

# Community Service Diploma Endorsement



## Service Concentration

**Minimum of 320 community service hours** over four years of high school. The majority of the hours must be given to an organization that helps distressed populations. Students will also complete the following practicum requirements.

## Practicum

**120 Practicum Points** during grades 9-12. **Students must have activities in at least two of the following three areas.** If students do not complete any Immersion practicum activities, at least one of their Commitment practicum activities must be completed outside of the FPD environment.

- **Exposure (5-10 points each):** Exposure activities include seminars, conferences, interviews with community stakeholders, lectures, tours of facilities, etc. These activities are service-related but require little commitment and generally last from one hour to a couple of days.
- **Commitment (20 points each):** Commitment activities require significant time and effort. They may include curricular components like Project LEAD, and/or co-curricular activities such as leadership in a community service project, internships, and leadership roles in other community service clubs and organizations, such as being on a teen board for a community partner.
- **Immersion (30 points each):** Immersion activities require full-time commitment and include such activities as:
  - Mission Trips in addition to the school-required one trip
    - Credit is given for each trip AFTER the first trip that is required for graduation.
  - 100 hours working with an organization that provides relief for a distressed population group.

## Culminating Experiences

- **Selection of a Concentration Area:** Prior to their senior year, students will select a concentration of Community Service (e.g., children in poverty or Alzheimer's). During the senior year students will complete 40-50 hours of service with one agency in that concentration area.
- **Action Plan Research Paper (7-9 pages):** The paper should include:
  - Research findings on their chosen Community Service Concentration (3-4 pages)
  - Summary of their experiences in that concentration during the senior year (1-2 pages)
  - Comparison of their research findings and their experiences (1 page)
  - Suggestions for improvements of service in that concentration (1 page)
  - Reflection on how their experience in the concentration area has impacted or changed them. How has this experience helped them fulfill FPD's mission statement of "educating and equipping students to change the world for God's glory"? (1 page)
- **Public Presentation:** The student will discuss and defend their Action Plan Research Paper to a committee including:
  - A community partner
  - FPD's service director
  - An FPD administrator
  - An FPD faculty member