October 2018
Youth Make Positive Contributions

DYS provides youth with opportunities to give back through community service, which gives youth a sense of pride and accomplishment as they provide needed services to various organizations throughout the state. Community service aligns with the restorative justice principle of making a positive contribution to society. It’s a chance for youth to become more aware of the consequences of their actions and make restitution to communities. Engaging youth in these meaningful opportunities helps to minimize idle time, alleviating boredom and tension. Activities often help youth learn new technical skills, gain social skills, focus attention, acquire marketable job skills and increase personal growth.

What our youth are saying:

“I love giving back to people that don’t have anything. It also makes me feel better about myself.”

-Youth at Indian River Juvenile Correctional Facility

“Completing community service helps me to understand the consequences of my crime, and it makes me feel good to give back to those in need and those I may have wronged.”

-Youth at Cuyahoga Hills Juvenile Correctional Facility

“I like doing community service because it gives back to the community that I took advantage of when I was out.”

-Youth at Circleville Juvenile Correctional Facility

“It felt good giving and not receiving for a change.”

-Youth at Lighthouse Youth Center at Paint Creek

“I really enjoy serving others. Serving others keeps me focused and takes my mind off of the issues I’m going through.”

-Youth at Applewood Centers
“Giving back is important. Give back to your communities in a positive way.”

-Youth on Parole

Community Service in Fiscal Year 2018
18,592 hours of service by youth (in facilities & on parole)

How can we help you?

We appreciate you – our valued partners – and we are here to serve you. Here are examples of the ways our youth have helped.

Service Projects Youth Can Complete Inside Facilities
Packing school supplies, creating flashcards, making sleeping mats, packing dry meals, gardening and donating produce to those in need, stuffing envelopes, & more

Service Projects Select Youth Can Complete Outside Facilities
Groundskeeping, cleaning, providing basic maintenance, building items, painting, sorting clothes, helping at food banks, setting up for special events, picking up litter, & more
If you interested in having your nonprofit organization, school, church, or government agency benefit from community service by our youth, you can check out our website and/or contact Ryan Heimberger, Community Engagement Liaison, at (614) 466-3407 or by email at: Ryan.Heimberger@Dys.Ohio.Gov.