THE BENEFITS OF VOLUNTEERING!

Whether it is important to you to solve a community problem, advance a worthy cause or to develop as a person, volunteering offers many benefits in appreciation for the gift of your time and expertise. Volunteering can help you:

- Make important networking contacts
- Learn or develop skills
- Teach your skills to others
- Enhance your résumé
- Gain work experience
- Build self-esteem and self-confidence
- Improve your health
- Meet new people
- Feel needed and valued
- Express gratitude for help you may have received in the past from an organization
- Communicate to others that you are ambitious, enthusiastic and care about the community
- Make a difference in someone’s life
- Improve the likelihood that you will volunteer as an adult

Community Service Contacts

**Christopher High School**

Gretchen Yoder-Schrock (Coordinator)
669-205-5300
Gretchen.Yoder-Shrock@gilroyunified.org

**Gilroy High School**

Lauren Mantani (Coordinator)
669-205-5400
Lauren.Mantani@gilroyunified.org

**GECA**

Sonia Flores (Principal)
408-846-4909
Sonia.Flores@gilroyunified.org

**Mt. Madonna High School**

Dianne Padilla (Principal)
669-205-5500
Dianne.Padilla@gilroyunified.org

**A Student’s Guide to Becoming an Active Participant in the Community**

- What is Community Service?
- What are the graduation requirements?
- How do I get started?
- Who is the Community Service Contact at my school?
- How do I document my Community Service?
- How do I contact an agency?

“How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world.” —Anne Frank

Revised November 2019
The Gilroy Unified School District will provide opportunities for all students to reach their highest academic and intellectual competencies and personal attributes to be life-long learners, responsible citizens, and productive members of society. This will be accomplished by having a clear focus on student needs; staff, parents and community members demonstrating high expectations for themselves and for every child served; and by continually improving the quality of teaching and learning.

**Community Service:**
a service that is performed for the benefit of the public or its institutions.

**Graduation Requirement:**
Beginning with the graduating class of 2014, high school students in the Gilroy Unified School District must complete a minimum of 80 hours of community service. Students must earn ten hours in at least two of the following categories:
- Senior Citizens
- Disabled Citizens
- The Environment
- Literacy
- Promoting Health and Wellness
- Promoting the Arts and Culture
- Young Children
- School Related
- The Homeless
- Animal Care

**How do I document my Community Service Hours?**
- Download the [Community Service Time Sheet](www.gilroyunified.org) from www.gilroyunified.org
- Fill out the form completely
- Make sure the supervisor at your Community Service activity signs off on your hours.
- Sign your time sheet.
- Have your parent sign the time sheet
- Make a copy of the time sheet for your records.
- Return the form to the Community Service Coordinator at your school.

**How do I contact an Organization?**
1. Decide what area of service interests you.
2. Research the organizations in the area that fit with your interests. Get to know a little bit about what their mission is. Who is the contact person?
3. Make a phone call:
   - Introduce yourself, explain that you are interested in volunteering.
   - Ask: Are there any opportunities available for me? Do I need to have a parent with me? Do I need a permission slip? Where exactly do I report and to whom do I report?
   - Say THANK YOU.
4. If you need to leave a message make sure you speak slowly and clearly. Leave your full name, your contact number, and the reason why you were calling.

"Everybody can be great because everybody can serve."
-Martin Luther King, Jr.