

CAPE CORAL HIGH SCHOOL  
COMMUNITY SERVICE PACKET  
Identifying Meaningful Community Service Projects

To be meaningful, community service projects must address a real need or problem found within the school or community. Students must be given the opportunity to select a project that reflects both the needs of the community and their personal interests and skills. In addition, quality community service projects require an on-going commitment on the part of students. Hastily planned, short-term projects do little to foster the purpose of community service: **to provide service to the community and personal growth opportunities for students.** The following criteria should be considered when a student selects a community service project:

- The project addresses a real community need or problem.
- The project provides the student with the opportunity to provide meaningful and vital community service.
- The project allows the student to gain a greater understanding of the community need on which they are working.
- The project reflects the student's interests, talents, and abilities.
- The project provides the student with the opportunity to grow personally and academically.
- The project provides the opportunity for continuity of service and/or participation during the student's school experience.

The organizations and agencies listed below typically welcome volunteers. This list should help students generate ideas for community service projects.

United Way agencies/charities	Daycare Centers
City/County Governments	School Libraries
Civic organizations	Parks and Recreation Centers
Convalescent homes/hospices/hospitals	Political Organizations
Cultural centers/museums	Religious Organizations (excluding personal enrichment activities)

Prior to beginning a community service project, students should contact their school counselor to insure their choice meets the appropriate guidelines listed above. However, **volunteering within a for-profit business or organization does not meet the acceptable community service guidelines and will not be accepted.** The following list includes examples of unacceptable places to do community service projects.

Professional office	industrial firms
Retail stores	restaurants
Motels/hotels	realtors
Barber/beauty shops	gas stations

**Meeting the Requirements for Credit and Bright Futures**

A minimum of 75 hours of community service is required to receive ½ credit. A maximum of 1 credit will be granted although a student may volunteer more than 150 hours of service. The Florida Bright Futures Program requires 75 hours of community service to qualify for the Florida Academic Scholar Award.

