



Guidelines & Support

Guiding Principles

Below are some guiding principles to help you plan your congregation's creation care service activity:

1. **Pick something local**—something that will impact the community around which your congregation worships.
2. **Partner with locals**—find individuals, community organizations, and civic institutions that are already seeking the goodwill of your neighborhood through caring for the environment and partner with them.
3. **Be practical**—select activities that align with your congregants' availability and abilities.
4. **Have fun**—service is something to be joyful about!

Guiding Questions

1. **Who do we already know?** Use the [Relationship Inventory guide](#) from EDSO's community engagement work to consider who you might already have connections with.
2. **Who can we partner with?** Ask your community partners who need help! If you still are looking for partners, consider a few practices to familiarize yourself with the surrounding community. Simple: Put your church's address in Google Maps and slowly scroll out. Do you see schools, parks, or non-profits in the community? In-Depth: [Register on the MissionInsite website](#) using the diocesan agency register code (3353D) to conduct a deeper study of your neighbors.
3. **How can we help right now?** After determining who you can partner with, match potential service opportunities with the times your people are available and the ability levels they have.

Links & Support

***Help!** – Still having trouble getting started? Contact Deann Rios (drios@edsd.org), our Community Engagement Missioner. She would be happy to help you get started!

***Register** - Register to let us know you'd like to participate [here](#), even if you don't have a project yet.

***Learn more** – Learn more about the whole Year of Service [here](#).

***Celebrate!** - Please send photos and your stories and accomplishments – quantitative and qualitative – from your day of service/service activity to info@edsd.org.



**We are excited to see what God does across our Diocese -
in our churches, in our communities, and in us -
as we serve in partnership with our neighbors this year.**

We hope you will join us!