



Volunteer Center of Cedar Valley

ESSENTIAL STEPS OF SERVICE-LEARNING

This seven-part program includes all the essential steps for effective service-learning projects:

_____ **1. Mapping the community.** Students begin by defining “community” and identify the resources, strengths, and weaknesses in their community.

_____ **2. Selecting a problem.** Students research community problems, select one, and research it more fully.

_____ **3. Training & Orientation.** Students acquire an understanding of the organization that addresses the problem, in order to provide effective service and to maximize learning.

_____ **4. Meaningful Action.** Students engage in the actual service experience, which is meaningful and well planned.

_____ **5. Reflection.** Students use critical thinking skills in order to learn from their service experience.

_____ **6. Evaluation.** Students evaluate their project and their own learning, in order to assess process and impact.

_____ **7. Celebration & Recognition.** Students are recognized for their evaluated service to the community and their efforts.