



Guides students to develop, plan, carry out, and evaluate projects to improve the quality of life in their communities.

The FCCLA **Community Service** national peer education program guides students to develop, plan, carry out, and evaluate projects to improve the quality of life in their communities. Through their projects, members experience character development and improve their critical and creative thinking, interpersonal communication, practical knowledge, and career preparation. Youth leaders learn more about themselves, others, and the world so that they can make a difference now and in the future.

Community Service

Engaging young people in service is more than a “feel good” activity. Service results in very real student learning in areas such as applied academics, career preparation, character development, and technical skills. Research shows that service has positive results for students’ current and future success. Problem-solving ability in real-life situations increases more for students engaged in service to the community, and young people learn valuable leadership skills such as critical thinking, group interaction, communication skills, organizational skills, empathy, patience, and flexibility. Service positions youth to learn about workplace roles, understand employers’ expectations, develop realistic ideas about careers, and meet adults who become role models and mentors. By interacting in the community, young people develop values and are seen as valuable resources and community assets.

Units

- Learn - Students explore personal values, ethics, and ethical decision-making while evaluating their community needs.

- Lead – Students learn how to use their leadership skills to serve their community and how to transfer those servant leadership skills to the workplace.
- Serve – Students are introduced to the critical role community partnerships and advocacy play in serving the needs of others while also developing their own community-based service.

Partners

- Lead4Change, www.lead4change.org
- The Family Dinner Project, www.thefamilydinnerproject.org

Awards

FCCLA offers national recognition to chapters that complete FCCLA Community Service projects. This honor includes cash awards and special recognition at the National Leadership Conference, online, and in Teen Times magazine. Chapters apply online for recognition for their hard work and innovative projects with the National Community Service Program Award Application.

Community Service Cash Awards

- High School Award — \$1,000
- Middle School Award — \$1,000
- Runner-Up Award — \$500

Deadline: Applications must be submitted online to FCCLA national headquarters by March 1. The online award system will automatically close March 1, 5:00 p.m. EST.