### THE BENEFITS OF

### **VOLUNTEERING!**

Whether it is important to you to solve a community problem, advance a worthy cause or to develop as a person, volunteering offers many benefits in appreciation for the gift of your time and expertise. Volunteering can help you:

- Make important networking contacts
- Learn or develop skills
- Teach your skills to others
- Enhance your résumé
- Gain work experience
- Build self-esteem and self-confidence
- Improve your health
- Meet new people
- · Feel needed and valued
- Express gratitude for help you may have received in the past from an organization
- Communicate to others that you are ambitious, enthusiastic and care about the community
- Make a difference in someone's life
- Improve the likelihood that you will volunteer as an adult

# Community Service Contacts

### **Christopher High School**

Gloria Hennessy (Coordinator)

408-843-4134

gloria.hennessy@gusd.k12.ca.us

### **Gilroy High School**

Jami Reynolds (Coordinator)

408-843-4615

Jami.reynolds@gilroyunified.org

#### G.E.C.A.

Sonia Flores (Principal)

408-846-4909

Sonia.flores@gilroyunified.org

#### Mt. Madonna/AdvancePath

Dianne Padilla (Principal)

669-205-5500

Dianne.padilla@gilroyunified.org

"How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world." —Anne Frank



# GUSD Community Service Requirements

## A Student's Guide to Becoming an Active Participant in the Community

- What is Community Service?
- What are the graduation requirements?
- How do I get started?
- Who is the Community Service Contact at my school?
- How do I document my Community Service?
- How do I contact an agency?

The Gilroy Unified School District will provide opportunities for all students to reach their highest academic and intellectual competencies and personal attributes to be life-long learners, responsible citizens, and productive members of society. This will be accomplished by having a clear focus on student needs; staff, parents and community members demonstrating high expectations for themselves and for every child served; and by continually improving the quality of teaching and learning.

### **Community Service** is a

service that is performed for the benefit of the public or its institutions.

## **Graduation Requirement:**

Beginning with the graduating class of 2014, high school students in the Gilroy Unified School District must complete a minimum of 80 hours of community service. Students must earn ten hours in at least two of the following categories:

- Senior Citizens
- Young Children
- Disabled Citizens
   School Related
- •The Environment The Homeless
- Literacy
- Animal Care
- •Promoting Heath and Wellness
- •Promoting the Arts and Culture

### How do I document my Community Service Hours?

- Download the Community Service Time Sheet from www.gusd.k12.ca.us
- Fill out the form completely
- Make sure the supervisor at your Community Service activity signs off on your hours.
- Sign your time sheet.
- Have your parent sign the time sheet
- Make a copy of the time sheet for your records.
- Return the form to the Community Service Coordinator at your school.

### **SUGGESTED ORGANIZATIONS:**

#### Armory Shelter/Emergency Housing Consortium

*Julie Roybal 408-847-8455* 

### City of Gilroy

Susan Voss 408-846-0418

#### **Community Solutions**

Elizabeth Delgadillo 408-842-7138

#### Mexican American Community Services (MACSA)

408-847-4686

www.CommunityService.org

www.HandsOnBayArea.org

www.VolunteerMatch.org

### How do I contact an

### Organization?

- 1. Decide what area of service interests you.
- 2. Research the organizations in the area that fit with your interests. Get to know a little bit about what their mission is. Who is the contact person?
- 3. Make a phone call:
  - Introduce yourself, explain that you are interested in volunteering.
  - Ask: Are there any opportunities available for me? Do I need to have a parent with me? Do I need a permission slip? Where exactly do I report and to whom do I report?
  - Say THANK YOU.
- 4. If you need to leave a message make sure you speak slowly and clearly. Leave your full name, your contact number, and the reason why you were calling.

"Everybody can be great because every-

body can serve." -Martin Luther King, Jr.