WHAT IS THE HEART OF WEST MICHIGAN UNITED WAY STUDENT SERVICE AWARD?

The Student Service Award is a way of recognizing high school students who benefit their community through service and volunteerism throughout the course of the year.

To recognize those who serve the Kent County community, United Way offers 3 different levels.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF RECEIVING THIS AWARD?

Knowledge that you have dedicated your time and talents toward strengthening your community.

Stand out among your peers! Students can include this award on their college and scholarship applications, as well as on their résumés.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

High school students currently enrolled in any Kent County school.

HOW DOES THE AWARD PROGRAM WORK?

Step 1: Complete and document hours spent volunteering in non-paid community service that meet a recognized need, under the guidance of a nonprofit organization, government program, community group or school

Step 2: Get signatures on the Volunteer Activity Report from the agency staff who supervised each of the activities

Step 3: Submit the Volunteer Activity Report, Essay Guidelines, and Essay to the Volunteer Center at hwmuw.org/studentservice or thevolunteercenter@hwmuw.org

WHAT TYPE OF ACTIVITIES QUALIFY FOR THE AWARD?

Direct Service
Ex: River clean-up, mentoring, tutoring, spending time with a nursing home resident, participation in a National Day of Service Project, etc.

Indirect Service
Ex. Computer data entry, fundraising, food collection, board or committee work for a nonprofit

Civic Engagement
Ex. Advocacy or community organizing, such as beautification, mural painting, community surveys

** All activities must take place in the student’s county of residence

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