

Definitions of Service: Debrief

Questions for Discussion:

- What are your observations?
- What criteria did you use to complete the ranking?
- What did you observe in the interactive exercise?
- What were commonalities?
- What were differences?
- Would you argue that any of the examples are not service?
- Is there a universal definition of service?
- If there are so many types of service how do groups/institutions proceed with common language of service?

Potential Ways to Categorize Service

Activism/Advocacy

- Chaining yourself to an old growth tree as loggers enter the forest
- Organizing your peers to work for affordable housing

Direct Service

- Providing dinner once a week at a homeless shelter
- Tutoring a migrant worker

Lifestyle/Personal Gestures

- Talking with a friend
- Leaving your car at home and biking to work every day
- Giving blood
- Adopting an eight year old boy

Charity/Philanthropy

- Giving \$50 to the Red Cross

Religion/Spirituality

- Serving on a committee at a religious institution (e.g. church, synagogue, temple)
- Participating in a one week meditation retreat

Citizenship

- Joining the armed forces
- Writing a letter to a congressional leader about campaign finance reform
- Voting

Vocation/Call

- Choosing professional work that makes a difference

Social Entrepreneurship

- Developing a micro-lending project for low-income teens to start small businesses