Baltimore First Member Expectations

Baltimore First is the Center for Social Concern’s primary community engagement program offered during the academic year. Committed to utilizing a sustainable service model, Baltimore First matches groups of students to volunteer with the same Service Partner for the duration of a semester. In addition to weekly volunteering, Baltimore First members attend educational workshops, critical reflection sessions, cohort socials, and Baltimore-based community events. By coordinating accessible opportunities to engage with Baltimore and facilitating complementary education and reflection sessions, Baltimore First equips students to intentionally engage with diverse communities, promotes awareness of Baltimore’s social equity ecosystem, builds community both on and off campus, and inspires a commitment to active citizenship.

Members of Baltimore First are required to make a semester-long commitment and must participate fully to the best of their abilities in the following mandatory program activities:

- **Education:**
  - Attend/Complete required educational workshops/trainings
  - Participate in (1) Experiential Learning Event/Baltimore Field Trip
  - Attend Member Orientation

- **Action:**
  - Fully participate in volunteering responsibilities at assigned service site
  - Attend Baltimore First social events & community gatherings

- **Reflection:**
  - Participate in (1) small group site-specific reflection session
  - Participate in post-event reflection activities as applicable

- **Other:**
  - Monitor and respond to Baltimore First communications (sent via email and slack)
  - Comply with all JHU policies & procedures (including the student code of conduct and admin on-call emergency procedures)
  - Log impact hours on Hopkins Engage

Please keep in mind that when we volunteer, we are guests in established communities. Volunteering is a unique opportunity to learn from folks with diverse lived experiences and to expand our understanding of complex social challenges. We ask that all CSC students engage with community members with humility, respect, and an open-mind. All volunteers are expected to be fully engaged and present during service (e.g., no multi-tasking, excessive phone use, side conversations, etc.).

If for any reason you are unable to attend your scheduled volunteering shifts or other required sessions (e.g., educational workshop, site-specific reflection sessions, etc.), please give Baltimore First advance notice of at LEAST 1 business day (Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm) prior to the scheduled activity. Baltimore First is about building community and requires accountability to both our student members and service partners. Failure to meet the expectations outlined in this document could result in dismissal from Baltimore First.
The Center for Social Concern is committed to ensuring that participating in Baltimore First is a meaningful and inclusive experience for all students and community members. Please reach out to the Baltimore First Team (baltimorefirst@jhu.edu) if you have any questions, concerns, or accessibility requests.