

NORTH DAKOTA FFA SERVICE PLANNING GUIDE



North Dakota

Hi North Dakota FFA Chapters and Members,

The last line of the FFA motto “Living to Serve” encompasses the importance of service within our organization. This program is designed to help your chapter jumpstart a service initiative or enhance one you are already doing and receive some prizes and recognition for it.

In this guide you will find the resources you need for an entire chapter, an officer team or maybe one of the Agricultural Education classes to become part of this challenge. Take the time to Investigate, Plan, Serve and Evaluate to make a difference in your community.

Project Timeline: Chapters, officer teams, and/or a class should plan and conduct a service project during the winter/spring of 2022.

Application: By April 30th, please complete this short application to be included in the award and recognition portion of this program. You can find this application at <http://www.ndffa.org/ndffaserves>

Progress Poster: The included poster should be hung in your classroom and used to help plan and track the progress of your activity. Be sure to complete each portion of the poster as that is one of the requirements of the project.

Share: Doing positive things in your community doesn’t always have to be promoted but with this project we want you to share everything your chapter is doing related to service. This will encourage others to grow their service heart and make a difference in their communities. Take photos and share updates on all social media platforms using the hashtag #NDFFAServes.

Recognition: Chapters that participate will be recognized on stage at the 93rd ND State FFA Convention. The program will restart each year following State Convention so make sure you start planning your 22-23 projects this summer.

Best of luck, and if you have further questions, please contact ndffa@ndffa.org.

Get out there and serve North Dakota!

North Dakota FFA





HOW WILL YOU SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY

To create and carry out the best service project possible, include these four steps and use this guide to navigate along the way!

1 INVESTIGATE

To determine how you can best serve, you must find out what your community needs most. By investigating issues facing your community and what causes those issues you ensure that you maximize the impact of your project!

FIND YOUR TEAM

Determine the need choose your project

2 PLAN

For a successful project, set goals and break down each piece of what needs to be accomplished.

SET GREAT GOALS

Brainstorm community partners

Create a timeline

Determine Action Steps and materials outline project plan

3 SERVE

Put your plan into action and serve your community!

PROJECT TIPS

4 EVALUATE

Throughout the project, track your progress and gather results. When the project is complete showcase your impacts, celebrate meeting your goals and recognize partners.

REFLECT AND GATHER RESULTS

TELL YOUR STORY

1 INVESTIGATE

What are some possible solutions?

FIND YOUR TEAM

What Skills or tools do you have that you can use to help your community?

CHOOSE YOUR PROJECT

What is already being done to fix the problem in your community?

DETERMINE YOUR NEED

Community issues can be complex and need to be investigated.

Take a look around your community and ask questions.

NEED:

What is one problem or challenge that faces your community?

How will you (and your team) use your leadership skills and agriculture knowledge to make a difference?

Why does that issue exist?

1

2

3

Check out the needs and related ideas on **PAGE 12**

BRAINSTORM COMMUNITY PARTNERS

What resources are available to help your team with the project? This activity can help you think about and locate the “people” resources in your community. Businesses, schools, churches, organizations and governmental bodies might be able to help you select a community need and provide resources to help. List potential partners in each section and the type of support/resources they can provide.

TIP: Don't forget to tag your community partners in your social media reports! Include photos, locations, relevant hashtags and of course, **#LivingToServe**.

Government + Elected Officials

Business (For Profit)

Law Enforcement

Healthcare

Community Agencies (Nonprofit)

Parents

Other Teachers

Universities + Community Colleges

Media

POTENTIAL PARTNERS AND RESOURCES

DETERMINE ACTION STEPS AND MATERIALS

Tasks that need to be completed	Who is responsible?	Materials/Supplies needed	Date to be completed

OUTLINE PROJECT PLAN

GREAT GOALS

1. **Goals with values** – what are your chapter's values?
2. **Real benefits** – how does this goal benefit your community?
3. **Exact plans** – list the steps you need to take to accomplish your goal?
4. **Accountability team** – who is going to support us?
5. **Tenacity** – how can we make sure our goal is completed before the end date?

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

OUR SERVICE PROJECT IS:

Four major tasks to complete:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

ACTION STEPS

MATERIALS + SUPPLIES

review project tips

Think you are ready to serve? Have you considered these?

Before serving...

☐ Let the community know about your project.

☐ Contact and invite the media.

☐ Make sure everyone knows what is expected of them.

☐ Brainstorm types of problems that may occur and how you will address them.

☐ Manage FFA members and volunteers throughout.

☐ Provide a welcome and kickoff for everyone.

☐ Monitor the schedule to stay on track.

☐ Close out the event/work day(s).

☐ Interact and get to know the people you are serving or those serving with you.

☐ Acknowledge and thank volunteers, community partners and the service site.

☐ Take pictures or video to document progress.

While serving...

☐ Arrive early to ensure everything is ready to go.

☐ Wear items (T-shirts, etc.) to let others know you are a part of FFA.

☐ HAVE FUN!

After serving...

☐ Meet with the planning team to review the schedule.

☐ Distribute a list of contact numbers to your group so that everyone knows who to contact if something goes wrong.

☐ Coordinate the check in of FFA members and volunteers.

☐ Recognize volunteers, community partners, the service site or anyone else who helped make your project a success.

Example recognition: Send thank you notes.

☐ Evaluate the success of the project.

REFLECT

Throughout your project, reflect on the progress toward meeting your goals and gather results.

TELL YOUR STORY

Communication is an important piece of your project to gain support, share impacts and inspire others to take action. The more times the message is heard and seen, the better.

When should you tell your story? Throughout the entire project!

During the project...

Are we on track to meet our goals?

If not, what steps should we take to make sure we meet our goals?

1 month ahead of the project...

Who needs to know about the project?

Do you need to recruit volunteers or resources?

Report about your efforts on social media.

Document your preparation with photos.

After the project...

Did we meet the goals we set for our project?

Find these on [page 6](#).

What went well with the project that we would keep the same if we did it again?

What would we change about the project if we did it again?

On service day(s)...

Use social media (Twitter, Instagram, Facebook) to alert followers that today is the big day!

Document the event with photos, and if possible, video.

Send a post-event release with photos to your local newspaper and any local newsletters. Include impacts of the project.

Thank everyone who helped.

48-72 hours after the event...



Post stories/pictures to facebook.com/NDFFAofficers



Tag pictures [#ndffa_stateofficers](#)



Tweet results/pictures to [@NDFFAServes](#)

NOTES

PROJECT CONTACTS

[illegible][illegible]



USE THESE IDEAS TO HELP YOU GET STARTED



AND DON'T FORGET



Post stories/pictures to facebook.com/NDFFAofficers



Tag pictures with [#ndffa_stateofficers](https://twitter.com/ndffa_stateofficers)



Tweet results/pictures [@NDFFAServes](https://twitter.com/NDFFAServes)

COMMUNITY SAFETY

NEED: Emergency Preparedness

- 1 Work with families to create emergency plans.
- 2 Clean up areas affected by a natural disaster.

NEED: Farm Safety

- 1 Partner with farmers to map land for emergency responders.
- 2 Host a farm safety day for the community.

HUNGER, HEALTH + NUTRITION

NEED: Rising Obesity Rates

- 1 Host healthy cooking classes.
- 2 Organize a community-wide walking challenge.

NEED: Access to Healthy Foods

- 1 Collect and donate produce left in gardens/fields after harvest (gleaning).
- 2 Start a weekend backpack program.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

NEED: Wildlife Conservation

- 1 Build wildlife habitats.
- 2 Raise and release salmon into the wild.

NEED: Increasing Landfill Usage

- 1 Hold a community-wide electronics recycling collection.
- 2 Compost school food waste.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

NEED: Neighborhood Improvement

- 1 Adopt a "grandfriend" and help with home and yard chores.
- 2 Clean up vacant lots.

NEED: Inclusion and Diversity

- 1 Map your town's accessibility for those with special needs.
- 2 Hold "Mix It Up at Lunch" days to get students to sit with someone new.