

Service Learning Toolkit for Community Partners

Welcome!

The purpose of this toolkit is to provide you with information, references, and resources that you may find helpful in brainstorming, creating, and assessing the needs of your organization, the community needs around you, and the types of projects that can be created to meet those needs and the needs of the service learning students placed within your organization. The Service Learning Center is hosted on the Kenosha campus; however, the Center services Kenosha, Racine, and Walworth County organizations.

What is Service Learning?

Service learning is similar to volunteering in that students are giving their time and skills to meet a community need and complete a project at a non-profit or community organization. The main differences are that students must be a part of a project that is meaningful and relative to their area of study, contains activities that are mutually beneficial to all parties involved, and requires the students to be conscious of all activities they perform (active reflection).

Students must complete a reflection at the end of their experience that makes them think about what they did, why they did it, how it matters to their goals and the community's needs, and what it will matter five years from now.

Service learning requires this active reflection so that participating students consciously link their project or experience with classroom practices, learning objectives, and their personal career goals.

What is Your Role?

As a Community Partner, your role is to supply the student with a student-friendly and flexible environment that is conducive to a positive work experience. You are asked to supply a supervisor who will be both the student's, instructor's and the Service Learning Center's contact person. Please supply the student, instructor, and the Service Learning Center with a list of expectations that the student will be required to meet during their time within your organization.

Also, you are expected to contact the Instructor or the Service Learning Center if the student is not a good match for your organization or if you have problems in relation to the student placed at your sight. We want this experience to be beneficial for both the student and your organization; therefore, we need to be informed when the match doesn't fit.

What is Your Student's Role?

As a student, it is their duty to be aware of the organization's needs and to provide assistance where and when it is needed. They must contact the agency to arrange the initial meeting to

discuss the service learning hours and project (The Service Learning Center can assist with this role).

They must adhere to the organization's rules and procedures, including the confidentiality of the organization and client information. Also, they must operate with integrity and professionalism at all times; which includes being punctual, meeting deadlines and being open to supervision and feedback which will facilitate learning and personal growth.

They must periodically reflect upon and reevaluate their service learning experience while linking what they observe and participate in back to the classroom, to their personal educational goals, and their future career goals.

What is the Service Learning Center's Role?

The Service Learning Center is to act as a liaison between the organization, students, and faculty. We provide support and guidance for any challenges that may arise. We also act as a third contact in case of difficulties or challenges that may arise at the community site for both community partner and student. We provide classroom service learning orientations and reflection sessions as requested. We assist with placing students into organizations or finding projects to suit the student. We also provide forms, instructions, resources, and materials that students, faculty, and the community partners may need/request for their service learning experience.

Questions, comments, or to make an appointment, please contact the Service Learning Center:

Madeline Carrera, *Service Learning Coordinator* Kenosha Campus – Academic Building 232 Office Phone: 262-564-3138 Email: <u>carreram@gtc.edu</u> Table of Contents & Intentions (Community Partner Edition)

Guidelines and Limitations

Guide for mostly students on what is expected and what is not allowed; however, it is useful for all parties involved to know what is expected. Standard Rules and Signature sheet to create a contract with students to act professionally and consciously throughout their service learning experience.

Needs Assessment

This assessment should be completed by the Community Partner to figure out the exact needs so that the Service Learning Center can better address them. This should be completed with the Service Learning Specialist, if available; however, it can be completed by the community partner on their own as well.

Service Learning Partnership Agreement

This is included in the student's toolkit and required by the student and community partner to complete. This is a good reference for each person's role in Service Learning and a reference for what the student will be accomplishing at their site. The student should bring this to the community partner on their first day if the instructor wishes to use it. If not, the community partner can opt to use it as well.

Service Learning Placement Feedback

This is included in the student and community partner toolkits, but it can be handed to the student from the instructor as well. This should be completed at the end of the semester about their specific placement in the community. It should be clear at the beginning if the instructor is going to use this feedback method. If not, the Service Learning Center would like the request that the student fills it out and sends it to the SLC for statistical purposes.

Student Evaluation of Service Learning

This should be completed at the end of the semester by the student about their service learning experience. This should be distributed by the instructor. This is a reference for the community partner.

Community Partner Survey

This survey should be completed at the end of the semester around the time the student is completing their own end-of-placement feedback surveys. This is for statistical purposes and for keeping track of the projects completed, student hours, and community partner relationships. Any questions, please contact the Service Learning Center at anytime.

Service Learning Guidelines and Limitations

The Student agrees to abide by the following Guidelines and Limitations:



Guidelines

- ◆ <u>Ask for help when in doubt:</u> Your site supervisor understands the issues at your site and you are encouraged to approach him/her with problems or questions as they arise. They can assist you in determining the best way to respond to difficult or uncomfortable situations. Feel free to contact your professor or the service learning office with questions concerning your placement.
- <u>Be punctual and responsible</u>: Although you are volunteering your time, you are participating in the organization as a reliable, trustworthy and contributing member of the team. Both the administrators and the person whom you serve rely on your punctuality and commitment to completing your service hours/project throughout your partnership.
- <u>Call if you anticipate lateness or absence</u>: Call the site supervisor if you are unable to come in or if you anticipate being late. Be mindful of your commitment, people are counting on you.
- Respect the privacy of all clients: If you are privy to confidential information with regard to the persons with whom you are working (i.e. organizational files, diagnostics, personal stories, etc)., it is vital that you treat it as privileged information. You should use pseudonyms in your course assignments if you are referring to clients or the people you work with at the service site.
- Show respect for the community-based organization you work for: Placement within community programs is an educational opportunity and a privilege. Keep in mind, not only are you serving the community but the community is serving you by investing valuable resources in your learning.
- <u>Be appropriate:</u> You are in a work situation and are expected to treat your supervisor and others with courtesy and kindness. Dress comfortably, neatly and appropriately. Use formal names unless instructed otherwise. Set a positive standard for other students to follow as part of Gateway's service learning initiative.
- <u>Be flexible</u>: The level or intensity of activity at a service site is not always predictable. Your flexibility to changing situations can assist the partnership in working smoothly and producing positive outcomes for everyone involved.
- **Evaluate:** Your input on your service experience and the community agency are valuable tools for future service-learning projects. Submit all of your evaluations on time.

Service Learning Guidelines and Limitations



Limitations

- **DON'T** report to your service site under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- **DON'T** give or loan a client, money or other personal belongings.
- **DON'T** make promises or commitments to a client you cannot keep.
- **DON'T** give a client or agency representative a ride in a personal vehicle.
- **DON'T** tolerate verbal exchange of a sexual nature or engage in behavior that might be perceived as sexual with a client or community organization representative.
- **DON'T** tolerate verbal exchange or engage in behavior that might be perceived as discriminating against an individual on the basis of their age, race, gender, sexual orientation, ability, or ethnicity.
- **DON'T** engage in any type of business with clients during the term of your service.
- **DON'T** enter into personal relationships with a client or community partner representative during the term of your service.
- **DON'T** use the service opportunity to engage in personal benefit for either yourself or someone you know.

Service Learning Guidelines and Limitations



Student's Signature

Printed Name

Date _____

COMMUNITY PARTNER NEEDS ASSESSMENT FORM



CONTACT INFORMATION

ORGANIZATION NAME:

Website:

 Address, City, & Zip: _____

 Phone #: ______ Ex. _____ Fax #: ______

Address, City, & Zij								
Phone #:					_ Fax #:			
E-mail:								
		ORGA	ANIZAT	ION OVERVIEV	V			
Organization Mission:								
Please indicate your	□ Senior Care	9	🗆 Chilo	lren/Youth	□ Arts & Culture		omen	
organization's focus area(s).	□ Conflict Re	solution	□Nonp Manag	profit/Business ement	□ Human Service	s □ An	imal Welfare	
	□ HIV/AIDS		□Immi Assista	igrants/Refugee ince	Disabilities		mputer / nology	
Check all that	□ Environme Protection			ion/Literacy	□ Legal/Advocac	Deve	orkforce lopment	
apply.	□ Homelessness / Hunger		□ Mental Health		□ Health & Wellness		□ Other (please describe)	
	SERVICE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES (Check all that apply)							
Service Learning St needed	udents are	□One-time	basis (i.e	e. special events, s	pecific projects)	On-going b	oasis	
Service Learning St needed for	udents are	-	□Special Events □Fundraising □Administrative Work □Advocacy □Other [please describe]:					
Service Learning Students are needed		□Monday □Tuesday □Wednesday □Thursday □Friday □Saturday □Sunday				⁻ day		
□AM □PM			□AM □PM	□AM □PM	□AM □AM □PM □PM	□AM □PM	□ AM □PM	
			at clearances:					
Service Learning St required to comple training program	plete an agency If yes, please describe what this program entails:							
Is this organization	accessible	\Box Yes \Box N	0					

by public transportation?	Please list:				
How many service Learners can this organization accommodate in one semester?		3 □ 4 □ 0ther:			
How many hours can this organization provide a semester (15 weeks long) per student?	*Note: Stude	□ less than 20 □ 21-30 □ 31-40 □41-50 □ 51-60 *Note: Students in the Learning to Serve (890-105) class minimum requirement is 36 hours per semester.			
Does this organization carry liability insurance that covers volunteers/service learners?	□ Yes □ No *Note: All or		rners must carry liability insurance.		
Please list any special skills needed to be a service learner at your organization					
Please share any additional information that is relevant to service learning with your organization					
			EWAY TECHNICAL COLLEGE		
In order to ensure that the Service L	earning Cente	r is accurately tracking and doc	cumenting the service we provide to the		
c	ommunity, we				
Are you willing to complete a monthl Report (provided by the Service Lear which will ask you to track GTC serv students, confirm their service hours,	y Service ning Center) ice learning	e need our agency partner's sup □ Yes □ No			
Are you willing to complete a monthl Report (provided by the Service Lear which will ask you to track GTC serv	y Service ning Center) ice learning and reflect e Learning	e need our agency partner's sup			
Are you willing to complete a monthl Report (provided by the Service Lear which will ask you to track GTC serv students, confirm their service hours, on their performance? Are you willing to provide the Servic Center with photos and/or video of se	y Service ning Center) ice learning and reflect e Learning rvice earning ur	e need our agency partner's sup □ Yes □ No			
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Are you willing to complete a monthl Report (provided by the Service Learn which will ask you to track GTC serv students, confirm their service hours, on their performance? Are you willing to provide the Service Center with photos and/or video of se learning students at your agency? Are you able to provide the Service L Center with information regarding yo organization and service learning opp Are you interested in being a guest sp events pertaining to service learning/	y Service ning Center) ice learning and reflect e Learning rvice earning ur ortunities? eaker at your eaker vice	e need our agency partner's sup □ Yes □ No □ Yes □ No □ Yes □ No □ Yes □ No □ Yes □ No	If yes, please mail the materials to: Madeline Carrera 3520 30 th Avenue		

NOTE: IF YOU EVER HAVE ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS, COMPLAINTS, OR COMMENTS, PLEASE EMAIL <u>CARRERAM@GTC.EDU</u>				
THANK YOU FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM!				
Please return a copy to:				
E: <u>carreram@gtc.edu</u>	P: 262-564-3138	F: 262-564-2064		

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SERVICE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

Complete this sheet before you start your service learning project. Students are responsible for obtaining all signatures and providing one copy to faculty, the Service Learning Center and Community Organization by the second week of the quarter unless otherwise arranged. Students will keep original.

Today's Date:

Faculty:

Quarter/Year: Course Number and Title:

CSL Project Manager:

Community Partner Supervisor:

List All Service Learning students involved:

 Minimum Weekly Time Commitment per Student
 Hours

Start Date: _____ End Date: _____

Students Role:

- Be aware of the organization's needs and provide assistance where and when needed.
- Contact the agency to arrange initial meeting to discuss service learning hours and project.
- Adhere to organizational rules and procedures, including confidentiality of organization and client information.
- Periodically reflect upon and re-evaluate the service experience keeping in mind the objectives of all parties involved.
- Operate with integrity and professionalism at all times; which includes being punctual, meeting deadlines and being open to supervision and feedback which will facilitate learning and personal growth.

Faculty Role:

- Provide students with structure and guidance to process and reflect upon service learning experiences.
- Assist students in connecting their community based learning experience with course learning objectives.
- Participate in evaluation process.

Organization Role:

- Provide service learning opportunities that are significant and/or challenging to the students, relevant to course learning objectives, and address community agency's goals.
- Provide training, supervision, feedback, resources and sufficient information about the organization to aid in the success of students' service learning projects.
- Participate in the evaluation process.

Service Learning Center's Role:

- Serve as a liaison between the organization, students, and faculty.
- Provide support and guidance for any challenges that may arise.
- Provide classroom service learning orientation and reflection sessions as requested.

Primary Course Learning Objectives Related to Service Project:

What are you looking to accomplish? Students complete, get final instructor approval. (Refer to your course syllabus for learning objectives).

l	 	 	
2.			

Primary Organization Service Objectives:

2._____

Project Description as defined by the Community Partner, Instructor and Students:

Student Task:	Deadline:
Student Task:	Deadline:

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND MY ROLE AS OUTLINED IN THIS DOCUMENT. I COMMIT TO FULFILLING MY PART OF THIS SERVICE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP. I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS PARTNERSHIP IS MEANT TO FURTHER GATEWAY STUDENT LEARNING AND MEET THE COMMUNITY PARTNER GOALS.

INSTRUCTOR SIGNATURE
COMMUNITY PARTNER REP. SIGNATURE
SL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE
STUDENT SIGNATURE
STUDENT SIGNATURE
STUDENT SIGNATURE

Dear Agency Supervisor,

On behalf of Gateway Technical College Service Learning Program, we would like to thank you for entering into an educational partnership with our students. When you accept and supervise service learners, you are helping these students join classroom knowledge with real-life experience. When you encourage and allow these students to perform meaningful service, you are also contributing to the educational mission of promoting civic responsibility. The critical role you play as a mentor and educator for our students cannot be underestimated. We appreciate your commitment to making our students feel welcome and to ensuring that they have a productive and educational experience.

Student's Name:		
Student ID#:		
Course Number:		
Course Name:		
Faculty Name:		
Name of Agency:		
Address of Agency:		
Name of Agency Supervisor/Contact Person:		
Contact Info (telephone & email):		
Description of Service Activities:		
I agree to, and will uphold, the terms of this placement. Student's Signature:	Date:	
Supervisor's Signature:	Date:	



Service Learning Placement Feedback

This feedback form is designed to gather feedback about the student(s) placed at your location. We would like to know if they handled themselves in a professional manner, if they completed their project/commitment, and if they were a good fit for your organization.

Studant.

Student.	
Total Hours Served:	
Community Partner:	
Supervisor:	
Supervisor Phone #:	
Supervisor Email:	

1. The student attended any/all required orientation sessions.						
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree		
2. The student v	vas consistently pu	inctual.				
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree		
3. The student in	nteracted appropri	ately with the com	munity partner's c	lients.		
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree		
4. The student in	nteracted appropri	ately with the com	munity partner's st	aff.		
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree		
5. The student s	howed interest and	d initiative.				
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree		
6. The student v	6. The student was a good fit for my organization.					
Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree		

Would you be willing to accept another student placement again in the future? Please explain:

Please list suggestions for improvement of placements:

Other comments and/or concerns:

Signature: ______ Date: ______

Thank you for your valuable feedback. We hope to work with you again in the future! Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Thank you again,

The Service Learning Center servicelearningcenter@gtc.edu



Student Evaluation of Service Learning

To be completed at the end of his/her experience

Course:	Community Agency:	
Number of Hours Served:	Site Supervisor:	

- 1. Why did you decide to participate in this service learning experience?
 □ Because I am interested in social issues
 □ For the credit
 □ To link theory learned in the classroom with actual field experience
 □ To volunteer
 □ Other reason(s): ______
 □ Course requirement
- 2. What is the most important thing you learned from your service experience?
- Do you think that community service is valuable and appropriate learning component within this course? □ Yes □ No □ I don't know Why or why not?
- 4. Are you going to continue to work with your site placement? □ Yes □ No □ I don't know If so, why?

- 5. Did your experience help you to gain a better insight into the material and concepts of the course? Please explain.
- 6. In addition to the service hours, what other coursework did you complete for the service learning component of this course?

7. Did you do a final paper or a formal presentation to meet the final requirements of the service learning component? Please explain.

Please answer the following questions according to your opinion of the statement.

	Strongly Agree	Moderately Agree	Agree	Disagree	Moderately Disagree	Strongly Disagree
My on-site supervision and training was helpful.						
The site supervisor used my time efficiently.						
This site should be used again for students in the future.						

8. Is there anything that could have been done to improve your service learning experience?

9. Additional comments:

Thank you for completing this evaluation. Please return the completed form either to your instructor or to the Service Learning Center. If you are interested in engaging in other service learning experiences, come by, call, or email the Kenosha Service Learning Center, 3520 30th Avenue: A232; 262.564.3138; <u>carreram@gtc.edu</u> or the Racine Service Learning Center, 1001 S. Main Street: R107; 262.619.6488; <u>xiongp@gtc.edu</u>.



GATEVAY TECHNICAL COLLEGE Community Partner Survey	
COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION:	
WEBSITE:	
NAME:	
TITLE & CONTACT INFORMATION:	
Address, City, & Zip:	
Phone #: Fax #:	
E-mail:	

Section 1: Efficacy/Capacity. How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statement at this point in time: "As a result of this service learning partnership, my organization was able to"	Strongly Disagree 1	Disagree 2	Undecided 3	Agree 4	Strongly Agree 5
Improve our ability to meet community needs					
Increase the number of clients served					
Increase the number of services offered to our clients					
Establish new connections and networks					
Grow our capacity to serve our clients					
Meet strategic planning goals					
Persuade others that youth can be an asset in the community					
Observe that our beneficiaries valued college students' efforts					

Section 2: Reciprocal Partnership. Please rate your level of satisfaction with your connection to Gateway Technical College.	Deeply Unsatisfied 1	Unsatisfied 2	No Opinion 3	Satisfied 4	Highly Satisfied 5
Communication with faculty, college students and staff					
Quality of college student work					
Feedback and input into planning of experiences					
Scope and timing of service activities					
Overall coordination of service learning programs					

Section 3: How strongly do you agree with the following statement at this point in time:	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Undecided	Agree	Strongly Agree
	1	2	3	4	5
The service learning program effectively addressed a real community problem					
My organization is committed to providing on-going support to the service learning mission					

Section 4: Reciprocal Partnership. Please rate the level of challenges you encountered with the following issues:	Not Applicable	Highly Significant Challenge	Significant Challenge	Moderate Challenge	Not a Challenge
	1	2	3	4	5
Demands upon staff time					
College student(s) service time period insufficient					
Lack of college student(s) commitment					
Too few college students					
Too many college students					
College student(s) not well prepared					
College student(s) did not perform as expected					
Little contact/interaction with college faculty/staff					
Other (please list)					

NOTE: IF YOU EVER HAVE ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS, COMPLAINTS, OR COMMENTS, PLEASE EMAIL <u>SERVICELEARNINGCENTER@GTC.EDU</u>

THANK YOU FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM!

Please return a copy to:

Gateway Technical College C/O Service Learning Center 3520 30th Avenue Kenosha, WI 53144 P:| 262.564.3138 F:| 262.564.2063 E:| servicelearningcenter@gtc.edu