



Center for Service & Learning

become that someone

COMMUNITY SERVICE DEFINITION

At Saint Francis University, we follow guidelines based on the definition of community service established by the federal government's Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS). According to CNCS, community service activities may include, but are not limited to: curricular community-engaged courses/service-learning, co-curricular volunteer activities, as well as paid federal work study (FWS) dedicated to community service, and paid community service internships. Community service includes both direct service (e.g. serving food at a soup kitchen) and indirect service (e.g. assessing community nutrition needs or managing a food bank). Community is defined as a group(s) external to the University community.

EXAMPLES OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Direct service at a non-profit organization, non-governmental agency, governmental program, school, or church program that meets a community need
- Organizing and/or participating in a charity fundraiser, and/or raising funds for a charity
- Advocacy, awareness, and education that focuses on a community issue
- Domestic and/or international service mission trips (up to 8 hours per day)
- Pro-bono professional and/or medical services provided to a non-profit organization
- Paid & non-paid internships with non-profit groups that serve the community
- Paid federal work study (FWS) dedicated to community service activities

WHAT DOES NOT COUNT AS COMMUNITY SERVICE?

- Paid employment (other than FWS dedicated to community service)
- Internships with organizations that do not provide direct service to the community (e.g. issue advocacy groups, government offices)
- Student conduct restitution hours or court-ordered volunteer hours
- Unpaid or volunteer work for the University (e.g. working at Commencement, Orientation, or helping a particular department)
- Work on political campaigns