

Pathways to Civic Engagement

This tool has been directly adapted from the UC Berkeley Public Service Center's "Pathways to Service and Justice Tool," designed by Marshall Welch, Kristy Lobos, Tom Schnaubelt, and Mike Bishop.

ACTIVISM/COMMUNITY ORGANIZING: the process of involving, educating, and mobilizing individual or collective action to influence or persuade others

- Participating in a march to protest the Defense of Marriage Act
- Organizing a sit-in of a university administrative building to combat tuition hikes
- Creating an art exhibit to raise awareness about human rights violations in U.S. Prisons

How have you been involved in this pathway?

What opportunities are there on your campus/organization to be involved in this pathway to civic engagement?

In general, how much impact do you consider this pathway to have on social issues?

COMMUNITY-ENGAGED SCHOLARSHIP: connected or producing scholarship with public and/or private sector resources that responds to community-identified needs or concerns.

- Researching the effects that gentrification has on communities of color
- Evaluating the impact and effectiveness of a new disciplinary policy at a local, public high school
- Enrolling in a patient advocacy program that combines coursework with field experience in a health clinic

How have you been involved in this pathway?

What opportunities are there on your campus/organization to be involved in this pathway to civic engagement?

In general, how much impact do you consider this pathway to have on social issues?

DIRECT SERVICE: giving personal time, energy, or resources to address immediate community needs or priorities in order to resist the systems that cause those communities to need in the first place. This also includes capacity-building work.

- Tutoring at an after-school program
- Gathering supplies for hurricane victims
- Building and facilitating curriculum for a workshop series at a youth-empowerment nonprofit
- Managing and designing the marketing strategy for a sustainability nonprofit

How have you been involved in this pathway?

What opportunities are there on your campus/organization to be involved in this pathway to civic engagement?

In general, how much impact do you consider this pathway to have on social issues?

PHILANTHROPY: the voluntary redistribution of resources by individuals and institutions

- Giving \$1,000 to a local homeless and emergency aid organization
- Raising money to fund a neighborhood Boys and Girls Club
- Forming a support group to donate regularly to a local youth arts center
- Working at a powerful NGO/NPO, and making grants to community-based organizations

How have you been involved in this pathway?

What opportunities are there on your campus/organization to be involved in this pathway to civic engagement?

In general, how much impact do you consider this pathway to have on social issues?

POLITICS/POLICY: participating in processes of democratic self-governance

- Registering voters in an underserved neighborhood
- Seeking election in public office for the express purpose of serving the people
- Advocating for specific policies that challenge social inequality
- Writing a letter to a congressional leader about campaign finance reform

How have you been involved in this pathway?

What opportunities are there on your campus/organization to be involved in this pathway to civic engagement?

In general, how much impact do you consider this pathway to have on social issues?

SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP: creating or expanding organizational structures that adopt ethical and effective business practices and/or generate market-oriented responses to solve social problems.

- Developing a minor-lending project for low-income folks to start small businesses
- Employing formerly incarcerated people in your business
- Starting a consulting arm to generate income for a community development corporation

How have you been involved in this pathway?

What opportunities are there on your campus/organization to be involved in this pathway to civic engagement?

In general, how much impact do you consider this pathway to have on social issues?