

Community Service Plans...Volunteer Hours for Incoming 9th Grade VHS Students

TRUE or FALSE...

- Community Service must be approved PRIOR to starting the service.
 - TRUE – Any student wishing to complete their volunteer hours for credit and for the Bright Futures Scholarship Program MUST complete registration papers and have them approved PRIOR to beginning ANY volunteer service.
- Community Service must be served with a NON-PROFIT organization.
 - TRUE – This is a school district requirement—NO exceptions. Volunteering for a business and receiving no pay is NOT allowed. Non-profit organizations include Schools, YMCA, Boys & Girls Club, Libraries, Habitat for Humanity, County and State Parks, etc.
 - Church **OUTREACH** activities are acceptable. Examples are Food Pantries, Soup Kitchens, Summer Camps for children, After-School/Day Care, Mission Trips, etc.
 - Church activities that are part of being a member of your church are NOT acceptable and will NOT count, i.e. altar servers, choir members, Sunday School, nursery care and running slide shows and music for services.
- Community Service is a requirement for graduation.
 - FALSE – Community Service is **NOT** a requirement for graduation in Sarasota County. Community Service is highly encouraged, though! Most college and scholarship applications ask for information about extra-curricular activities AND community service ☺
- Community Service is required to receive ANY Bright Futures Scholarship.
 - FALSE – Currently, community service **IS ONLY** a requirement for the Florida Academic Scholars (FAS) level of Bright Futures. It is **NOT** a requirement for the Florida Medallion Scholars (FMS) nor for the Gold Seal Vocational Scholars (GSV) awards. 80% of the VHS students who receive Bright Futures scholarships do not qualify for the FAS because of the high GPA and test score requirement. Most qualify for FMS or GSV. Because students do not know until they are seniors the level they may qualify for, we encourage all students to start early and complete their community service plan before their senior year.
- The 75 service hours must be completed in one (1) school year.
 - FALSE – Students have until their graduation date in 2015 to complete the hours and turn in for credit. They may begin working on their plan after June 6, 2011 (the last day of school).
- All community service must be served at one NON-PROFIT organization
 - TRUE and FALSE ☺ - The community service paperwork requires that a student must identify where they are going to volunteer by stating the social problem or concern they are going to address. Most students volunteer at one NON-PROFIT organization, but students may volunteer at more than one place. Students may add a new volunteer place or change the place where they are going to volunteer on their community service paperwork any time.

Rotary Futures ONLY registers Venice High School students! Students attending another school, must register through that school or directly with the Friendship Volunteer Center.

****** WE WILL NOT BEGIN REGISTERING INCOMING 9TH GRADERS UNTIL JUNE 7TH. ******

Rotary Futures College Resource Center

SUMMER HOURS:

Open June 7th – June 16th and July 26th – August 18th

Tues. and Thurs. 9 am – 12 noon, Wed. 9 am – 3 pm

For more information, call Rotary Futures, 488-6726, or email Kim_Kindell@sarasota.K12.FL.US

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