



SERVICE LEARNING
& VOLUNTEER CENTER

REFLECTIONS GUIDE

A copy of your service learning reflection paperwork should be turned into the Service Learning Center when completed: servicelearning@miracosta.edu

Most service learning instructors require that students complete some type of reflective writing assignment. This can include journal entries, field notes, blog postings and reflection essays. While some students enjoy the writing process, others struggle and are unsure where to begin. If your instructor has not provided specific guidelines, start by answering the following questions:

Description

- What is the name of the community organization you served?
- What types of services does the organization provide? Who do they serve?
- What are some the challenges that the organization encounters?
- What were your assigned duties and responsibilities?

Evaluation

- What did you learn about yourself and the organization through this experience?
- Did you feel that your service made a difference? If so, in what ways?
- If you were in charge of the organization, how would you make improvements?
- What types of skills did you acquire or improve?
- Did you receive any compliments, criticisms or feedback? What did you learn from this?
- What was the most difficult/satisfying part of your service?
- What did you find interesting or challenging?
- What did you discover about yourself in this new way of learning and serving your community?

Integration

- Has this experience increased your understanding of community issues? Describe.
- Did your service experience change your perceptions of other people/groups? Describe.
- Has this experience helped you better understand course concepts? If so, provide some examples linking service activities to course studies, concepts, or frameworks.
- Did you see the relevance of theories you learned in the classroom? If so, provide examples.
- How has your experience affected your educational and career goals?

Interested in becoming a published author? Be sure to submit your service learning reflection essay to the Service Learning Office. Each year, a number of student essays are selected for publication in the annual edition of *Reflections*: servicelearning@miracosta.edu