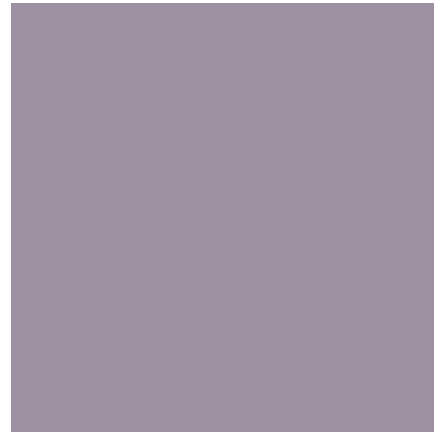


APRIL SHOWERS



Bring Service Hours!



CT Community Service
Month

April 2014

April Showers Brings Service Hours

Community service is a selfless act that benefits those around you.



+ What is our initiative?



- To get every high school in Connecticut to participate in a service project during the month of April to show our state how we, as student leaders, can positively influence our communities.

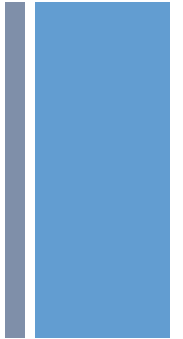


How can your school get involved?



- Find an area (or areas) in your local community where student volunteers can help through some sort of project
- No act is too small, getting involved within your school to improve facilities or overall school climate is a form of community service

+ Purpose of Outreach



- Develop a new service project that can involve the entire school
- If you cannot develop a new project, and your school already has a service project during April, we ask that you enhance your project
 - Add new people, volunteer in a different area of your community, etc.
 - Expand the reach of the project and who you impact



Personal Benefits of Community Service and Helping Those in Need



- Including new people who have not had the satisfaction of helping other
- Intermingling within your school to break cliques or grade boundaries Forging relationships with people being served
- Learning real world skills to develop the plan
 - Including: getting in touch with the correct people to make your project happen, scheduling time and transportation where necessary

+ Themes of April

- Earth Week
- Autism Awareness
- Anti-Bullying / Suicide
- Sandy Hook / Rachel's Challenge "Random Acts of Kindness"
- Cancer Research (Stand Up 2 Cancer)
- Diabetes (JDRF)
- Promote Safe Driving



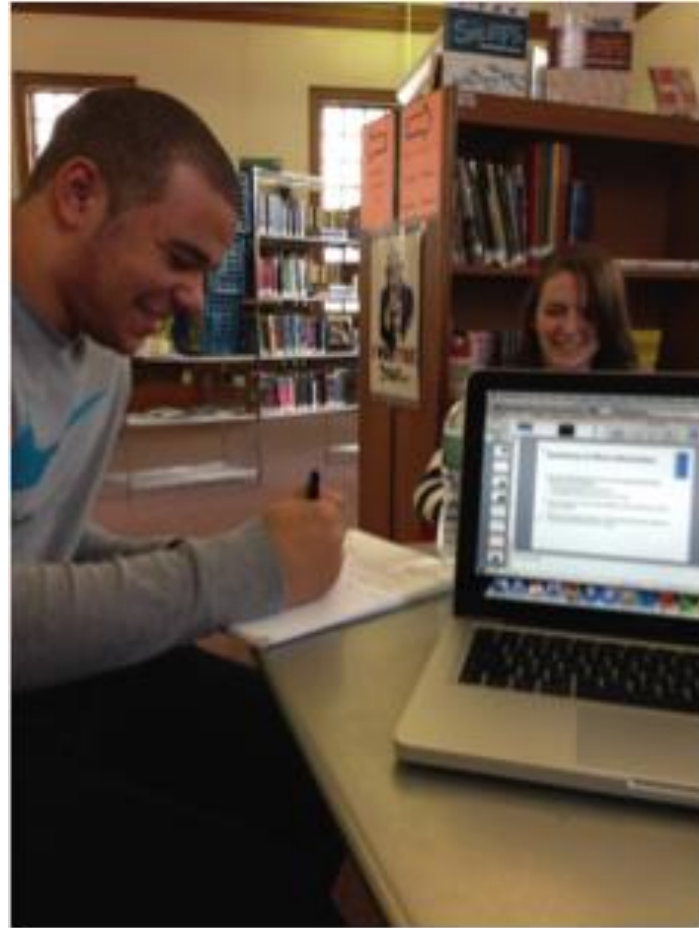
+ After choosing a theme, develop a plan

- Talk to administration to find out where and how your students can get involved
- Find out how much time the students are given for their service projects and then brainstorm activities within the community that the students can participate in



+ Who to tell within school?

- Athletic directors and club advisors- get the attention of presidents and captains of school organizations to each take on a project with activity members



+

In Connecticut there are a diverse group of high schools, here are ideas tailored to some different types of schools:



+ Small School Options



- School Climate Project
- Go somewhere on buses to help in local shelters (homeless or food pantries)
- School Compost Pile/Community Garden
- Lock-in For Heat

+ Large School Options

- Online Pledge for a Cause
- Bring a conference to you
- Tournaments for Charities (volleyball, dodge ball powder puff)
 - Faculty vs Students
 - Digs for Dippers
 - Dig Pink
 - Canned food for shelters
- Break school down into smaller groups, advisory
- Donate old glasses and phones to give to charity



+ Rural/Suburban Options

- Volunteer at farms or local parks cleaning up or doing landscaping
- Clean up community yards
- Food baskets for holidays



+ City Options

- Clean up city streets
- Volunteer at shelters
- Tutoring local schools
- Games/Leadership activities with younger students
- Food baskets for holidays for local shelters and families
- Candy baskets for Easter
 - Each student bring in candy and put together baskets



+ Get the word out

- Talk to a student organization (student council, student government, etc) and allow them to find contacts in the community to see where help is needed





If you do NOT get time out of class



- Find a project that can be done during lunch or passing periods or throughout the week
- Some examples
 - Raise money through penny wars
 - Charity or funding students who cannot afford to attend leadership conferences “Sponsor a Leader”
 - Allow for students from local elementary schools or senior citizens to come into your school to reach out to them
- Have sports teams and school clubs do service projects together on the weekends throughout the month.

+ Where to start?

- Homeless shelters
- Food shelters
- Churches/Religious places
- Town halls



+ Past project Ideas



- Click on the following link to be directed to past ideas submitted from schools across the state:
 - <http://cas.casciac.org>

+ Need student leaders?

- CAS is willing to send student representatives from our state board to run a mini-conference or workshop with a group of students who want to learn more about getting involved in their school, town, and state communities
- Student government, fundraising, school climate, inclusion, school spirit etc.



+ Who to contact to participate?

- Email Jenn Buckley at jenniferbuckley1@gmail.com or jennsylvester@casciac.org



+ Help US get the word out!

- Contact local high schools within your town or neighboring towns and see if they have heard about our state initiative
- Present to Principal's Association about the importance of service and impact student leaders can have on their communities
- Contact Jenn Buckley if you would like to be a part of the Connecticut Advisory Board and help student leaders plan activities similar to this and state leadership conferences.





Student Leaders in Your Area



- Student leaders in your area from the state advisory board are willing to come present this to your school administration or a service organization within your school
- Nick Bendas-Giano (PLAINVILLE), Leah Seften (BOLTON), Julian Carraway (MIDDLETOWN), Pete Carcia (FERMI), Megan Leubner (CIBA)





Questions or More Information



- For more information you can contact Jenn Buckley, State Student Council Advisor
 - Nick Bendas-Giano, State President
 - Leah Seften, State Community Service Chair
- You can also go on the state website to get more links or find other contacts
- Click on the picture below to watch the promotional video for our state community service month:



Come to Spring Conferences to Finalize Your Plans!

- Attend one of the regional CT Leadership Conferences for last minute trouble shooting and to find solutions to any barriers you have hit while developing your school plan.
- Hear other ideas and find improvements to the plans you developed

