



# EDWIN DENBY HIGH SCHOOL

1 2800 KELLY ROAD, DETROIT, MI 48224 | (313) 866-7200

## GUIDE TO COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

As part of Denby High School's vision and mission to "inspire urban innovators," we believe that a student's learning is not complete without understanding the idea of service, and of community engagement. While our students are receiving instruction in the classroom, we believe that it is also important that they understand what it means to serve those around them, and to give back to the communities that have raised them up. To that end, Denby High School has established a service-learning requirement for graduation: all students must complete at least 50 hours of certified community service per year in order to receive a diploma from Denby High School. Students must complete, and document, the service hours completed, and turn them in to Mr. Hui for certification.

This guide serves as a resource for students to access community service opportunities on their own. The school will organize large-scale service opportunities once a month, but students must supplement their own hours by taking the initiative to seek out opportunities that are of interest to them. We believe that true community engagement requires vision from the students, and thus we ask that they use this guide to identify projects they would like to engage in, and take the initiative to complete them on their own time. This will be a supplement to the activities they will complete in-school and as part of the school program.

Community service can involve, but are not limited to, the following:

- Lawn care for neighbors
- Ushering or serving at church
- Teaching Sunday School
- Caring for the elderly
- Volunteering at a hospital, elderly home, shelter, soup kitchen or any other recognized charity organization
- Coordinating fundraising efforts for charities
- Community cleanup efforts
- Tutoring elementary school children
- Big Brother/Big Sister mentorship

The following are **NOT** considered certifiable community service activities:

- Household chores
- Helping a family member or relative
- Any activity for which the student receives compensation, either financially or otherwise
- Care of student or family's own property

Students that complete community service outside of school must provide documentation to Mr. Hui. All documentation must include:

- Name of organization
- Name of student
- Dates of service
- Number of hours served
- Description of service

To submit out-of-school community service documentation, or for any questions, please refer to them Mr. Jonathan Hui, Coordinator for Community Initiatives and Partnerships, at [jhui@detroitdenby.org](mailto:jhui@detroitdenby.org).

Below is a list, arranged by category, of organizations that Denby High School is affiliated with. We have established relationships with these organizations, and they are prepared to receive our students and to provide opportunities for them to serve. Please use this guide to arrange different community service opportunities.

## Community Development Organizations

### **The 313 Project**

The 313 Project focuses on community redevelopment projects, legal aid, and citizen assistance throughout the city of Detroit. They engage in many community cleanup efforts, rebuilding park and public spaces, and hold many workshops throughout the city of Detroit to promote healthy living, citizen responsibility, and to encourage education.

Address: N/A Phone: (313) 744-2DET  
Contact: Aisa Villarosa Email: the313project@gmail.com

### **Habitat for Humanity – Detroit**

Habitat for Humanity works to provide equality in housing by rebuilding homes and providing them to those in need at little or no cost. They work in and around the city of Detroit to tear down abandoned houses, repair abandoned, livable houses, and build new homes for families in need. They are inviting volunteers of all ages to join them in construction and building projects.

Address: <http://www.habitatdetroit.org/volunteersignup> Phone: (313) 521-6691 x.4  
Contact: Crystal Bell, Volunteer Coordinator

### **Greening of Detroit**

Greening's mission is to inspire sustainable growth of a healthy urban community through trees, green spaces, food, education, training and job opportunities. They are inviting volunteers to help plant trees, work on urban gardens, and build community capacity to promote sustainable initiatives.

Contact: Julia, Volunteer Coordinator Email: [julia@greeningofdetroit.com](mailto:julia@greeningofdetroit.com)  
Address: <http://greeningofdetroit.com> Phone: 313-237-8733

### **United Way for Southeast Michigan**

United Way for Southeast Michigan strives to provide community development initiatives for urban areas in need of innovation and change. United Way provides a wide range of services from literacy to construction, and from neighborhood safety to personal literacy. Through workshops and programs, United Way reaches citizens through schools and educational institutions, providing opportunity to those that may not readily have access to it.

Address: <http://www.liveunitedsem.org> Phone: (313) 213-2610  
Contact: Alexandria Haynes, Corporate Engagement

### **U-SNAP-BAC**

U-SNAP-BAC is a collaboration between residential and business organizations on Detroit's East Side to promote economic growth and urban development through empowering community members and engaging in projects. They are excited to welcome volunteers to aid them in community development programming.

Address: [http://www.usnapbac.org/volunteer\\_with\\_us](http://www.usnapbac.org/volunteer_with_us) Phone: 313-640-1100  
Contact: Linda Smith, Executive Director Email: [info@usnapbac.org](mailto:info@usnapbac.org)

# Arise! Detroit

Arise! Detroit is a conglomerate of neighborhood organizations that have come together to support the redevelopment of Detroit's East Side. Arise aims to create a new wave of volunteerism across Detroit and to bring generations together to work to improve Detroit's community.

Address: <http://www.arisedetroit.org/contact-us/>  
Contact: Marcus Harris, Operations Officer

Phone: (313) 921-1955  
Email: [info@arisedetroit.org](mailto:info@arisedetroit.org)

## Detroit Community Initiative

Detroit Community Initiative is a neighborhood-centered initiative that focuses on areas of northeast Detroit. The initiative aims to provide citizens with access, providing housing and employment opportunities, and to build a community within northeast Detroit that is united and accountable to one another.

Contact: Gabrielle Bailey, Executive Assistant

Phone: (313) 368-0240  
Email: [gbailey@detroitcommunity.org](mailto:gbailey@detroitcommunity.org)

## Belle Isle Conservancy

The Belle Isle Conservancy works to protect the environment of Belle Isle. As one of our city's treasures, Belle Isle requires constant upkeep and maintenance. The Belle Isle Conservancy welcomes volunteers to join them on environmental protection efforts, cleanups, and other initiatives to protect the park.

Address: <http://www.belleisleconservancy.org/>  
Contact: Melvadean Pearson

Phone: (248) 376-8220  
Email: [melvadean.pearson@gmail.com](mailto:melvadean.pearson@gmail.com)

### Literacy and Children's Programs

## The Bottomless Toy Chest

The Bottomless Toy Chest is a provider of toys and games to children in hospitals. Their vision is to ensure that children in hospitals are not disadvantaged because of their circumstances, and are receiving the love and care that other children would. They are inviting volunteers to join them to sort and deliver donated toys.

Address: [www.bottomlesstoychest.org](http://www.bottomlesstoychest.org)  
Contact: Mickey Guisewhite, CEO

Phone: (248) 646-8931  
Email: [mickey@bottomlesstoychest.org](mailto:mickey@bottomlesstoychest.org)

## 20Books

20Books is an organization that works to provide equal access to literacy across Detroit. The organization receives donated books and provides them to families, as well as organizing workshops emphasizing the importance of literacy to families across the Metro area.

Address:  
Contact: Kofi Myler, CEO

Phone: 248-242-3344  
Email: [kofimyler@20books.org](mailto:kofimyler@20books.org)

## National Heritage Academies

NHA is a collection of charter schools around the city of Detroit, including Regent Prep on Kelly Road, that actively welcomes high school students to join programs to mentor and tutor elementary students.

Address: [www.heritageacademies.com](http://www.heritageacademies.com)  
Contact: Val Moskalik, Regional Admissions Rep.

Phone: 616-238-2036  
Email: [val.moskalik@heritageacademies.com](mailto:val.moskalik@heritageacademies.com)

## Arts and Scraps

Arts and Scraps provides a low-cost alternative for community members and students wishing to develop their potential in the creative arts. The store and program provides educational opportunities, as well as affordable materials, for students to learn to engage in art.

Address: <http://www.artsandscraps.org/>  
Contact: Stace, Volunteer Coordinator

Phone: 313-640-4411 x 5

### Social and Human Services

## Matrix Human Services Center

The Matrix Center offers east side parents, children and community members a series of assessments, services and programs designed to break the cycle of poverty. The Center provides services ranging from soup kitchens to clothing donations, and from job training to after-school tutoring. The Center would like to welcome volunteers to coordinate and assist with programs.

Address: <http://www.matrixhumanservices.org/>  
Contact: Sandra Ramocan, CEO (or receptionist)

Phone: (313) 526-4000  
Email: [inquiries@matrixhs.org](mailto:inquiries@matrixhs.org)

## Forgotten Harvest

Forgotten Harvest is a food bank that provides and distributes donated food to communities that need such resources. They are inviting volunteers to work at their food bank to sort donated items and to prepare items for delivery.

Address: [www.forgottenharvest.org](http://www.forgottenharvest.org)  
Contact: Marci Fitch, Volunteer Manager

Phone: 248-967-1500 x 125  
Email: [mfitch@forgottenharvest.org](mailto:mfitch@forgottenharvest.org)

## Gleaners' Food Bank of Michigan

Gleaners is a food bank located on the east side of Detroit that provides and distributes donated food to individuals and communities in need. Volunteers are invited to work at the food bank to sort donated items.

Address: <http://www.gcfb.org>  
Contact: Reggie Williams

Phone: 313-923-3535

### Religious Institutions

## The Presbytery of Detroit

The Presbytery of Detroit is a branch of the Presbyterian Church of the USA, and provides various social services to individuals and groups in the Detroit area. Volunteers are invited to work in their centers around the East Side to support the office and center staff.

Address: [www.detroitpresbytery.org](http://www.detroitpresbytery.org)  
Contact: The Rev. Allen Timm, Executive Presbyter

Phone: 313-645-6550

## Jesus Tabernacle of Deliverance Church

This is a community-based church with a focus on community development, including neighborhood empowerment, community cleanups and community education. Volunteers are welcome!

Address: 11001 Chalmers St.  
Contact: Ray Winans

Phone: (313) 758-9890

