

St. Francis High School Community Service Program

Guidelines for Partner Organizations:

1. Your Service Needs:

We would like to help your organization in whatever ways possible. Typically this is in the form of labor provided by the students on their visits: cleaning, organizing, administrative tasks, mulching, gardening, removing invasive species, etc... The bulk of community service visits should be dedicated to helping fulfill your needs.

In some cases we have also been able to organize special drives for clothing, toys, food, etc..., which fall outside the six scheduled service dates. If you have special needs like these, please discuss them with the students and faculty sponsor.

2. Education Component:

We would also like to be providing our students with a quality experience that includes an educational or a problem-solving component. Students who understand the importance of community service and feel that their efforts are contributing to the greater good are far more likely to grow into adults who will value and continue to support community ventures.

Please consider some of the following components for this year's program:

FACILITY TOUR – Students need to know a little bit about the context of your organization in order to understand how their work is important. Who are you? Whom do you serve? What kinds of jobs exist in your facility? What is the big picture?

ONGOING EDUCATION – Some of our partner organizations provide an educational component for each visit. In other cases, the teachers accompanying students take on this role. Even brief lessons greatly enrich a visit. Please let us know if we can help you plan something of this kind.

OVERARCHING PROJECT – For some community service organizations our students have been able to engage in overarching projects that augment the general tasks completed on their six visits. For instance, students helped to plan and create a butterfly garden for Falls of the Ohio State Park, in addition to cleaning the fossil beds and removing the invasive garlic mustard from the park trails.

Our Partners for 2008-09 were:

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP:

- Falls of the Ohio State Park
- Louisville Nature Center
- Olmsted Parks

HUMAN SERVICES:

- Center for Women and Families
- Christian Care Communities
- Project Warm
- Kentucky Refugee Ministries
- St. Vincent DePaul
- Gilda's Club

GREEN VENTURES:

- Earth and Spirit Center Garden
- Americana Center Garden

CIVIC LITERACY:

- Planned Parenthood
- 1,000 Kites
- Sichuan Earthquake Relief
- Sustainable St. Francis: Environmental Footprint

For 2009-2010 we will potentially be adding:

- The Arcadia Center
- Breaking New Grounds

