

From Campus to Community

A Summer Service Checklist for Cougs

Use this one-page planning tool to choose a safe, realistic, and youth-centered way to serve this summer. It is designed for WSU students, alumni, volunteers, sponsors, and community supporters who want to bring Cougar pride into service with care.

“Cougs 4 Kids asks each of us to bring Cougar pride off the sidelines and into service.”

– Julie Wukelic, CEO, Believe in Me



Before You Start

- Confirm the role.**
Know whether you are volunteering, sponsoring, introducing a partner, helping behind the scenes, or supporting a specific activity.
- Clarify safety rules.**
Ask about supervision, communication channels, training, background checks, transportation, and photo or story consent before any youth-facing activity.
- Start with listening.**
Ask what young people and community partners actually need before choosing a service project or activity.



Choose One Summer Service Path

- Plan one youth-centered activity.**
Examples: a goal-setting circle, supply-packing day, leadership reflection, community clean-up, or service project young people help shape.
- Invite a business or alumni group.**
Share a clear ask: sponsor supplies, host a volunteer day, donate space, provide snacks, or introduce another supporter.
- Give or gather supplies.**
Ask what is actually needed before collecting items. Avoid unapproved donations or supplies that create storage, safety, or equity concerns.
- Support a mentor or volunteer team.**
Help with preparation, reminder messages, materials, logistics, thank-you notes, or follow-up.
- Share a practical skill.**
Offer a short workshop or resource around communication, teamwork, college readiness, career exploration, budgeting, storytelling, or project planning.



Reflect Before You Move On

- What worked?
- What should change next time?
- Who needs to be thanked?
- What follow-up is needed?



Next step: Volunteer, sponsor, introduce a partner, or contact Cougs 4 Kids at cougs4kids.org/get_involved_with_cougs_4_kids/