

Upper School Community Partnership Program

The spirit of the community partnership requirement for graduation is that students are of service to others by collaborating with members of a community different than their own, and being directly engaged in tasks that allow them to work alongside members of that community to bridge social, economic, and physical inequalities.

Similar to other Quaker schools, our goal is to have students participate in programs with a strong sense of social, environmental, and educational justice by respecting the integrity of the individuals and the community where they will be working.



Please note that while many of the following activities can be valuable experiences, they do not meet the guidelines for fulfilling the graduation requirement. However, they will be accepted as additional service and recorded in the student's file. These include: working at animal shelters; teaching or baby-sitting at a religious place of worship; volunteering at a hospital, volunteering as a camp counselor for other than programs with a focus on literacy or physical disabilities; working for a political candidate or officeholder; working for groups whose programs are inconsistent with Quaker philosophies; and working for any family member or relative.

Community Partnership Requirements

- Completion of at least **50 hours** performed outside of Friends School.
- At least **20 hours** out of the required 50 hours must be completed at one of the organizations where Friends School is investing in a deep and lasting partnership: GEDCO/Cares, McKim Community Center, Loaves & Fishes, Habitat for Humanity, South Baltimore Station, Russian for Fun, Access Art, Middle Grades Partnership, Superkids, My Sister's Place, Govans Community, Real Food Farms, and Charm City Lacrosse--or others to be determined by the faculty. Students can choose to complete all 50 hours at any of these sites provided that the organization has availability. Participation in any of these partnership programs is approved for the Extracurricular Certification Program.
- If students have not completed their 50 hours at one of the approved sites, the remaining 30 hours can be completed at an organization of the student's choice from the list provided in the Pre-Approved Directory. Requests to work for other organizations not listed in this directory must be submitted in writing to the Community Partnership Committee.
- Up to five (5) hours of the total can be training preparation.
- Must be performed after May of the 8th grade year and completed by the end of the first semester of the senior year. (Students will find it easier to complete this service prior to their junior year).

For more information about the US Community Partnership program, please visit *myFriends*→Resources and/or contact our Coordinator of Community Partnerships, Cristina Saenz de Tejada at ctejada@friendsbalt.org