
Service Ideas and Organizations list:

This list is growing...please send your ideas to Mrs. Druffner ☺

Exclusions:

While helping individuals is virtuous, the following will not constitute as community service:

- Helping neighbors etc... with raking leaves, cleaning or any other household duties/projects
- Pet-sitting or dog walking
- babysitting
- Moving a person's belongings into a new house or storage area
- Favors for family and or friends
- No work for any organization whose philosophy is contrary to the teachings of the Catholic Church
- No work for any for-profit organization or company in the course of its business. With the exception of a company's charitable service activity. For example: working in a lawyers office organizing a file for a client is not acceptable. Volunteering at the law office's blood drive is acceptable.
- Nothing can be received in return for the service. This includes money or gifts.
- No service done for the benefit of an immediate family member is acceptable without the prior approval of the Director of Campus Ministry.
- No parent may verify, (sign for), hours without the approval of the Director of Campus Ministry.
- (Remember there is a PP on the student portal that walks you step-by-step through the Mobile Serve app. Your Theology teacher also walked you through the process!)

How to help your Community ideas. See a need, fill a need:

- o Foster a shelter animal
- o Donate blood – if you are at least 17 or 16 with parental consent
- o Give free music lessons – perform at local shelters or senior organizations (check out their music therapy programs)
- o Teach older adults internet skills

- o Help English language learners practice with conversation
- o Clean up a local park
- o Knit scarves or hats for families in shelters
- o Bake cookies and snacks for food pantries
- o Write letters to seniors in care facilities
- o Make birthday cards for kids in homeless shelters
- o Volunteer at your local library
- o Volunteer at your local animal shelter
- o Volunteer at a local food pantry
- o Read to nursing home residents
- o Train your pet as a certified visitation animal – nursing homes or hospitals have a pet visitation volunteers program
- o Volunteer at Animal & Wildlife Rescues in Columbia – see Organizations below with links
- o Volunteer with Columbia Community Improvement Groups
- o Volunteer with Education & Literacy Organizations: see list/link below
- o Make string bracelets for Little Dresses for Africa, turn in to Mrs. Druffner
- o “Knit” plastic bags into mats for the homeless, see Mrs. Druffner for further details

Organizations (If you know of an organization that needs help let us know so I can add it)

- o Apgape Hospice House of Midlands
- o Epworth
- o Fostering Foster: <https://www.fosteringfoster.com/>
- o Harvest Hope – Harvest Hope Food Bank always needs volunteers, go by yourself, with your family or **grab a group of your friends!**
<https://give.harvesthope.org/charities/5372/volunteer>
- o Make dresses for Little Dresses for Africa,
<http://www.littledressesforafrica.org/blog/>
- o Local animal shelters: volunteer opportunities with the **[Riverbanks Zoo](#)**
Help shelter animals feel loved through **[City of Columbia's Animal Services](#)**, **[Animal Mission of the Midlands](#)**, **[PawmettoLifeline](#)** or **[PetsInc](#)**
- o Meals on Wheels
<https://meals-on-wheels.com/volunteer/families/other-family-volunteer-opportunities/>

- o Oliver Gospel – Sign up and help at the Oliver Gospel thrift shop, have to be 16yrs and up or bring a parent.
https://olivergospel.galaxydigital.com/need/detail/?need_id=537919
- o Palmetto life line
- o River Alliance clean or [Congaree Riverkeeper](#)
- o Lend a hand to pack food boxes or coordinate deliveries with [Foodshare South Carolina](#)
- o Help keep our roads clean by participating in the next [Adopt-a-Highway pickup](#) with [Keep the Midlands Beautiful](#)
- o Special Olympics/Best Buddies
- o Transitions
- o Volunteer [Columbia Urban League](#)
- o Reading programs
- o Empower students to reach their full potential through [Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Columbia](#)
- o Sign up to coach a team or volunteer with [Girls on the Run Columbia](#)
- o Sign up to mentor with [Big Homie Lil Homie](#)
- o [Ronald McDonald House Charities Columbia](#)
- o Camp Cole, for children and teens facing serious illnesses and other physical, mental, and emotional health or life challenges: [Camp Cole](#)
- o Volunteer during various events hosted by [Historic Columbia](#)
- o Support the Feed an Officer Campaign [Serve & Connect](#)
- o Donate your time + talents to one of the 13 [Richland Library](#) locations
- o Participate in literacy programs through the [Midlands Reading Consortium](#)
- o Build homes for the community through [Habitat for Humanity](#)
- o Congaree National Park. Contact: Jon Manchester,
jonathan_manchester@nps.gov

Supporting Veterans:

- o Volunteer with [South Carolina USO](#)
- o The [American Legion South Carolina Division of Veteran Affairs](#)
- o [Hidden Wounds](#) is a volunteer-run organization to provide resources to local families.
- o [Midlands Blue Star Mothers](#), an organization made primarily of mothers of military members

- Help connect a **service dog** to veterans + first responders with [Rob's Best Friend Fund at PAALS](#)

How to help your local church ideas:

Contact your local Church

VBS

Catholic Charities

How to help CN ideas:

Retreat Team

Beta club service events

Honor Society service events

CNDM

Service Saturday's

Morning/prayer announcement readers

Videographer for the Athletic program

Concession stand

Hands on projects:

- Repurpose old t-shirts into jump-ropes and donate to Christmas Child Boxes
<https://joywithpurpose.com/repurpose-t-shirts-into-jump-ropes/>
- Make a handmade blanket for [Project Linus](#) benefitting seriously ill and traumatized children, ages 0 to 18.
- Make homemade dog treats and deliver them to a local animal shelter
- Make a braided fleece dog toy for a local animal shelter
https://www.ehow.co.uk/how_6027207_directions-braided-fleece-dog-toy.html
- Make Rice bags for animal shelters
<http://www.craftibilities.com/2017/12/rice-socks-giving-back-animal-shelter.html>

Digital Community:

- Write letters to our troops
<https://www.makeuseof.com/tag/5-websites-where-you-can-find-and-write-to-soldiers/>
- virtual volunteer opportunities with the National Park Service
<https://www.nps.gov/subjects/digital/getinvolved.htm>
- Be My Eyes is a free app that connects blind and low-vision people with sighted volunteers and company representatives for visual assistance through a live video call. <https://www.bemyeyes.com/>

Logs for Service to CN:

Lectoring at Mass: ½ hour

Altar Serving: 1 hour

Having a shadow: 1 hour