

THE BENEFITS OF VOLUNTEERING!

Whether it is important to you to solve a community problem, advance a worthy cause or to develop as a person, volunteering offers many benefits in appreciation for the gift of your time and expertise. Volunteering can help you:

- Make important networking contacts
- Learn or develop skills
- Teach your skills to others
- Enhance your résumé
- Gain work experience
- Build self-esteem and self-confidence
- Improve your health
- Meet new people
- Feel needed and valued
- Express gratitude for help you may have received in the past from an organization
- Communicate to others that you are ambitious, enthusiastic and care about the community
- Make a difference in someone's life
- Improve the likelihood that you will volunteer as an adult

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Community Service Contacts

Christopher High School

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Gilroy High School

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“How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world.” —Anne Frank



GUSD Community Service Requirements

A Student's Guide to Becoming an Active Participant in the Community

- What is Community Service?
- What are the graduation requirements?
- How do I get started?
- Who is the Community Service Contact at my school?
- How do I document my Community Service?
- How do I contact an agency?

The Gilroy Unified School District will provide opportunities for all students to reach their highest academic and intellectual competencies and personal attributes to be life-long learners, responsible citizens, and productive members of society. This will be accomplished by having a clear focus on student needs; staff, parents and community members demonstrating high expectations for themselves and for every child served; and by continually improving the quality of teaching and learning.

Community Service is a service that is performed for the benefit of the public or its institutions.

Graduation

Requirement:

Beginning with the graduating class of 2014, high school students in the Gilroy Unified School District must complete a minimum of 80 hours of community service. Students must earn ten hours in at least two of the following categories:

- Senior Citizens
- Young Children
- Disabled Citizens
- School Related
- The Environment
- The Homeless
- Literacy
- Animal Care
- Promoting Health and Wellness
- Promoting the Arts and Culture

How do I document my Community Service Hours?

- Download the Community Service Time Sheet from www.gusd.k12.ca.us
- Fill out the form completely
- Make sure the supervisor at your Community Service activity signs off on your hours.
- Sign your time sheet.
- Have your parent sign the time sheet
- Make a copy of the time sheet for your records.
- Return the form to the Community Service Coordinator at your school.

SUGGESTED ORGANIZATIONS:

Armory Shelter/Emergency Housing Consortium

Julie Roybal 408-847-8455

City of Gilroy

Susan Voss 408-846-0418

Community Solutions

Elizabeth Delgadillo 408-842-7138

Mexican American Community Services (MACSA)

408-847-4686

www.CommunityService.org

www.HandsOnBayArea.org

www.VolunteerMatch.org

How do I contact an Organization?

1. Decide what area of service interests you.
2. Research the organizations in the area that fit with your interests. Get to know a little bit about what their mission is. Who is the contact person?
3. Make a phone call:
 - Introduce yourself, explain that you are interested in volunteering.
 - Ask : Are there any opportunities available for me? Do I need to have a parent with me? Do I need a permission slip? Where exactly do I report and to whom do I report?
 - Say THANK YOU.
4. If you need to leave a message make sure you speak slowly and clearly. Leave your full name, your contact number, and the reason why you were calling.

“Everybody can be great because everybody can serve.” -Martin Luther King, Jr.