



## Tips for Successful Community Involvement for Students

### When to get started:

- You can begin earning hours after the completion of your 8<sup>th</sup> grade year.

### 20 Hour ideas:

- Job shadow a future career/area of interest. For instance, a student who is interested in pursuing a career in engineering might job shadow a civil engineer as they do their job.
- Volunteer with a community service organization or complete a community service project. For example, a student who is pursuing his Eagle Scout rank may construct park benches for a community park, or plant trees to improve the community.
- Become involved in a school club or school wide service project for up to 10 hours.
- Visit your school career center specialist or any of the following websites for information about where to volunteer in the community:
  - <http://thurstontgether.org/>
  - <https://www.nthurston.k12.wa.us/Page/755>
- Find a non-paid activity through a community organization or charity and volunteer for community service projects.

### Finding/Making Contact:

- Consult a family friend/trusted adult who has a job/career of interest to you.
- Consult a community organization or a faith community to which you belong.
- Use the resources recommended at your school for ways to find community involvement activities.

### Keeping Safe:

- Volunteer with an organization that has a long history in our community.
- Employ “basic safety skills” such as not walking alone at night.
- Make sure that your parent/guardian knows where you are, what you are doing and when you will return.
- Work with your parent/guardian to select trusted adults to help you with this requirement.

### Other Tips:

- Consult your calendar early to determine time outside of the school day when you can work on community involvement.
- Use professional behavior.
  - Put electronics on silent.
  - If you need to reschedule, call.
  - Use professional language, both in written and oral communication.
  - Arrive on time.
  - Dress appropriately for the experience.

If you would like more information, visit our website at  
<https://www.nthurston.k12.wa.us/domain/136>.