time to help pull weeds, rake leaves, and assist with other general upkeep duties.
3. Big Brothers & Big Sisters are always looking for mentors.
4. Community clean-up days.
5. Looking to raise funds and have fun while doing it? A car wash is a great way to collect money for your charity.
6. Fill a gap in your community. Working with your local nonprofits you can find areas that need volunteers.
7. Ronald McDonald Houses. Does your local children's hospital have a Ronald McDonald house? They need volunteers to cook and bring meals for the families that stay in them.
8. Animal shelters are always in need of volunteers as well as tangible items.
9. Volunteer with the Special Olympics.
10. Host a game night at a local senior center or nursing home.



Ideas for Online Service Projects

Click the title to access the web resource.

1. [Be My Eyes](#) is a great way to connect blind and visually impaired people through a video app that provides visual assistance with everything from checking expiration dates on food to distinguishing colors.
2. [Love for Our Elders](#). A program that gathers letters for seniors who need encouragement.
3. Do you have fluency in a second language? [Translators Without Borders](#) provides community services by translating tests for organizations that focus on crisis relief, health, and education.
4. [Bookshare](#) focuses on making reading more accessible to people with reading barriers such as dyslexia, visual impairments, and learning disabilities. Volunteers scan new books and proofread files.
5. [TED Translators](#) are volunteers who add subtitles to TED Talks.
6. [TeensGive](#). An online tutoring program for teens by teens.
7. [Learning Ally](#). A nonprofit organization that offers audiobooks for struggling readers. Volunteers narrate audiobooks.
8. [TechSoup](#). High school students share technology tips and advice in online forums.
9. [Citizen Archivist](#). Working with the National Archives to preserve and share public records. Volunteers transcribe, tag, and add comments to make them more accessible and searchable.
10. [Citizen Scholar](#). Same as Citizen Archivist but working with the Smithsonian Institute.
11. [By The People](#). Virtual volunteers for the Library of Congress.
12. [Girls Inc.](#) Social media ambassador creating and sharing social posts focused on teaching girls how to navigate economic and social barriers.
13. [Freerice.com](#). This organization donates 10 grains of rice throughout the world for every question you answer correctly.
14. Connect with small local nonprofits to help them with their social media presence.
15. [Science Buddies](#). Work with students from kindergarten through high school to answer questions about science.
16. [Donate Code](#) connects charities and community groups with people willing to volunteer their programming time and skills.
17. [Lifetime Connections Without Walls](#) provides senior citizens classes and activities they can participate in from their own homes. Volunteers assist with reminding participants about sessions as well as hosting their own sessions.
18. [Yuda Bands Project](#). Connect schools with international students who need financial assistance. Support is shown through the selling of wristbands.
19. [UN Volunteers](#). The United Nations offers online volunteer opportunities such as translations, art & design, outreach, and advocacy.
20. [Zooniverse](#). Opportunities for students to participate in real research initiatives.

