

SERVICE PROJECT CRITICAL REFLECTION

Suggested Critical Reflection Prompts for Volunteers

Pre-Service Reflection Prompts

- Why have you decided to engage in this service project?
- What compels you to engage in community service?
- What experience, if any, do you have with the issue area or community involved in this service project?
- If you were a community member involved in this service project, what expectations would you have of a DU volunteer?
- As a volunteer, what goals and expectations do you have for yourself?
- When you think about yourself as a volunteer for this service project, what would success look like to you? What would success look like as a larger group?

During-Service Reflection Prompts

- What has been your experience so far? Which of your five senses is being engaged? What emotions are coming up for you?
- How is this experience challenging your assumptions or expectations?
- Name three things that have already stuck in your mind about this service experience.

Post-Service Reflection Prompts

- What three moments from your participation in this service project are currently standing out in your mind?
- What new knowledge do you have of this community or issue area?
- How does this service project fit into the bigger picture of the issue area addressed by this project?
- What are the potential root causes of the issues you witnessed during this project? (5 Whys activity)

- **What goals or expectations did you have for yourself before this service project? Were you successful in meeting your goals or expectations?**
- **During this experience, what have you learned about yourself? How have you grown?**
- **How has your participation helped to advance the University of Denver’s vision of being “a great private university dedicated to the public good?”**
- **Thinking about your participation today, what connections may be made to the content of your academic studies?**
- **How will you apply the insights you’ve gained here today to new situations?**
- **Do you have any future goals or action steps around the issue addressed by this service project?**
- **Are there any other thoughts, comments, concerns, or ideas you’d like to share?**