PRINCIPLES OF GOOD PRACTICE IN COMBINING SERVICE AND LEARNING

An effective service learning program:

- engages people in responsible and challenging actions for the common good.
- provides structured opportunities for people to reflect critically on their service experience.
- articulates clear service and learning goals for everyone involved. From the outset of the project, participants and service recipients alike must have a clear sense of what is to be accomplished and what is to be learned.
- allows for those with needs to define those needs.
- clarifies the responsibilities of each person and organization involved.
- matches service providers and service needs through a process that recognizes changing circumstances.
- expects genuine, active, and sustained organizational commitment.
- includes training, supervision, monitoring, support, recognition, and evaluation to meet service and learning goals.
- insures that the time commitment for service and learning is flexible, appropriate, and in the best interests of all involved.
- is committed to program participation by and with diverse populations.