

Saint Francis High School Community Service Program

Suggestions for a Successful Year:

1. Build a relationship with your venue and contact person. Facilitate a relationship between the service site and your students. Be creative and patient.
2. Try to insure that more is happening for the students than one simple task. Ask the students to brainstorm larger projects according to venue needs. (bake sales to fundraise; drives to gather clothing; adopt-a-whatever programs; one extra meeting on a weekend to support a venue with a special program; create a brochure; get parents involved)
3. Don't be afraid to meet with your students during meeting periods for extra efforts to support this venue.

Communication:

4. E-mail contact person for verification of visit before each of the six service days.
 - E-mail or call the previous Tuesday morning and ask a question that requires a response. ("Is there anything special we should bring this time?")
 - If you haven't heard back by Friday morning – CALL!
 - If you haven't heard back by Monday afternoon, either take your chances and just show up, or see if you can join one of the venues that doesn't require transport. Speak with the faculty sponsor and call their contact person to see if enough work is available for extra students.

Back up Plans:

5. Poor weather or unforeseen problems might cancel your visit. You could:
 - Take trash bags and clean up the river front park.
 - Help Ray to give some special attention to the building.
 - Create a lesson / activity with a special civic focus.
 - Draft letters to the city and Courier Journal regarding current civic problems. (Why don't downtown businesses have free recycling pick-up like many neighborhoods?)