

REFLECTION PACKET

Community Engagement Programming

02

LET'S BEGIN!

Getting students involved in community service is about leading them to those “Ah-Ha Moments.” Actually, reflecting on their experiences is an effective way to get them to have this epiphany! By using the **What?, So What?, Now What?** model you as a facilitator can help students reflect on their experience and feel more empowered to create valuable social change.

03

THE WHAT?

“First, start off asking the group some questions about the What? (The objective here is to get students talking in detail about the event or facts about the project).”

Question 1: Imagine you were a video camera recording what you saw happening during this activity. What actions, words, phrases, objects, and scenes are recorded on your tape? Let's get everything out so we all have a full picture of what happened.

(After you ask this first question, I would do a quick a pair share depending on your group size. Have them turn to a partner for about 3 minutes and share their answers. Then call on a few people to share out loud to the big group after.)

Other follow up questions:

- What did you observe?
- What issue is being addressed or population being served?
- What were the results of the service projects?

Hopefully some discussion will start with these few opening questions. Feel free to ask questions as individuals start answering the prompting questions.

04

THE SO WHAT?

Now transitioning into an analysis, the So What? (The point of this is to get individuals to focus on what they learned and felt during the event of project).

Question 2: What feelings or thoughts did you have during the activity (Frightened? Angry? Concerned? Sympathetic? Disappointed?)

(With this question, you could pass out sticky notes and have students write down in one word how they felt during the activity. Then come and stick it on the wall. Then you can read some of them off and have some of the students share).

Other follow up questions to ask to the group:

- What did you learn from this project?
- Did anything surprise you that you learned about yourself?
- How does this project help address the needs of the community?
- What did you like/dislike about the activity?
- How does this project relate to the big picture?
- Did any of my values, thoughts, or opinions change from this experience?

05

THE NOW WHAT?

NOW THE LAST PIECE IS THE APPLICATION. THE NOW WHAT? (THE POINT OF THIS IS TO HELP STUDENT BEGIN TO SEE HOW THEY CAN APPLY WHAT THEY HAVE LEARNED).

With these questions you could choose two or three depending on the group size and write them on a big sticky note, board, or on strips of paper and hand them out. Divide students into groups and assign them to different questions. Give them 5 minutes to answer the questions. Then share some of their answers out loud out the group after).

- Why is it important to stay involved in the community and be informed about social issues?
- Is there a way I could help with this issue beyond what I did today?
- Do I want to stay involved in doing service to create change for my community?
- What did the team experience and learn together?
- Does anyone feel more connected with each other, the issue(s), or the community?

After this, you can encourage students to continuously be thinking about ways they can become change agents and actually do something to make a difference!

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE
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