Purpose:

The purpose of this Action Guide is to help you find campus resources that can assist you in finding opportunities within the Twin Cities community.

Description:

Do you know someone who’s ALWAYS extending a hand to others by volunteering? It’s almost like it’s in their DNA. Are you that person? The University recognizes that this type of engagement is a “win-win.” It strengthens our community, and builds positive relationships with our neighbors. Students report when they apply what they’ve learned in the classroom to “real life situations,” it gives them a sense of purpose and helps clarify career goals.

There are over 200 agencies, organizations, and non-profits that have a relationship with our campus! The opportunity to get involved is readily available. Twice each year, the Community Service Learning Office sponsors a Community Involvement Fair at Coffman Union. (Contact them in 240 Appleby Hall for more information.) In addition, students can follow the directions below to seek out service learning courses and volunteer opportunities that fit their interests and skill set.

Directions:

1. Go to the Community Service-Learning Center's website
   
   a. Click on the 4 links to learn more about service-learning classes, the Community Engagement Scholars Program, volunteering, and the over 200 community partners affiliated with the U of M.

2. Check out these other ways to look for volunteer opportunities...
   
   a. Engagement
   b. GoldPASS

3. Learn more about the organizations and non-profits that make up our community partners.
   
   a. Review the list, and read the brief description of each agency or organization. To learn more, click on the hyperlink.

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1  [http://www.servicelearning.umn.edu/](http://www.servicelearning.umn.edu/)
2  [http://www.engage.umn.edu/](http://www.engage.umn.edu/)
3  [http://goldpass.umn.edu](http://goldpass.umn.edu)
4  [http://www.servicelearning.umn.edu/info/partners.html](http://www.servicelearning.umn.edu/info/partners.html)
Reflection Prompts:
When you meet with your coach, be prepared to discuss the following questions:

- Based on this exercise, what service learning courses or volunteer opportunities are you interested in exploring further? **WHAT** appeals to you about these opportunities?

- In what ways do you think your participation might affect your choice of academic major or future career path? **WHY** do you think so?

- What are your next steps to pursue this opportunity?

- In what ways do employers value what a student gains from volunteerism? What transferable skills would you be bringing back from such an experience?