



Tri Valley Youth Court

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Guidelines

- ❖ **P**lease clear your Community Service Plan through your Tri Valley Youth Court Case Manager before you start. If you work at a site not first cleared by your Case Manager, you run the risk of not receiving credit.
- ❖ **C**ontact the agency with whom you wish to volunteer in advance, ask to speak to the Volunteer Coordinator and arrange a mutually convenient date and time to volunteer.
- ❖ **A**rrive on time and dressed appropriately. If you have a question about how to dress for a particular organization, ask their Volunteer Coordinator.
- ❖ **N**o documentation means no credit! All Community Service Plan activities need to be documented and signed by the site supervisor each day.
- ❖ **B**ehave respectfully while volunteering. **M**aintain a positive attitude and an eagerness to help.

Remember... helping other people is a gift to you
As well as to them!



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The following activities are approved to earn Community Service. Please spread your earned hours fairly equally in each area. Youth Court is not about punishment, rather it **is about identifying what harm you have caused and deciding a way to repair the damage and learning from your mistake.**

Below is an example of how to complete your sentence:

Sentenced to 20 hours

3 hours earned by community-sponsored events

5 hours earned from Accountability category

6 hours earned from the Education category

6 hours earned from the Safety category

ACCOUNTABILITY (1 hour credited) **“Accepting Responsibility for Your Actions”**

Clean graffiti off a building

Help at Hospice

Help with Open Heart Kitchen

Serve on Community Committee: Youth or Art Commission or Downtown Committee

Volunteer at a thrift store

Work at the animal shelter

Write a letter of apology (if it is not part of your sanctions)

Yard Work

Others as approved by Youth Court

EDUCATION & SELF IMPROVMENT (2 hours credited) **“Learning About Yourself and Your Community”**

Read stories at daycare or library

Read to an elderly person or child

Write or address letters or Christmas cards for elderly

Help with Youth Court

Write an essay describing Youth Court experience

Attend a city council meeting and write an essay about your experience

Attend a formal court hearing and write an essay about your experience

Attend a Parks & Recreation Board meeting or presentation and write an essay about your experience

Attend Anger Management classes (if not part of your sanctions)

Attend Counseling (if not part of your sanctions)

Attend other self-improvement classes as approved by Youth Court Case Manager

Attend School Board meeting and write an essay about your experience



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EDUCATION & SELF IMPROVEMENT (continued)

Attend Youth Commission meeting and write an essay about your experience
Interview a teacher or an insurance agent and write an essay
Make posters about Youth Court for display in schools
Tutor a student (if not something you normally do)
Work at a school event
Write an essay about restorative justice
Others as approved by Youth Court

SAFETY (3 hours credited) “Expand Your Knowledge and Learn About Consequences”

Attend a first aid or CPR class
Attend a Police Presentation and write an essay
Attend lifeguard classes
Interview a person who has lost someone to a drunk driver, been hit by a drunk driver or has received a DUI conviction and write an essay
Interview a police officer, ER personnel or an undertaker and write an essay
Attend a Jail Tour
Make a Health and Safety poster for display in school
Write an article about TVYC for school newspaper
Other as approved by Youth Court

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Help with community events
1-3 points per hour based on the activity and work performed
(to be determined by TVYC Coordinator or Case Manger).

Additional Resources Regarding Volunteer Opportunities

Hands On Bay Area (www.hoba.org)
Volunteer Match (www.volunteermatch.org)
Craig's List (sfbay.craigslist.org)
The Independent Newspaper
The Pleasanton Weekly
Tri-Valley Herald Newspaper
Contra Costa Times Newspaper