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Community Service Ideas for Go-Betweeners

Remember, you and your mentee are required to participate in one community service opportunity every quarter. Here are some ideas to get you started:

Helpful Websites (to search for opportunities):

- www.volunteermatch.org
- www.unitedway.org
- www.idealists.org

Current Opportunities:

- **Furkids, Inc.**
 - Age: 16+
 - Service Description: Volunteer on weekends between 11 AM – 6 PM playing with cats and kittens, talking to adoption applicants and answering questions they may have about the adoption process.
 - More info at: <http://www.furkids.org/volunteers.html>
- **Trees Atlanta**
 - Age:
 - Service Description: Join Trees Atlanta Saturday mornings from 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon for hands-on tree planting, tree care, and forest restoration projects.
 - More info at: <http://www.treesatlanta.org/VolunteerProjectDescriptions.aspx>
- **Upper Chattahoochee River Keeper**
 - Age: All Ages
 - Service Description: UCR provides a number of different volunteer opportunities for people interested in helping to preserve the Chattahoochee River and its watershed through programs in education, community outreach, policy reform and legal actions. From working all day at a festival, to assisting with river clean-ups, to helping out for a few hours in the office, there's something available for everyone's skill level, interest and physical ability.
 - More info at: <http://www.ucriverkeeper.org/volunteer.php>
- **Omosaze**
 - Age: 13+
 - Service Description: Volunteers provide support to the *Reading Saturday* program for first grade students. In a one-to-one or one-to-two format, they model good reading skills while following a simple lesson plan and mentoring children in the development of reading comprehension and sight vocabulary.
 - More info at: <http://www.omosaze.org/volunteer.htm>
- **Fernbank Museum of Natural History**
 - Age: 13+
 - Service Description: The Dinosaur Garden Club provides an opportunity to explore your gardening interests while helping out the Fernbank Museum of Natural History! Volunteers will have the opportunity to help with and learn more about weeding, planting, and landscaping while getting to know other Dino Garden Club Members. Get your hands dirty for a good cause!
 - More info at: <http://www.fernbank.edu/volunteer.htm>
- **Children's Restoration Network**
 - Age: 13+

- Service Description: Several different opportunities available to help homeless children.
- More info at: http://www.charityadvantage.com/Childrens_Restoration_NetwMKEPKF/GetInvolved.asp
- Families of Children Under Stress (FOCUS)
 - Age: 13+
 - Service Description: FOCUS offers many volunteer opportunities to help families who have children with disabilities or ongoing medical needs.
 - More info at: <http://www.focus-ga.org/volunteer.htm>
- Special Olympics of Georgia
 - Age: All ages
 - Service Description: Volunteers are needed at several different events throughout the year: the Summer, Winter and Fall Games, the Horse Show, and the Masters Bowling.
 - More info at: <http://www.specialolympicsga.org/volunteer/default.htm>
- Creating Vibrant Communities
 - Age: All ages
 - Service Description: Do you love to garden? Spend a day in the sunshine, planting, picking, and growing while helping a community grow and nourish itself! Creating Vibrant Communities is a community development nonprofit based in the historic West End neighborhood in Atlanta. The CVC approach to sustainable community revitalization is rooted in the asset based community development (ABCD) principle of identifying and surveying "community assets."
 - More info at: <http://www.volunteermatch.org/search/opp561001.jspxz>
- Friends of Washington Park
 - Age: All ages
 - Service Description: Help make the park beautiful by participating in one of Friends of Washington Park's cleanup days.
 - More info at: <http://www.washingtonparkatlanta.org/>

More Ideas:

- Pet shelters
 - Call your local pet shelter and see what kinds of volunteer opportunities they have. Most of these places are looking for people to come and play with the animals while they are waiting to be adopted.
- Hospitals
 - Contact your local hospital to see what volunteer opportunities they have available.
- Retirement/nursing homes
 - Retirement and nursing homes are always looking for volunteers to come and spend time with their residents. Whether it is doing arts and crafts or sharing a meal, the company is always appreciated.
- Food banks or soup kitchens
 - Help pack food at your local food bank or pass out food at a soup kitchen or homeless shelter. Contact your local food bank or soup kitchen for more information. These places can always use the help.