

Sparrow Club Advisor Reference



Community Service Guidelines

The following are some Community Service guidelines:

- Service hours must benefit the public, neighbors or the local community.
- Youth, not adults, must earn service hours. Adults may participate and complete a service voucher, but their hours will not count toward the 256 required hours of service.
- An adult supervisor should sign the Sparrow community service vouchers verifying the work performed, and the length of time it took to complete.
- Students performing the service must know about their Sparrow and understand that the work they are performing is benefiting their Sparrow.
- Students should NEVER perform Community Service outside of school without the permission of parents or guardians.
- We strongly recommend adult supervision when kids are completing their Community Service.
- If appropriate, we encourage Clubs to perform “Acts of Kindness” for their Sparrow Family, as part of their Community Service.
- Post “What helping my Sparrow has meant to me” for people to be inspired.



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Community Service Guidelines

Here are some examples of Valid and Non-Valid Community Service:

VALID COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Perform “random acts of kindness” for your Sparrow family
- Serve at other non-profit organizations (Ronald McDonald House, Salvation Army, Humane Society, Special Olympics, etc)
- Visit, sing or play instruments for elderly people at a retirement or nursing home.
- Gather or stack firewood for an elderly person who lives alone.
- Pick up the garbage at a local park.
- Make holiday decorations or Christmas stockings for retirement home. *
- Make and send cards to a children’s hospital.*
- Shovel snow or remove ice for widow, elderly person, or neighbor.
- Tutor others / Read with others.*
- Make placemats for “Meals on Wheels.”*
- Wrap Christmas gifts at Fire Department or a local giving tree.
- Conduct a Canned Food Drive to benefit your local Food Bank*
- Make and send letters to troops in the military.*
- Help clean your neighborhood.
- Serve dinner at a soup kitchen.
- Create and send thank you notes to your local fire department or police agency.*
- Work in a community or school garden.*
- Collect jackets/coats/socks/hats/mittens for homeless people. (i.e., conduct a sock drive)*
- Remove/Paint over graffiti.
- Clean your school campus and/or playground.*
- Help at a Blood Drive
- Yard work for others (rake leaves, pull weeds, mow lawns, rake pine cones/needles etc.).

NON-VALID COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Doing household chores for your parents or grandparents.
- Working for your family’s business, or helping parents at their workplace.
- Receiving payment for babysitting or any other part-time job that you might have.
- Helping your teacher.
- Looking after your siblings.
- Caring for your pets.
- Visiting your grandparents.
- Playing a game on freerice.com
- Doing jobs that you would usually do anyway.
- Attending Sparrow Club Meetings.
- Doing Community Service and not knowing your Sparrow’s story.
- Community Service performed prior to the introduction of the Sparrow to the school.

Helpful Info:

There are many websites that can help direct you where to send letters to troops and/or veterans – here are two examples:

<http://www.amillionthanks.org/>

<https://www.operationgratitude.com/>

Community Service suggestions marked with an asterisk (*) are suitable for Elementary Schools to perform as a classroom without leaving school campus.



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