

## Service-Learning Facts and Questions

**Q: What is Service-Learning?**

**A: *The process of integrating thoughtfully organized service experiences with guided reflection to enhance student learning of course materials.***

**Q: What are some characteristics of Service-Learning?**

- A:**
- 1. It offers a continuum of possibilities-from a single day of service to several hours a week for an entire semester***
  - 2. Students are involved in course-relevant service work which benefits the community***
  - 3. Structured opportunities are provided for students to reflect critically on their experience through a mix of writing, reading, speaking, listening, and group discussions***

**Q: What does Service-Learning try to achieve?**

**A: *Its goals are to enhance student learning of existing course competencies, meet needs of the community, and to foster civic responsibility.***

**Q: How does Service-Learning benefit students?**

**A: *Service-Learning has many benefits to students. It enhances their learning experience, connects theory to practice, promotes critical thinking, provides experience, and helps them explore different majors and careers which can ultimately enhance their employability. It also helps foster civic responsibility, which breaks down barriers and promotes understanding of their communities. Not to mention that these experiences can lead to job offers, scholarships, and an overall self-esteem boost!***

**Q: How does Service-Learning benefit faculty and staff?**

***A: Service-Learning has been proven to enhance student learning and engagement inside and out of the classroom. It can reinvigorate teaching, give faculty and staff members professional development opportunities, or opportunities to do research and publications. Also, like for students, it fosters a sense of civic responsibility and making a difference in their community.***

**Q: How does Service-Learning affect the community?**

***A: Service-Learning is a win-win for all parties involved, especially for community partners. It gives them an infusion of people power to help at their organization, helps them meet client and agency needs, brings forth new ideas and energy to their efforts, (and possibly new employees), and lets them have access to College resources.***

**Q: What kinds of Service-Learning courses are offered at Parkland College?**

***A: From Computer Science to Dental Hygiene or Education to Advanced Photography, there are a variety of service-learning classes and clubs available at Parkland to join. For a complete list of these courses, please check under the student section of our website.***

For more information on service-learning and volunteer opportunities at Parkland College, please contact Brian Nudelman, Service-Learning Coordinator, at [bnudelman@parkland.edu](mailto:bnudelman@parkland.edu).