Service in CAS

There are four different types of action:

- **direct service**, where students' interaction involves people, the environment or animals, such as tutoring or planting trees
- **indirect service**, where students provide assistance in ways where they do not see the recipients of what they have done, such as writing and supplying bilingual books or improving an organization's website
- **advocacy**, where students assist through educating the public or supporting or initiating a campaign
- **research**, where students collect information through varied sources, analyse data and report on a topic of importance to influence policy or practice.

Ideas for direct service
With people
Coach children in sports
Deliver meals to people living with a medical condition
Lead resume-writing workshops for people who are unemployed
Organize or assist at a blood drive
Play music with elders to have an exchange of skills and learn about each other's music preferences and
talents, and then perform as an ensemble for others
Distribute plants at a farmer's market to promote home-grown container gardens
Serve food at a soup kitchen
With the environment
Restore a stream
Prepare the soil and beds for an elementary school garden and plant with the children
Grow seedlings for distribution
Install raised-bed gardens for a senior centre
Establish a recycling programme at city hall
Make a storm-water garden
With animals
Help at an animal shelter with data entry and dog walking
Assist with a pet adoption outreach program at community events
Lead a workshop on pet care
Set up a turtle sanctuary in partnership with a community organization

Ideas for indirect service

With people

Assemble a photo exhibit about poverty for a gallery

Prepare meals in a soup kitchen

Take part in a walkathon to raise money for different humanitarian causes

Prepare activity kits for children for an emergency shelter

Write brochures for organizations

Build an organization's website or provide content for an organization's website

Assist with the creation of a museum exhibit

Make exercise videos to give to homeless shelters

Create a newsletter for a retirement community

Record audio books for people who are visually impaired

With the environment

Prepare signage for a local wetland

Grow seedlings for distribution

Initiate a school compost to reduce food waste in landfills

Create a website with information about flora and fauna for a local park

With animals

Make zoo toys for animals

Collect needed supplies for a wildlife rescue centre

Bake dog biscuits for an animal shelter

Make colouring books with protection tips on local endangered animals for elementary schools and tourists

Ideas for advocacy service

With people
Lead a town hall meeting on solar energy
Organize a letter-writing campaign for a cause
Host a speaker and film series to raise awareness for the community
Create comic strips or comic books to teach about emergency safety and readiness
Plan a conference to raise awareness about education equity
With the environment
Provide reusable water bottles to replace single-use water bottles
Create public service announcements on energy reduction in homes

Organize a flash mob to teach about recycling

Promote a "just use less" campaign to reduce quantities of what is put in trash and recycling bins

With animals

Make beach signs to protect local waterways from rubbish

Advocate for animals at risk at an organized public event

Create posters, videos and public service announcements to promote animal adoption for a shelter

Ideas for research service

With people

Assist with a city-wide needs assessment by running focus groups

Conduct hands-on research about how interaction improves quality of life for residents at an elderly care facility

Prepare a public service outreach process to identify local veterans willing to be interviewed, and then conduct the interviews for an historical society

Learn about the history of people buried in a cemetery from the 1800s to support a local museum

Observe play habits of children in an orphanage or refugee centre to identify what skills are developed or need support

With the environment

Use photography to collect images that inform about the first flush from a storm drain by your school Interview administrators at local landfills to learn about community habits that support collections of trash to recycle and food waste for composting

Analyse items collected in a community or beach clean-up to develop a campaign (advocacy service) that prevents the items from being littered again

With animals

Conduct a behaviour study of zoo animals or shelter animals

Monitor numbers of stray animals, combine findings with interviews and surveys to determine opinions of advocates, opponents and the general public, and offer recommendations to improve local policies Assist with tracking and monitoring of butterfly migratory paths