Standards of Quality in Service Learning

*You have a high quality community service learning program if you can answer yes to all of the following questions!*

1. Are youth involved in assessing real and meaningful community need? Did you research your community to identify the need?

2. Do youth participate in deciding who will do what by when?

3. Is the planned service activity safe? Is this an age appropriate activity supervised by a responsible adult?

4. Is learning part of the service project? Does the project provide everyone an opportunity to use new skills and knowledge in a real life situation?

5. Will the group partner with other community groups, agencies, organizations, and/or schools? Are the participants connected to the community in new and positive ways?

6. Does the service provide structured time for a young person to think, talk, and write about what he/she did and saw during the actual activity? What did it mean to him/her? Were the 6 Cs (confidence, competence, character, caring, contribution, and connection) enhanced by this project?

7. Does the plan include opportunities to inform families and the community of the service (and learning) that has taken place?

8. Does it promote career exploration and workforce skills?

9. Will youth be meaningfully involved in evaluating the project?

10. Will youth’s efforts be shared with peers, other 4-H’ers, and the wider community?