



ALPHA SIGMA PHI

alphasig.org

SERVICE AND PHILANTHROPY IDEAS

Philanthropy is the act of raising money for charity (e.g., carwash to benefit RAINN). Community service is the act of doing hands-on service to a charity or for a cause (e.g., food pantry).

If you have any questions regarding the difference between community service and philanthropy, please contact Alpha Sigma Phi Headquarters.

COMMUNITY SERVICE IDEAS

Senior Citizens

- Adopt a “grand friend” from a local nursing home.
- Volunteer at a nursing home for a day or even each week.
- Host a senior citizens prom where men are escorts for the elderly women and sorority women are escorts for the elderly men. Get a band to play classic tunes.
- Hold a play or “lip sync” for the nursing home.
- Have dance lessons set up where the people from the nursing homes teach students dances from “back in the day.”
- On holidays make cards, bake cookies, have a secret Santa, or host a holiday party at the nursing home.
- Develop a monthly classic movie night at the nursing home.
- Have a game afternoon where you play cards or board games with a senior citizen at the nursing home.

Animals

- Volunteer at the local animal shelter by walking dogs or cleaning kennels.
- With a local vet organize a neuter and spay program for a reduced rate.
- Organize a community dog wash with donations going to a local shelter.
- Organize and host an “adopt a pet” at your school where a local shelter will bring up some of the animals to your school to get them noticed by students, faculty, and administration in hopes of someone adopting them.

Special Needs

- Volunteer at the Special Olympics.
- Set up a buddy system at a local school.
- Read books for children.
- Make gifts, cards, or cookies and visit kids in the hospital during the holidays; they look up to college students.
- Have a toy drive for children in the Hospital over the Holidays.
- Participate in Up ‘til Dawn if your school already has one.
- Participate in a marathon for a sickness or disability.
- Participate in Relay for Life.
- Participate in or organize a Toys for Tots program. This is a toy drive for families who can’t afford to give their children a good Christmas.

Veterans/Military

- Volunteer to help at your American Legion.
- Place small American flags on veteran’s graves.
- Write thank you cards to veterans in the area.
- Develop a “Care Package” for troops. Have people donate things troops may need food, batteries, toilet paper, razors, shampoo, toothpaste, etc. Then mail the shoeboxes across seas to troops.

Neighborhood

- Volunteer with Habitat for Humanity.
- Volunteer to clean up a park.
- Adopt a highway or portion of road and keep it litter free.
- Host a community carnival.
- Adopt a billboard and use it for a public service announcement.
- Adopt, repair, and clean up a local playground.
- Have a supplies drive for families who have lost their possessions in a house fire and collect things such as clothes, non-perishable food, furniture, etc.
- Shovel walkways and driveways in your neighborhood, for free, after a snow storm.

School

- Create “New Student Survival Kits” to hand out on move-in weekends to new students.
- Volunteer tutoring services.
- Contact the dining facilities to collect unused food to donate to a local homeless shelter.
- Collect school supplies for needy children at a local school.
- Volunteer your service at local schools help with ESL (English as a Second Language students learn English).
- Volunteer for an afterschool program at a local school to play, read, or tutor children.
- Develop, organize, and host a “Spring Clean” for your campus where volunteers help clean up campus, plant flowers, de-weed flower beds, etc.
- Hold a blood drive for the American Red Cross.
- Bring in a guest speaker from MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) to speak or raise money for this program.
- Organize a Spring Break trip where you go somewhere to do missionary work or other community services activities across the U.S.
- Develop a recycling program if your school doesn’t have one.
- Volunteer your time to visit Middle School and High Schools to talk about your college /university experiences and how important it is to go to college.

Hungry/Homeless

- Help cook/serve meals at a local shelter.
- Have an non-perishable food drive for a local shelter or families who need food.
- Have a clothing drive for the homeless.
- Have a coat drive in the fall to collect coats for the homeless for the upcoming winter.
- Make “I Care” kits to give to the homeless with combs, toothpaste and brush, shampoo, soap, etc.
- Pack and hand out food at a local food bank.
- Bake food to donate to a local shelter.
- Develop a “Big Buddy” program with the members and children at local shelters to take them out for a day.
- Trick-or-Treat for cans instead of candy on Halloween where the canned goods will be donated to a local shelter.

Ten Places to Volunteer:

- Animal shelters
- National or local parks
- Food pantries or food banks
- Habitat for Humanity
- Local libraries
- Museums
- Community Groups
- YMCA
- Red Cross
- Retirement homes/Senior Centers

PHILANTHROPY/CHARITY IDEAS

Your chapter can raise funds in support of any of the organizations listed below:

Aware Awake Alive

- Participate in Aware Awake Alive week

Shatterproof

- Participate in the Stronger than Addiction Challenge annually
- Participate in the Rise Up Against Addiction 5K

RAINN (Rape, Abuse, & Incest National Network)

- Host an event during Sexual Assault Awareness Month (April)
- Sell or handout RAINN branded umbrellas on campus

Active Minds

- Host an event during Active Minds Spirit Week
- Post Mental Health Resources on your Social Media

Homes for Our Troops

- Participate in Volunteer Day
- Attend a Key Ceremony or Community Kick-Off
- Raise money to support HFOT efforts

Habitat for Humanity

- Raise money to support a volunteer weekend to help build a house.

Canine for Companions

- Raise money to support the local animal shelter.
- Set up a donation drive at your school for people to donate dog/cat food, toys, bowls, leashes, etc. for a local animal shelter.
- Raise money for animals through a photo with your pet event where the proceeds go to the shelter.

Sea Shepherd Conservation Society

- Volunteer for tabling events and/or school talks to spread awareness on oceanic conservation and marine mammal preservation.
- Raise funds to help support and feed crews on missions.

Amazon Rain Forest

- Sell acres of the rainforest to students to help save the rainforest.

Relay For Life

- Set up a team and participate while raising money for the team.

St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital

- Organize and host "Up 'til Dawn" at your campus for St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, a hospital for children with cancer where all children receive free treatment and no child is turned away.

Red Cross

- Raise money to help sponsor a blood drive at your school.

American Cancer Society

- Raise money and participate in a marathon/5k/walk for cancer.

Goodwill

- Have a clothing drive at your school where all the donated clothes/money goes to Goodwill.

Boys and Girls Club

- Raise money to support the Boys and Girls Club and spend time with them after they receive the donation.

Make a Wish Foundation

- Have a dance where you sell tickets and possibly have a silent auction with all proceeds going to one child's wish.

Local Wildlife Center

- Volunteer your time feeding the animals and cleaning cages.
- Raise money and awareness by having one of the center's handlers bring in some of the animals and do a presentation at the school.
- Sell tickets, have an adopt an animal fund, sell merchandise, sell pictures with student's favorite animal.

Boy Scouts of America

- Volunteer your time to speak with them or participate in one of their events.

Food for the Poor

- Have a canned food drive.
Volunteer your time at the soup kitchen.

American Heart Association

- Have an Healthy Heart awareness week at your school with a week full of events.

Special Olympics

- Volunteer your time with events at your local special Olympics.

MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving)

- Have a 3 on 3 basketball tournament where all funds raised go to MADD.

Toys for Tots

- Raise money through a silent auction and donate the funds.

Additional Philanthropic Organizations:

American Lung Association, AmeriCares, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, CARE USA, Children's Miracle Network, Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Disabled American Veterans, Feed America, Feed the Children, Ford Foundation, Local Museum, March of Dimes, Mayo Foundation, National Wildlife Federation, Ronald McDonald House, Salvation Army, Shriners Hospital for Children, SOS Children, Susan G Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, United Way, Wildlife Conservation Society, World Vision, World Wildlife Fund