

ASCS Community Service Program

The purpose of our community service program is to fully develop the Christian character trait of servant-hood and the practical nature of a Christ-centered world-view based on the example set by Jesus Christ. In Matthew 20:25-28, Jesus teaches his disciples that to be great in the kingdom of God, one must be a servant. Philippians 2:5-8 tells us to have the mind of Christ and that this mind includes the humility of a servant. We also want to have a positive influence on our community by demonstrating Christian character.

Goals:

1. To exemplify Christ to our community in various ways. "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."
Mark 10:45
2. To teach students, through modeling and group activities, that community service is not hard, but fun and profitable for others and themselves
3. To provide service opportunities in our community throughout the school year
4. To urge students to find service opportunities on their own and ones they enjoy
5. To be a school that strongly values service to others

Required Hours:

Middle School	10 hours per year
Freshman/Sophomores	15 hours per year
Juniors/Seniors	25 hours per year

Guidelines:

1. A graduating student who served from middle through high school will complete a total of 100 community service hours.
2. Students that do not complete community service by the close of the school year will be required to complete hours in the summer.
3. Hours worked over the summer will count towards service for the upcoming school year or previous year, if arranged with the administration.
4. Only a maximum of half the hours per year can come from school related projects.
5. Community Service Verification forms will be available in Bible class or on the school website. Students should submit completed hours throughout the year to be recorded in their RenWeb file. One form should be used for each separate service project; the form should be completed and turned in after the project is completed. Progress will be checked by Bible teachers each semester.
6. Students who transfer will only be required to complete community service for their years as ASCS. A student entering during the second semester is required to complete half the yearly requirements.
7. Verification forms must be signed by service supervisor. Parent signatures will not be accepted.
8. When submitting final hours, students will also submit a short reflection paper about their service. See *Service Reflection Paper* sheet.

Acceptable Community Service Projects:

The following list provides examples of acceptable service project activities. This list is not intended to be exhaustive but to serve as a source of possible ideas. Questions regarding approval for activities should be directed to the Administration.

School-related ministries before or after school hours

- Peer tutoring/counseling
- Elementary campus tutoring
- Implementing NHS/Student Council/Class projects
- Janitorial services
- Sports team service
- Organization and implementation of service activities (Angel Tree, Operation Christmas Child)
- Before- and after-school volunteer activities
- Adopt-A-Highway

Church-related ministries

- Mission trips/activities sponsored by a church or Christian organization (including pre-trip training)
- Sunday school teacher/aide
- Vacation Bible school
- Pioneer/Awana clubs
- Church Camps
- Leading Bible study (supervised by an adult)
- Nursery and childcare (volunteer status, supervised)
- Accompanied nursing home or hospital visitations
- Helping with sports camps offered by the church
- Grounds work for church, elderly, or disabled
- Set-up and clean-up duties for church activities
- Providing meals
- Church work days

Community ministry activities

- Soup kitchens, shelters, and food pantries
- Children's daycare and day camps (volunteer status only)
- Senior centers, nursing homes
- Hospitals
- Political service
- Organizations: American Cancer Society, American Red Cross, Special Olympics, Habitat for Humanity, Norfolk Zoo, Norfolk Botanical Gardens, Salvation Army, FoodBank of Southeastern VA, Union Mission, CHKD, YMCA, Crisis Pregnancy Center of Tidewater Chesapeake Parks and Recreation Department, Operation Smile, Invisible Children, opportunities through <http://www.volunteertidewater.com>.

Unapproved Activities:

1. Remuneration may not be received, in any form--monetary, merchandise or material gain, personal, class or organizational. Offers of hospitality (food and drink) may be accepted.
2. Activities that may be required for a course grade will not be approved. For example, choir, ensemble or band concerts and appearances, yearbook assignments, etc. for which a course grade may be received are not defined as "service" and are not included. Also, participation in the school play, homecoming, Spirit Week, and Chapel worship are not approved.
3. Expected behaviors and service as a result of discipline will not be approved. For example, lunchroom duty and detention activities do not qualify as Christian service.
4. Transportation of any kind, as a project activity, will not be approved under any circumstance or condition.
5. Services performed for a family member, court or school appointed service hours
6. Activities which are primarily social rather than service oriented
7. Monetary gifts may not be given in lieu of performing service projects.