



Please record the time you spend doing Community Service projects, and use the following to help you define and categorize your service:

**"Community Service" is defined as volunteer work done for free in order to give back to the community and help others in need.** Each project you record should meet the following criteria:

- ✓ The work that you do must benefit the community at large or individuals outside your own family.
- ✓ Projects done through religious or other membership groups must provide a public service to the community in order to be recorded as community service (i.e., volunteering at soup kitchens, shelters, nursing homes, blood drives, environmental clean-up, etc.).

Service must be categorized by the following **"Primary Areas of Service"** (portions in quotes are per the Points of Light Foundation):

### 1. Youth Achievement

*"Includes volunteer activities such as mentoring, coaching, tutoring, improving literacy in areas such as reading and math, and volunteering to keep young people engaged academically in education."*

### 2. Parks and Open Spaces

*"Includes volunteer efforts to conserve and protect our parklands and gardens, neighborhood clean-ups and creating safe playgrounds. It also includes creating safe and meaningful experiences and outdoor activities for individuals to enjoy the environment and our natural resources."*

Some activity ideas: camp or outdoor school volunteer, conservations projections, park volunteer, recycling projects, public tree planting, trash and debris clean-up projects.

### 3. Healthy Communities

*"Includes volunteer efforts to help the elderly, disabled, diseased, hungry or homeless, and to improve the economic health of the community. These could include volunteering for health and nutrition education services, immunization campaigns, disease screenings, hospital support, blood drives, veterans outreach, and working with local public health programs."*

Some activity ideas: animal care shelter work, volunteer work for healthcare issue charities, hospital volunteer work, Meals on wheels, projects that benefit the public library, assisting neighbors and welcoming new ones, visiting nursing homes/aid to elderly, work that benefits public housing or shelter services, volunteering at thrift stores or food pantries. **Performances to benefit the community will count, but rehearsals for the performances cannot be counted toward participating hours. Volunteering or being an active participant in a 5K to benefit charity will count, but watching from the sidelines to cheer cannot be counted.**

### 4. Public Safety and Emergency Response

*"Includes volunteer efforts for individuals and families to make their homes, and their communities safer from the threats of crime, terrorism and disasters of all kinds."*

Some activity ideas: projects to benefit the fire or police departments, crime prevention and aid to abuse victims, work that creates a safer environment for young children, responses to natural disasters or conflict/war.

Return this form in the PTO basket at the front of the school. Please turn forms in for every 10 hours earned so we can track hours all year.

**The final due date for completed forms in March 30, 2020.** Please include service hours from April 1, 2019 to March 30, 2020. Email Stacey Churchill, PTO Service Chair, with any questions (stacey.churchill@gmail.com).