

Good Samaritan College of Nursing and Health Science  
Cincinnati, Ohio

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

The Good Samaritan College Goals not only establish expected outcomes for students attending the college but also express a value system for development of each student.

- Emphasize a Christian value orientation to life.
- Create a caring environment that allows each individual to feel personally satisfied and reach his/her fullest potential.
- Promote academic excellence.
- Embrace excellence in the practice of nursing.
- Serve the community.
- Graduate a student who embodies the traditions and reputation of the College.
- Foster in each graduate an ongoing commitment to the experience of learning and to this educational institution.

The Community Service requirement in capstone is intended to engage the student in the conduct of these values as a means of exposing students to a professional way of life. Service to the community, performed without thought of personal gain, is an important aspect of fulfilling each of these goals.

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE DEFINED**

"Those services designed to improve the quality of life for community residents (general public), particularly low income individuals, or solving problems related to their needs."

– *National Community Service Act of 1990*

The above description is the basis for defining acceptable community service. Additionally, the acceptability of service (rather than volunteerism) is that the service meets an unmet need and the provider of the service is not directly benefited. Generally speaking, should be at program, project, or service where no one is normally paid to do the service.

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE REQUIREMENTS**

A minimum of 12 service hours is required while you are a student at GSC and to be completed by graduation. As a guide and recommendation, community service expectation can be completed in each of the following categories: Life Values (2 hours), Caring Environment (2 hours), Traditions (2 hours), Commitment to Learning (2 hours), Commitment to GSC (2 hours), Free Choice (2 hours). This recommendation is not intended to limit or restrict a students' choice for service and any combination of hours will satisfy the requirement as long as the service fulfills the spirit of the requirement. This average of three hours of service a semester is easily met.

Students are strongly encouraged to complete service hours off-campus except for the commitment to GSC. To avoid tax penalties under IRS regulations, the college must not normally pay a wage for any on-campus service you provide.

Community service requirements that are specifically assigned as part of course requirements can not be used for Capstone requirements.

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE OPTIONS**

Teaching an under-privileged child to read, building a home for a family in need, raising money for a service agency, or helping a disadvantaged individual become more self-sufficient are examples of the wide variety of service opportunities students have sought. Generally speaking, should be at program, project, or service where no one is normally paid to do the service.

At the same time, sharing one's talents in the course of normal activities such as tutoring a peer, mowing the neighbor's lawn, assisting at one's place of worship, or babysitting is not acceptable. Political campaigns, because they assist a person who would be advancing an agenda that could be helpful to you, are also not considered acceptable service.

Diverse service opportunities provide meaningful, personally rewarding, and academically relevant ways for you to fulfill your service requirement. The college encourage you to extend yourself and assist people who are different from you to gain a better understanding of your community and help those persons who are truly in need.

Examples include but are not limited to:

- Volunteering at a Parish Nurse Clinic.
- Building a Habitat for Humanity House.

Examples that would not be accepted include:

- Walking in an event like Arthritis Walk is not service...working as a registered volunteer would be acceptable.
- Donating food, clothing, etc. to an agency is not service...working as a registered volunteer to go around and collect the donations would be acceptable.
- Donating money to a charity is not service...working as a caller or canvassing would be acceptable.

There is a single exception where volunteerism is accepted for service and to satisfy the Traditions and/or Commitment to GSC expectations. As a means to give back to the college, students can elect to volunteer at the college events such as the annual alumni fund raising phone-a-thon or assisting at a formal college event like graduation. These opportunities are announced throughout the year.

Because all opportunities you explore may not meet the scholarship renewal service criteria, feel free to contact to inquire about the acceptability of a particular activity at any time.

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE REPORTING**

Service hours may be submitted at anytime. There is no specific time limit to complete the requirement except by graduation.

Each community service should be submitted on a Community Service Hours Report Form.



Community Service Hours Report Form (Sample)

Name: (sign below) Hilda Workforce GSC Student ID Number: 123456789

Date	Service Site	Detailed Description of Service or Beneficiary of Service	Hours
mm/dd/yyyy	Parish Nurse	Collected intake information from walk-ins.	3 hours
<b>Agency Representative (please print)</b> Nancy Helper, RN		<b>Agency Rep. Signature (Cannot be a Student)</b>	<b>GSC Approval</b>
		555-5555	

Date	Service Site	Detailed Description of Service or Beneficiary of Service	Hours
mm/dd/yyyy	GSC	Volunteer caller for phonathon.	4 hours
<b>Agency Representative (please print)</b> M.J. Kathman, Dean		<b>Agency Rep. Signature (Cannot be a Student)</b>	<b>GSC Approval</b>
		555-5555	

Total Hours: 7

I certify that the above information was completed in good faith and is correct to the best of my abilities.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Total of 12 Hours: Recommended Categories - Life Values (2), Caring Environment (2), Traditions (2), Commitment to Learning (2), Commitment to GSC (2), Free Choice (2)



Community Service Hours Report Form

Name: (sign below) \_\_\_\_\_ GSC Student ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date	Service Site	Detailed Description of Service or Beneficiary of Service	Hours
<b>Agency Representative (please print)</b>	<b>Agency Rep. Signature (Cannot be a Student)</b>	<b>Agency Phone</b>	<b>GSC Approval</b>

Date	Service Site	Detailed Description of Service or Beneficiary of Service	Hours
<b>Agency Representative (please print)</b>	<b>Agency Rep. Signature (Cannot be a Student)</b>	<b>Agency Phone</b>	<b>GSC Approval</b>

Total Hours: \_\_\_\_\_

I certify that the above information was completed in good faith and is correct to the best of my abilities.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Total of 12 Hours: Recommended Categories - Life Values (2), Caring Environment (2), Traditions (2), Commitment to Learning (2), Commitment to GSC (2), Free Choice (2)