

**Marin
Service
Learning
2012**

AMIGOS SERVICE-LEARNING PARTNERSHIPS

Amigos de las Américas (AMIGOS) is a nonprofit organization, founded in 1965 to inspire and build young leaders through collaborative community development and immersion in cross-cultural experiences in Latin America.

AMIGOS volunteers participate in an extensive training program prior to traveling to Latin America for the summer. An important part of our training program is service-learning. Service-Learning is a teaching and learning strategy that integrates meaningful community service with instruction and reflection to enrich the learning experience, teach civic responsibility, and strengthen communities. AMIGOS is looking for community partners who would benefit from having passionate youth volunteers be a part of their programs.



BENEFITS TO ORGANIZATIONS THAT UTILIZE YOUTH VOLUNTEERS

- The opportunity to expand their mission and reach without substantially increasing costs by engaging a cadre of competent, motivated young people who share their time and talents in support of the organization's mission.
- New energy, ideas, and enthusiasm as well as specialized skills that young people can bring to the organization.
- Increased public support and visibility in the community as young people become ambassadors for the agency in their schools, homes, and other networks.



- New partnerships and resources that emerge when agencies form service-learning partnerships with schools, youth development organizations, faith-based organizations or others that provide service-learning as part of their programming.

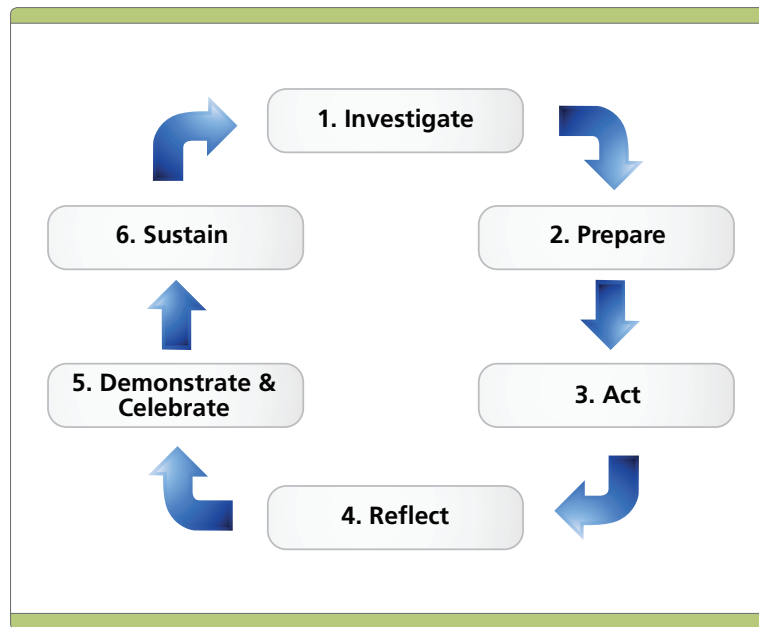
- By working with youth and getting them committed to its mission, an organization cultivates a new generation of volunteers for either their own organization or their broader cause.



BENEFITS OF SERVICE-LEARNING FOR YOUTH PARTICIPANTS

- Increased sense of self-efficacy as young people learn that they can impact real social challenges, problems, and needs.
- Higher academic achievement and interest in furthering their education.
- Enhanced problem-solving skills, ability to work in teams, and planning abilities.
- Enhanced civic engagement attitudes, leadership skills and behaviors.

LEARN MORE ABOUT AMIGOS AT WWW.AMIGOSLINK.ORG



Investigate: Identify a local, national, or global community need you would like to address.



In order to:

Identify the community that will be the focus of your Semester of Service

Assess the community need

Identify possible community partners

Establish a baseline

You could:

- Develop a list of all the communities to which you belong.
- Think about your previous personal experiences with service.

- Design and administer a survey of your peers.
- Take an exploratory walk around the neighborhood.
- Conduct research using various media.
- Consider Martin Luther King’s values and how they might inspire your selection of a need.

- Visit a nonprofit organization or agency responding to the need you identify.
- Invite an expert to talk to you.
- Identify possible other stakeholders in your issue.

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- Invite an expert to talk to you.
- Identify possible other stakeholders in your issue.
- Collect evidence of the “before” status of the need you will address.
- Discuss what you already know about your issue, and what you will need to learn.

Prepare and Plan: Develop a strategy for change and a common vision for success.



In order to:

Identify the service and learning goals

Create your action plan

You could:

- Decide what impact you want to make on the community need.
- Investigate your learning goals and how they connect to your service activities.

- Develop a timeline for your Semester of Service and add it to the calendar.
- Determine individual roles and responsibilities.
- Plan your outreach to a diverse group of participants.

Act: Implement the service activity to make a difference.



In order to:

Document your activity

You could:

- Take photographs to use in a “before and after” photo collage.
- Record what you are doing to develop the story of your Semester of Service.
- Invite the media to your activity.
- Monitor your progress throughout your Semester of Service.

Reflect: Think about how your service and learning relate to you, your community, and your future.



In order to:

Reflect during and after your service and learning

You could:

- Plan a forum to discuss how things are going, and what you might want to do differently.
- After your Semester of Service, share in small groups how you changed the community, and how you changed yourself.
- Design a photo collage that features the Martin Luther King values relating to your learning and service activities.
- What will you do after your Semester of Service?

Demonstrate/Celebrate: Showcase your results and celebrate your outcomes.



In order to:

Share what you have done and what you have learned

You could:

- Use technology to create a web scrapbook.
- Create a video to tell the story.
- Submit your story or video to semester@YSA.org.
- Present your learning and community impact to elected and public officials.

Investigation of Personal and Community Strengths, Concerns, and What You Intend To Do About It

Identify several strengths of your community:

List out several of your personal strengths:

Identify a few concerns you have about your community:

Look at page 2, Amigos Training Objectives – please identify 4 objectives that you would like to improve via your Service Learning Project:

Service Opportunities you see in your community:

What are your objectives for your project:

By the end of the chapter or CV training program, AMIGOS Volunteers will be prepared to take the initiative on these points and serve as community leaders in their host and home communities.

Please select 4 that your Service Learning Project will relate to – they could be 1 from each category or several from the same. They should be skills and concepts you would like to more fully develop before going on Project this summer.

AMIGOS Volunteers will...

AMIGOS 101

1. ... articulate the AMIGOS' mission, history, and organizational structure in English and Spanish/Portuguese.
2. ... demonstrate accountability for their role as a volunteer and positive representative of the AMIGOS programs in the US and Latin America.
3. ... explain the AMIGOS Health and Safety protocols and commit to following them (CALM Plan, Standards of Conduct, Weekly Self-Assessments and proactive personal care).
4. ... have used their AMIGOS tools and will be ready to apply this knowledge at the community level of AMIGOS program (Program Guides, Volunteer Country Materials, community assessment tools, etc).

Community Development

5. ... identify and practice mobilizing community and regional resources for conducting components of AMIGOS program.
6. ... practice utilizing the positive community development methodologies in preparation for community improvement initiatives at home and in Latin America.
7. ... explain the purpose of a community based initiative and the process needed to ensure success.
8. ... articulate their primary role as partner & catalyst for positive change in working with community members.

Youth Leadership

9. ... communicate constructively and positively in all relationships and forums. (ex: utilizing Spanish or English as required)
10. ...practice effective teambuilding techniques in preparation for working in various partnerships during the AMIGOS in-country programs.
11. ... demonstrate creative time-management, problem solving skills and the ability to take initiative.
12. ... apply innovative lesson planning and classroom management techniques using a variety of multiple intelligences.
13. ... uphold the Standards of Conduct as a crucial part of youth leadership development, accountability to all AMIGOS stakeholders and the ongoing AMIGOS legacy.

Multicultural Understanding

14. ... demonstrate cultural sensitivity and multicultural awareness in preparation for positively integrating into the host community.
15. ... understand the importance of incorporating cultural norms to increase relevancy and sustainability of AMIGOS programs.
16. ... demonstrate flexibility in personal expectations and understanding of the diversity within AMIGOS experiences and communities.

Project Goals and Indicators

	Goals: What Will We Accomplish?	Indicators: How Will We Know?
S E R V I C E	<p><i>What will participants accomplish that will meet real community priorities?</i></p> <p>1.</p> <p>2.</p>	<p><i>How will you know when these efforts enhance community life?</i></p> <p>1.</p> <p>2.</p>
L E A R N I N G	<p><i>What skills, knowledge, or attitudes will participants learn?</i></p> <p>1.</p> <p>2.</p>	<p><i>How will you know when this learning has occurred?</i></p> <p>1.</p> <p>2.</p>
G R O W T H	<p><i>How will this service-learning activity help participants grow and develop?</i></p> <p>1.</p> <p>2.</p>	<p><i>What evidence will you see that participants are growing?</i></p> <p>1.</p> <p>2.</p>

Remember your SMART Goals ☺

Specific
Measurable
Attainable
Resonant!
Timely

PARTNER AGENCIES & PROJECTS::

Canal Child Care Center

MARY THOMPSON - 415.457.1444

215 Mission Avenue, SAN RAFAEL

PROJECT: Campamento style after school activities with younger, bilingual children

Pickleweed Kid's Club

LAUREN MUSZYNSKI - lmuszynski@cccyo.org

ADDRESS: 50 Canal St, San Rafael.

PROJECT: Campamento style after school activities with younger, bilingual children

Manzanita Children's Center

RUTH NENABER 415.332.3460 manzanitacc@marinchild.org

ADDRESS: 620 Drake Ave, MARIN CITY.

PROJECT: Campamento style after school activities with younger, bilingual children

Lift/Levantate

Richard Waxman: 415-507-1564

Address: Central Marin

Orientation: Tuesday Jan 31st 4-6

SCHOOL BASED PROGRAMS	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
Levántate Teen Girls Running Group (85% Latino teens)	Weekly running and mentoring for at-risk teen girls; supervised by County Health Specialists; includes nutrition, goal setting, life skills info	San Rafael High School Track, Bay Area races, trail runs
Canal Alliance Afterschool program (100% Latino teens)	Weekly physical activity program w/middle and high school Latino youth;	Canal Alliance, Pickleweed Park
Marin Oaks High School Gardening/Physical activity program (60% Latino teens)	Morning gardening class integrated w/science curriculum; Mid-day soccer amd afternoon fitness (yoga, Zumba, kickboxing, bootcamp)	Marin Oaks High School, Novato
CAM afterschool program (over 50% Latino students)	Weekly afterschool program with elementary school youth, includes gardening, nutrition, life skills, physical activities and Family Nights	Community Action Marin at the Manzanita Rec Center, Marin City
MLK afterschool program for middle school youth	Afterschool program focusing on Leadership and a variety of physical activities	Manzanita Rec Center, Marin City
PROJECTS	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
Canal Farmers Market Event	Plan, deliver, record and post shopping tour and farmers market for Latino families in partnership with Canal Rotary	Canal

Social Marketing	Interviews, observations, blogging, posting, etc about community health issues and opportunities-could include on-air interview on Nuestros Ninos radio show	Countywide
Photo/Video Journal	Document disparities/opportunities/challenges between healthy and unhealthy communities	Countywide
Program Evaluation	Interview/survey children, adults, teachers in afterschool programs, workshops and events; evaluate and publish findings	Countywide
Community/School Gardening	Participate in development, expansion of school and community gardens	Canal, Novato, Terra Linda, Marin City, West Marin
Food Justice	Participate in projects/forums/meetings to overcome food access issues	the Canal, Novato, Marin City
Harvesting/Gleaning/Community Food Giveaway	Harvest food from West Marin organic farms and give away to underserved communities along with diabetes and nutrition information	Countywide

Partner Agency Interview Questions

Describe your organization. What is its vision? What does it seek to accomplish?

What are the strengths of your organization? Where are you making a difference?

What are the biggest challenges or problems facing your organization at this time?

What will it take to fix those problems?

What could we do together in the next 6 weeks to address these challenges?

Project Details and Supervision Sign-Off

Partner Agency _____

Project Title _____

Contact at site _____

Site phone number _____

Site Address _____

Partner name (s) _____

Partner phone number(s) _____

Dates of service

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

If you need to change these dates for any reason FIRST contact the site contact to set up a new date then contact Luciano the Service Learning Coordinator at luciano.amigosmarin@gmail.com to notify him of the change.

Supervisor Sign Off

Fecha	Tiempo	Actividades	Firma de Supervisor/a

Order (1st, 2nd, etc.)	Description of Task	Who will do it?	Relationship to Project (Does this task have to wait for another task to be done first? What other tasks will depend upon this task being completed?)	Time Needed for task (Best guess)	Due Date
	Investigate (Identify a local, national, or global need you would like to address.)				
	Prepare and Plan (Develop a strategy for change and a common vision for success.)				
	Act (Implement the service activity to make a difference.)				
	Reflect (Think about how your service and learning relate to you, your community, and your future.)				
	Demonstrate / Celebrate (Showcase your results and celebrate your outcomes.)				

Is This Project Doable?

Use this form to help you decide whether you have thought through all the questions important to ensuring a successful project outcome. If there are other questions you have, or are thinking of, please email Ellen your thoughts as this is a pilot document your feedback is appreciated!

Project Leader(s): _____

Location of project: _____ **Date(s) and Time(s):** _____

Describe the project: _____

• **Does this project meet a real community need?** Yes No

What is the need? _____

• **Can you find community partners to help you?** Yes No

Who? _____

• **Can you get the project completed within your Semester of Service?** Yes No

• **Can you find enough volunteers to complete the project?** Yes No

How many volunteers will you need? _____

Are volunteers with special skills needed? Yes No Skills: _____

• **Are volunteers with disabilities able to participate in your project?** Yes No

What accommodations will you need to make? _____

• **Can this project be completed without a lot of fundraising?** Yes No

Where will those funds come from? _____

• **Does this project require resources other than money?** Yes No

If so, what are those resources and where will they come from? _____

Will you require transportation to the project site? Yes No

If so, how will you be transported? _____

How will you be supervised (by whom)? _____

• **How will safety requirements be met?** _____

• **Will there be any special liability concerns?** Yes No

If so, how will those concerns be addressed? _____

• **Will this project have a visible or obvious result?** Yes No

If yes, please describe:

• **What connections are there to learning?** _____

Reflection time!

Use this chart to fill out what you know about your project, want to know about it, and have learned through it. Please complete this chart for each service experience you complete.

Know	Want to know	Learn