Center for Community Engagement

The University of Southern Mississippi

For more info about the CCE, visit usm.edu/cce

Report Hours through Get Connected at volunteer.usm.edu

How to do Meaningful Service:

* Support just one organization. Be available when they need you.
* Get hours through continuous volunteering. Be consistent!
* Do service in small groups of 5 or less.
*Commit to showing up and honor your commitment.

Tips for Student Service

DO:

- Determine the site's location, where to park, and where to enter before you visit.
- Know who will be providing initial on-site orientation and ask for this orientation (site rules, etc) when you arrive for your first visit.
- Follow sign-in procedures of the site every time you visit.
- Educate yourself about the agency and the population it serves.
- ARRIVE AND LEAVE ON TIME, CALL IF YOU WILL BE LATE OR ABSENT.
- Be kind, courteous, and helpful. Try to be flexible.
- Avoid one-on-one situations that place you alone with a vulnerable community member such as a child, or isolate you and the community member from the main area of activity.
- Respect the privacy and boundaries of community partners. (Don't ask questions that are too personal; be cautious when displaying affection.)
- Respect the confidentiality of everyone you work with.
- Ask for help when you're in doubt.
- Act as if you are visiting someone else's home – learn their rules and traditions.

DON'T:

- Give your phone number or address to community partners.

- To respect the policies and expectations of your organization, especially in regard to confidentiality and participation in required training sessions.
- To behave professionally in carrying out the tasks assigned to you.
- To observe your established dress code.

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