

## BRANCH OUT

*"I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing." -John 15:5*

Memorial Christian Academy believes that part of our responsibility in training young men and women to be disciples of Christ is to help them **put into practice** the Christ-centered instruction they receive in the classroom. Servant leadership calls on students to lead like Jesus led by serving those around them. By serving in Christ's name students are truly able to "Branch Out" from the vine and bear fruit within the Killeen/Ft. Hood community.

Students are encouraged to serve in one of the following areas sometime during the year:

**THE LOCAL CHURCH-** This includes serving the staff that work at your church.<sup>[1]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

**LOCAL COMMUNITY-** This involves meeting the needs of those in the Killeen/Ft. Hood area but outside of your local church.

**INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY-** This involves finding ways to meet the needs of those in other countries. This could include participating in mission trips or helping organizations that serve overseas.

**MILITARY-** The Ft. Hood community provides a unique opportunity for students to honor and serve members of our armed services.

**MEMORIAL CHRISTIAN ACADEMY COMMUNITY-** There are needs within our own school that could likely be met by MCA servant leaders.

**OUTREACH AND EVANGELISM-** While meeting the physical needs of those we serve is important, we must not forget their most significant need, to know Jesus Christ and the power of His resurrection.

### Guidelines for Service

In order to qualify for the students Branch Out Servant Leadership hours, these guidelines must be followed:

- The service performed must be voluntary (no compensation received). (
- Service should be completed for non-profit organizations. (
- Service, if performed for an individual, should be done for someone outside of the(immediate family. (
- Service should be performed to meet a legitimate need (it must be performed to (help others and/or the environment). (
- Students are responsible for locating a place to perform their Branch Out service. (A list of organizations and contact information of local non-profit organizations is available.
- Volunteer service and hours must be recorded on the *Branch Out Service (Evaluation Form.* (

- Completed forms should be returned to the office to receive credit for service (performed. (
  - Forms must be completed by the student and submitted within 15 school days of (the event. For on-going events, a form must be submitted monthly. (
  - To earn the Presidential Volunteer Service Award, all forms must be submitted no (later than 25April. (
- Service Hour Requirements** (\*A minimum of 64 hours must be served to graduate from Memorial Christian Academy.

<b>6<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Students</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> and 7 <sup>th</sup> grade classes will have the opportunity to serve through grade level service projects. Students are guided to realize that every student must do their part for the project to succeed. Students actively participate through collecting, organizing, and delivering designated products to assigned agencies.
<b>8<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Students</b>	Students will serve a minimum 4 hours per term (16 hours per school year).
<b>Student Council and National Honor Society Members</b>	StuCo and NHS members will serve a minimum 8 hours per term (32 hours per school year).

Memorial Christian Academy is also a Certifying Organization (CO) for the President's Volunteer Service Award (PVSA) program. This organization seeks to encourage United States citizens to live a life of service through presidential gratitude and national recognition. Service hours are measured over a 12- month period (June-May) and awards are designated based on cumulative hours. The awards are offered in multiple levels and are designed to recognize each milestone of service achievement. Levels include bronze, silver, gold; award recipients will receive a personalized certificate, an official pin, and a congratulatory letter from the president of the United States.

**Hour Requirements for the PVSA Program**

<b>Kids (5-10)</b>	26-49	50-74	75+
<b>Teens (11-15)</b>	50-74	75-99	100+
<b>Young Adults (16-25)</b>	100-174	175-249	250+
Group Award (MCA has the opportunity to earn a group award in addition to individual awards. The group consists of members that have served 25 or more hours in a 12 month period)	200-499	500-999	1,000+

**MEMORIAL CHRISTIAN ACADEMY**  
Volunteer Service Evaluation Form

**DIRECTIONS:** This form is to be completed by the student. Complete the service form. Have the form signed by service project supervisor. To earn credit, the form must be submitted within 30 days of the project. For on-going/long-term projects, the form must be submitted no later than April 25, to be considered for the PVSA.

**Part 1: Student's Log Sheet and Personal Reflection**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Organization you served \_\_\_\_\_

Responsibilities \_\_\_\_\_

Dates and Hours of service \_\_\_\_\_ Total hours completed \_\_\_\_\_

Personal Reflection – How did your service help this organization?

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**Part 2: Supervisor's Evaluation**

Please write a brief summary about the experience you had with the student performing service hours with you. Please check one:

\_\_\_\_\_ **Satisfactory** - Student displayed exceptional service; attitude of graciousness; punctual; friendly

\_\_\_\_\_ **Unsatisfactory** - Student displays unsatisfactory service; not punctual; poor attitude about serving

Supervisor Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Date submitted to the office: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

