

My Service Learning Project



Name:
Period:
Dates:

SERVICE LEARNING



Issue:

Members of the Team, if more than one person:

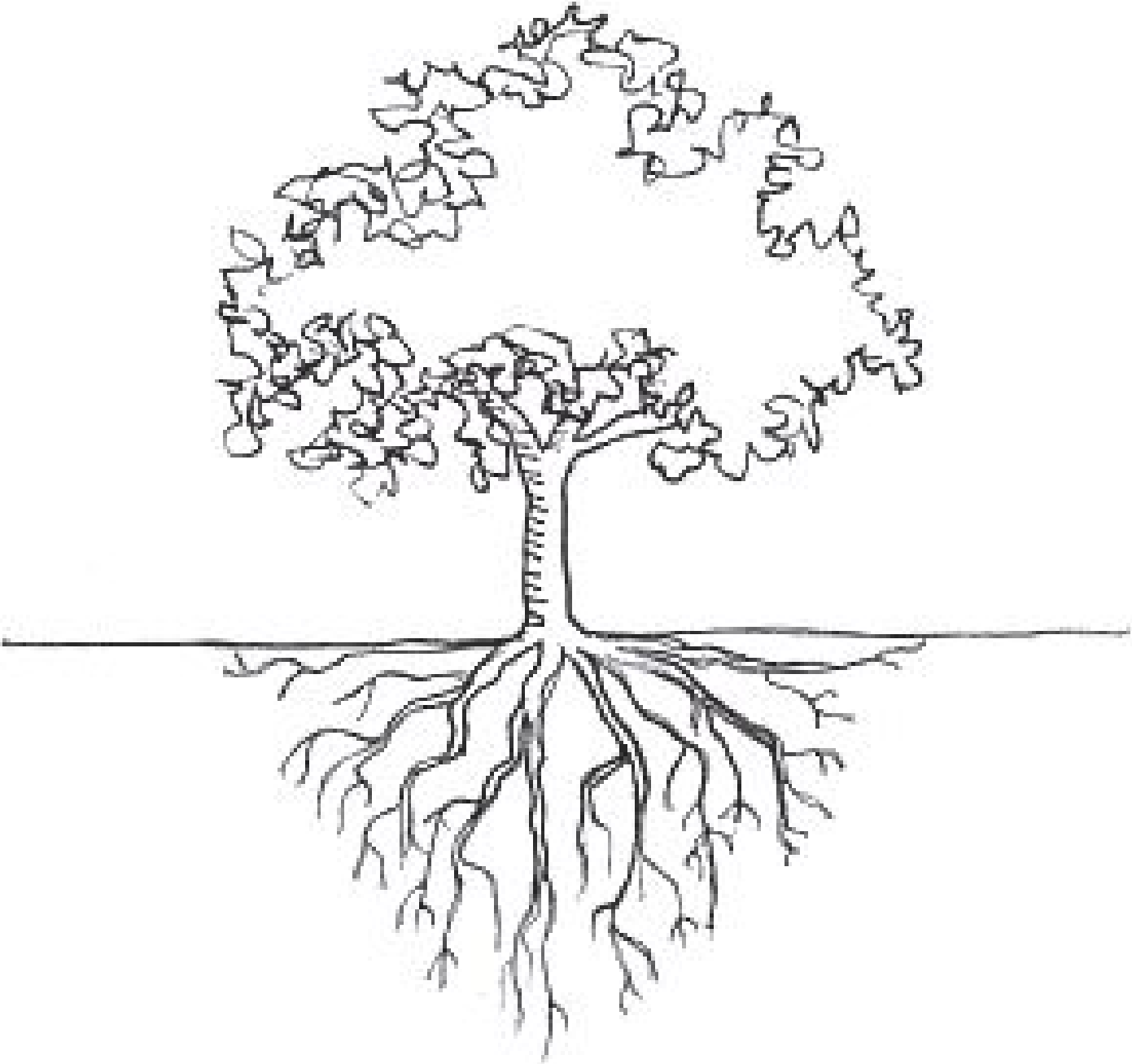
Party Name:

Timetable:

When?	Item to do		Done?
	Identify issue of interest to you		
	Form teams		
	Make root cause tree		
	Make a list of questions		
	Conduct research		
	Build civil society: Identify and undertake a community action item.		
	Learn about the process: Attend a meeting and observe		
	Take civic action: Identify and undertake a political action item.		
	Write a letter to a public official		
	Connect to curriculum		
	Reflect		
	Next step?		

Root Cause Tree

Identify an issue, its symptoms (leaves) and its root causes.



Questions:

List five questions you have about this issue.

Research:

What did you learn about your issue? Provide any answers to your questions.

--

Learn about the process: Attend at least one of the following types of meetings and observe - or - participate in the election process.

Go to a meeting of local government and observe. This could be a city council or village board meeting or a meeting of a commission or committee, like a planning and zoning committee. Get a signature from someone to show you were there or take a picture of yourself at the meeting. When done, fill in the table below

You can find a calendar of meetings on the website of your local government.

- OR -

Participate in a campaign, as an election judge, for a state or U.S. representative or senator, or as a voter registrar. Get a signature to show you were there or take a picture of yourself working. When done, fill in the table below.

Date and time: _____	Signature of adult supervising: _____	or other proof of attendance
What did you choose to do?		
When and where did you do this work?		
What did you observe and learn?		

Build civil society: Participate in at least one volunteer activity in the community.

Select a community organization that provides service to others and attend a meeting or event as a volunteer. Students have previously volunteered at places like Feed My Starving Children, their former schools, libraries, park district programs and sports teams, shelters, food pantries, and programs through places of worship. The guidelines are that the work should be done for free, the work should not be done for profit by the student or organization, and the work must benefit a group of people.

Don't forget to have an adult who is present sign and give the date and time of your work.

Date and time: _____	Signature of adult supervising: _____
Where did you volunteer?	
When did you volunteer?	
What did you do while you were there?	
What did you learn from this?	

Work for a solution: Identify and undertake a political action item.

As a class, we will write a letter to a public official. In addition, you should undertake another type of political action. Choose one from the list below.

Letter to public official: We'll do this in class.

Other types of political action:

_____ Letter to Editor of Paper, Magazine, Podcast (optional): Write a one page letter to the editor of a publication expressing your position either in support of and in opposition to an issue, preferably one that has been addressed previously in that publication. Be sure that your points are clear and that you have included support for your position. Provide a copy of the letter, including the inside address.

_____ Make a podcast or public service announcement (PSA).

_____ Make a poster to create awareness about an issue and put it in a public place.

_____ Begin a petition or hashtag campaign about an issue of interest to you.

_____ Prepare a speech and present it in another place -- another class, cafeteria, some public forum.

_____ Prepare an informational pamphlet about an issue.

_____ Meet with a decision-maker and present your information and suggestions.

_____ Invite a guest and engage in discourse about the issue.

_____ Initiate an informed conversation with at least three other people. Who and when? _____

_____ Design a Facebook or webpage on an issue.

_____ Design a survey and collect data on an issue.

_____ Organize an activity to develop awareness of or take action on an issue.

_____ Organize a group to develop awareness of or take action on an issue.

_____ Other activity with prior approval: _____

From Joe Karb, modified by Mary Ellen Daneels, NCSS Board of Directors, with additions

Connections to Curriculum:

Name and explain three things you learned in class that relate to your volunteer work, your observations, or your civic action and explain the connection.

Reflection:

Overall, what did you learn from this process?

--

Next Step:

What is the next step that you will take in regard to your issue?

--

Optional -- Put a picture or sketch here, if you like.

