

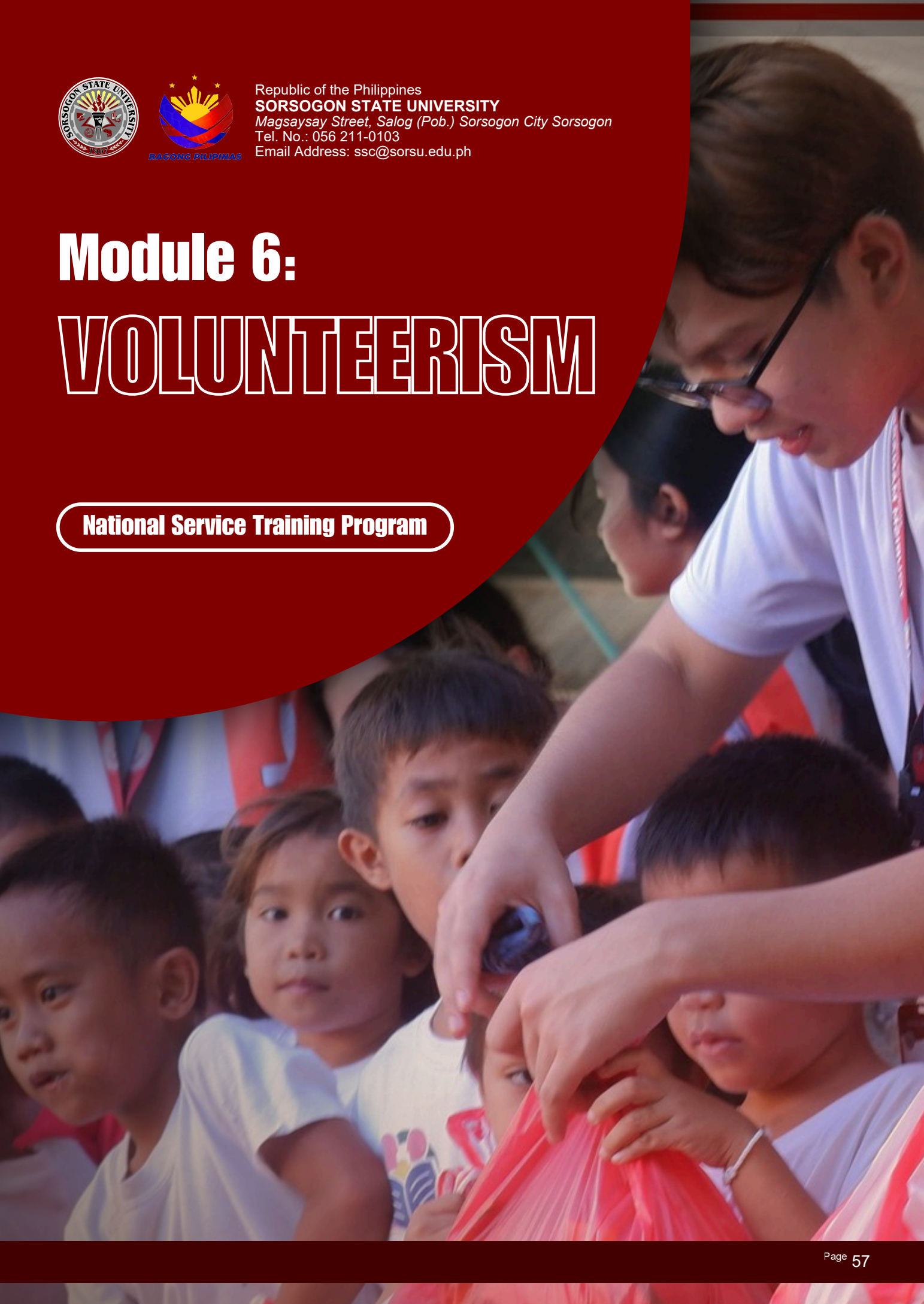


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Module 6:

VOLUNTEERISM

National Service Training Program



VOLUNTEERISM

OVERVIEW

Volunteerism is a fundamental expression of civic responsibility and social solidarity. It is the act of freely giving one's time, skills, and effort for the benefit of others and the community without expecting monetary reward. Guided by the principles of free will, unpaid service, and benefit to others, volunteerism strengthens national unity and promotes the spirit of bayanihan among Filipinos. As stated in Republic Act No. 9418 or the Volunteer Act of 2007, it serves as a national strategy to foster participation from all sectors of society in pursuit of social justice, sustainable development, and international understanding. Through volunteerism, individuals become active contributors to community growth and positive social change.

The youth, in particular, play a vital role in upholding and advancing volunteerism. Their energy, creativity, and compassion breathe new life into civic engagement and community action. Through voluntary participation, young people develop essential life skills, deepen empathy, and strengthen their sense of citizenship. Voluntary action not only empowers individuals but also builds safer, more resilient communities and inspires a culture of service. Ultimately, volunteerism nurtures both personal fulfillment and collective progress, proving that genuine service to others is the heart of nation-building.

PRE-ACTIVITY

Reflect on your personal experiences, observations, and knowledge about volunteerism and community service in the Philippines.

1. Volunteerism is deeply rooted in the Filipino value of bayanihan, or helping others without expecting anything in return. Why do you think this tradition remains important in today's modern society?
2. Republic Act No. 9418, also known as the Volunteer Act of 2007, promotes volunteerism as a national development strategy. How does this law encourage Filipinos, especially the youth, to take part in community and nation-building?
3. There are many ways to volunteer — through school programs, community projects, or social initiatives. Choose one form of volunteer activity and explain how it can make a positive impact on your community.
4. Young people are often seen as catalysts for change. Why do you think the participation of youth in volunteerism is essential to building a more compassionate and progressive nation?

OBJECTIVES

By the end of this module, students should be able to:

1. Explain the key concepts and elements of volunteerism.
2. Recognize the role of youth in promoting and sustaining volunteerism.
3. Appreciate the importance of voluntary action in community and national development.
4. Demonstrate willingness to engage in meaningful volunteer activities.

TERMINOLOGIES

VOLUNTEERISM. Giving time and effort freely for the benefit of others.

VOLUNTEER. A person who serves without expecting payment.

VOLUNTARY ACTION. An act done by choice to help the community.

BAYANIHAN. Filipino spirit of unity and helping one another.

RA 9418. The Volunteer Act of 2007 promotes volunteerism.

SOCIAL CAPITAL. Trust and cooperation are built through community relationships.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT. Active participation in addressing community needs.

SERVICE LEARNING. Combining study with volunteer service for learning.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. Growth that meets present and future needs responsibly.

LESSON 1: CONCEPTS AND ELEMENTS OF VOLUNTEERISM

INTRODUCTION

Volunteerism is the act of freely offering one's time, talent, and effort for the benefit of others and the community without expecting monetary reward. It reflects the Filipino spirit of bayanihan, which promotes unity, compassion, and shared responsibility. Volunteerism plays a vital role in nation-building as it strengthens civic engagement, fosters social solidarity, and supports sustainable development.

DEFINITIONS OF VOLUNTEERISM

Republic Act No. 9418 (Volunteer Act of 2007)

- Defines volunteerism as an act involving diverse activities, from mutual aid to organized service, that empowers both the volunteer and the community. It fosters social justice, solidarity, and sustainable development.

United Nations (UN)

- Describes volunteerism as free and voluntary action undertaken for the public good, emphasizing that its main motivation is service, not payment.

International Labor Organization (ILO)

- Defines volunteer work as "unpaid, non-compulsory work" done willingly to help others outside one's household or family.

Philippine National Volunteer Service Coordinating Agency (PNVSCA)

- Considers volunteerism as a tool for civic engagement that strengthens people's participation in national and global development efforts.

LEGAL FOUNDATION

Volunteerism in the Philippines is strengthened by Republic Act No. 9418, also known as the Volunteer Act of 2007. This law promotes volunteerism as a national development and international cooperation strategy. It calls for the active participation of individuals, organizations, and institutions in civic and public service.

The Philippine National Volunteer Service Coordinating Agency (PNVSCA) serves as the lead agency in promoting and coordinating volunteer programs across sectors. The law encourages the practice of volunteerism to rekindle the Filipino tradition of bayanihan, fostering solidarity, compassion, and sustainable development.

CORE ELEMENTS OF VOLUNTEERISM

Free Will (Kusa)

- Volunteerism is a personal choice made without pressure or obligation. It is motivated by the desire to help, not by external force.

Unpaid Service (Kapalit na bayad hindi hangad)

- True volunteers do not seek payment or material reward. Their satisfaction comes from knowing they made a difference in someone's life.

Beneficial to Others (Kapwa)

- Volunteer activities must aim to improve the welfare of others or the community as a whole. It focuses on service that uplifts lives and promotes the common good.

KEY POINTS

Volunteerism reflects bayanihan and strengthens civic participation.

It is guided by RA 9418, promoting volunteerism as a tool for national development.

The three core elements, Free Will, Unpaid Service, and Benefit to Others, define genuine voluntary action.

Acts of volunteerism, whether in school, community, or nation, lead to personal growth and social progress.

REFLECTION

How can you apply the principles of volunteerism, free will, unpaid service, and benefit to others, in your daily life as a student?

Think of a time when you helped someone or joined a community activity without expecting anything in return. How did that experience reflect the true spirit of volunteerism?

LESSON 1: CONCEPTS AND ELEMENTS OF VOLUNTEERISM

TYPES OF VOLUNTEERING

Volunteerism can take many forms depending on the purpose, setting, and level of involvement. Each type provides opportunities for individuals to contribute their time, skills, and resources toward meaningful causes. Below are the main types of volunteering based on national and international frameworks, including the Philippine National Volunteer Service Coordinating Agency (PNVSCA) and the United Nations (UN).

1. Formal Volunteering

Formal volunteering takes place within organized institutions such as schools, non-government organizations (NGOs), religious groups, or government programs. Volunteers participate in structured activities with clear goals and coordination.

Examples:

- Joining community outreach projects through the NSTP-CWTS program
- Volunteering with the Red Cross or environmental organizations
- Assisting in literacy and livelihood programs organized by LGUs or NGOs

2. Non-Formal or Informal Volunteering

This type involves spontaneous or community-based acts of service done without formal organization or structure. It is often motivated by compassion and immediate need.

Examples:

- Helping neighbors rebuild after a typhoon
- Organizing local clean-up drives or tree planting with friends
- Offering tutoring or assistance to children in your neighborhood

3. Governance Volunteering

Volunteering under governance focuses on supporting leadership, planning, or decision-making efforts that benefit communities or organizations. It often involves advocacy and policy participation.

Examples:

- Serving as a youth representative in local councils or school organizations
- Participating in barangay or campus-based civic committees
- Advocating for social issues such as health, education, or the environment

4. Social Action Volunteering

Social action volunteering centers on addressing social issues and promoting equality, justice, and inclusion. Volunteers work on campaigns, awareness programs, or humanitarian missions.

Examples:

- Conducting anti-drug or anti-bullying awareness campaigns
- Joining feeding programs for underprivileged children
- Participating in charity events and donation drives

5. Project-Based Volunteering

This type focuses on specific, time-bound activities or projects that have a clear objective and outcome. It may last from a few days to several months.

Examples:

- Volunteering for relief operations during disasters
- Joining a one-week medical or dental mission
- Assisting in school-based projects like community mapping or health fairs

KEY POINTS

Volunteering can be formal or informal, depending on the level of organization and involvement.

Each type of volunteering provides unique opportunities to contribute to personal growth and community development.

Formal volunteering ensures structure and sustainability, while informal volunteering fosters spontaneity and direct community connection.

Governance volunteering builds leadership, accountability, and participation in civic affairs.

Social action volunteering promotes advocacy, inclusivity, and empathy toward marginalized groups.

Project-based volunteering allows individuals to participate in short-term yet impactful missions.

All forms of volunteering nurture compassion, civic responsibility, and active citizenship, core values of national unity and sustainable progress.

"Volunteering is giving from the heart to make a difference."

LESSON 2:**IMPORTANCE OF VOLUNTARY ACTION****INTRODUCTION**

Voluntary action is one of the most meaningful expressions of civic duty and compassion. It refers to the act of freely offering one's time, talent, and effort to serve others and improve community well-being without expecting material reward. In today's society, voluntary action remains a driving force in addressing social challenges such as poverty, inequality, and environmental issues. It allows citizens, especially the youth, to take active roles in community building and national progress. Beyond moral value, volunteerism also has measurable economic contributions, making it an essential component of development worldwide.

SIGNIFICANCE OF VOLUNTARY ACTION

Voluntary action plays a crucial role in strengthening communities, promoting civic engagement, and supporting inclusive national growth. It provides a channel for individuals and organizations to work together for the common good.

1. Strengthens Communities – Fosters cooperation, unity, and social trust by bringing people together to solve local problems.
2. Promotes Civic Responsibility – Encourages citizens to participate actively in community affairs and uphold social justice.
3. Empowers Individuals – Builds self-confidence, leadership, and empathy, while developing valuable life and work skills.
4. Supports Sustainable Development – Helps achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through social, environmental, and educational initiatives.
5. Bridges Sectors of Society – Links government agencies, private organizations, and citizens to work collectively for national and international development.

BENEFITS OF VOLUNTEERISM TO THE COMMUNITY

1. Enhances Social Cohesion - Builds trust, empathy, and cooperation across diverse groups.
2. Increases Community Resilience - Volunteers play vital roles in disaster preparedness, response, and recovery.
3. Improves Quality of Life - Volunteer-driven initiatives improve access to education, healthcare, and environmental care.
4. Promotes National Unity - Strengthens shared values of compassion, patriotism, and collective action.
5. Drives Inclusive Growth - By involving all sectors, volunteerism ensures that development benefits everyone.

ECONOMIC AND NATIONAL IMPACT

Volunteerism does not only build communities—it also strengthens economies. Studies by the Philippine National Volunteer Service Coordinating Agency (PNVSCA) and international organizations show the measurable economic value of volunteer contributions:

1. Philippines: Volunteerism contributes about 0.6% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) (2009 data).
2. United Kingdom: 1.3% of GDP (2014).
3. United States: USD 297.5 billion annually (2014).
4. Kenya: 3.66% of GDP (2018).
5. Australia (Victoria): 1.8% of GDP (2019).

KEY POINTS

Voluntary action strengthens civic values and contributes to both social and economic progress.

It empowers citizens to be partners in governance and nation-building.

Volunteerism has a measurable impact, contributing 0.6% of the Philippines' GDP, proving its economic and social value.

The spirit of bayanihan continues to guide Filipinos in creating communities built on service, empathy, and cooperation.

Every voluntary act, no matter how small, becomes part of a larger movement for peace and development.

CONCLUSION

Voluntary action stands as a cornerstone of nation-building and human development. It is more than a selfless act, it is a collective force that unites communities, strengthens civic values, and drives sustainable progress. When citizens, especially the youth, embrace voluntary action, they become partners in change and stewards of a better future. Each act of service, no matter how small, creates ripples of hope and solidarity that transform communities. In essence, voluntary action is not only about helping others, it is about building a nation anchored on empathy.

LESSON 3: ROLE OF THE YOUTH IN STRENGTHENING VOLUNTEERISM

INTRODUCTION

The youth are recognized as the most dynamic and influential sector in society. With their passion, creativity, and energy, they serve as key partners in promoting social change and national development. Volunteerism provides young people with meaningful opportunities to take part in community initiatives, contribute to sustainable development, and embody the Filipino value of bayanihan.

According to Republic Act No. 9418 (Volunteer Act of 2007) and the Philippine National Volunteer Service Coordinating Agency (PNVSCA), the participation of youth in volunteer programs strengthens civic engagement, promotes social responsibility, and builds a sense of shared purpose in nation-building. In line with the goals of the National Service Training Program (NSTP), youth volunteerism nurtures future leaders who are not only skilled but also compassionate, active, and service-oriented citizens.

THE YOUTH AS AGENTS OF CHANGE

Youth volunteers are not just helpers; they are innovators and changemakers. Their involvement in community service helps them build empathy, resilience, and social awareness. Volunteerism allows young people to:

1. Reinforce Social Capital – Build relationships and networks that foster trust and cooperation within communities.
2. Make Real Change – Tackle real-life problems and create meaningful impact through advocacy, service, and innovation.
3. Facilitate Respect and Empathy – Learn to understand the struggles of others and act with compassion.
4. Support Academic and Personal Growth – Develop essential life skills such as teamwork, leadership, and problem-solving through hands-on experience.
5. Promote National and Global Solidarity – Youth involvement supports not only national progress but also contributes to global goals such as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
6. Sustain a Culture of Service – Their enthusiasm and idealism keep the spirit of bayanihan alive, ensuring that volunteerism becomes a lifelong practice rather than a one-time effort.

BENEFITS OF YOUTH VOLUNTEERISM

Youth volunteerism benefits both individuals and the community.

1. For the Youth:
 - Develops leadership, teamwork, and problem-solving skills.
 - Strengthens personal discipline, empathy, and a sense of responsibility.
 - Enhances employability and readiness for future professional roles.
2. For the Community:
 - Builds unity and trust among residents.
 - Addresses local needs through creative and inclusive solutions.
 - Encourages participatory governance and civic awareness.
3. For the Nation:
 - Promotes patriotism and national solidarity.
 - Contributes to sustainable development and disaster resilience.
 - Strengthens the country's human and social capital.

KEY POINTS

The youth are essential partners in strengthening volunteerism and promoting nation-building.

Their energy and innovation transform volunteerism into a movement for empowerment and sustainability.

Volunteerism develops civic-minded, compassionate, and future-ready citizens.

By engaging in volunteerism, young people help build a more united, resilient, and compassionate Philippines.

REFLECTION

How does youth participation in volunteerism contribute to building stronger and more resilient communities?

In what ways can you, as a student, use your skills and passions to promote the spirit of volunteerism among your peers?

How can active youth involvement in volunteer work help strengthen national unity and support sustainable development in the Philippines?

ACTIVITY: FIND SOMEONE WHO HELPS!**INTRODUCTION**

This activity aims to help students recognize the various forms of volunteerism present in everyday life. By engaging with classmates who have participated in different acts of service, students will gain a deeper understanding of how individual contributions, no matter how small, strengthen communities and promote national development.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Stand up and move around the classroom to meet and talk with your classmates.
- Ask questions to find someone who has done the volunteer or helping activities listed on your worksheet.
- When you find a classmate who has done the activity, ask them to sign their name in the corresponding box.
- You can only write one name per box, and each classmate's name can appear only once on your sheet.
- Try to fill all the boxes by talking to as many classmates as possible.
- Once you've completed your sheet, return to your seat and reflect on what you learned about volunteerism and helping others.
- Be ready to share your insights during the class discussion after the activity.

FIND SOMEONE WHO...

tutored a classmate or younger student for free	joined a fundraising activity for a cause	participated in a tree-planting activity	joined a feeding program for children	volunteered during a school outreach
joined a barangay clean-up drive	helped during a relief operation after a typhoon	helped organize a church or parish event	donated old clothes or food to the poor or evacuees	volunteered as a student leader or class officer
participated in a community coastal clean-up	joined a youth development project.	helped during a barangay election or civic event	assisted in a school medical or dental mission	encouraged others to volunteer or help
helped neighbors rebuild after a disaster	joined a blood donation drive	assisted in community vaccination or health campaign	joined a youth camp or Sangguniang Kabataan project	helped take care of an elderly or sick family member
made or shared social media posts promoting kindness	shared knowledge or skills (like art, tutoring, or cooking) for free	volunteered to clean a classroom or public space	joined a local environmental or anti-plastic campaign	gave time to help classmates prepare for school events

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. What common volunteer activities did you notice among your classmates?
2. How do these actions reflect the Filipino value of bayanihan?
3. Which volunteer activity would you like to try next — and how can it help your community?

LEARNING ASSESSMENT: VOLUNTEERISM

PART 1: Choose the letter of the best answer. Read each question carefully and analyze the choices provided. Select the letter that corresponds to the most accurate or appropriate answer.

1. Volunteerism is primarily defined as:

- a) Paid service to improve one's professional experience
- b) The act of freely giving time, effort, and skills to help others without expecting payment
- c) Mandatory work required by government agencies
- d) A career-based approach to community development

2. The Filipino tradition of helping others without expecting anything in return is known as:

- a) Pakikisama
- b) Bayanihan
- c) Pakikipagkapwa-tao
- d) Kagandahang-loob

3. Which law institutionalized volunteerism as a national strategy for development?

- a) R.A. 9163
- b) R.A. 7722
- c) R.A. 9418
- d) R.A. 9512

4. The lead agency responsible for promoting and coordinating volunteer programs in the Philippines is:

- a) Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD)
- b) Philippine National Volunteer Service Coordinating Agency (PNVSCA)
- c) Department of Education (DepEd)
- d) National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA)

5. The three core elements of volunteerism are:

- a) Compassion, Empathy, and Cooperation
- b) Free Will, Unpaid Service, and Benefit to Others
- c) Empathy, Advocacy, and Involvement
- d) Service, Commitment, and Leadership

6. The law that defines volunteerism as an act promoting social justice, solidarity, and sustainable development is:

- a) R.A. 9003 – Solid Waste Management Act
- b) R.A. 9418 – Volunteer Act of 2007
- c) R.A. 10121 – DRRM Act of 2010
- d) R.A. 9729 – Climate Change Act

7. Which type of volunteering takes place within organized institutions like schools or NGOs?

- a) Informal Volunteering
- b) Governance Volunteering
- c) Formal Volunteering
- d) Project-Based Volunteering

8. Helping a neighbor rebuild their house after a typhoon is an example of:

- a) Formal Volunteering
- b) Non-Formal or Informal Volunteering
- c) Social Action Volunteering
- d) Governance Volunteering

9. Youth volunteerism contributes to national development by:

- a) Increasing unemployment rates
- b) Weakening civic engagement
- c) Building leadership, empathy, and social awareness
- d) Focusing on personal benefit only

10. The agency that recognizes the economic contribution of volunteerism amounting to 0.6% of the country's GDP is:

- a) PNVSCA
- b) DSWD
- c) DOLE
- d) DepEd

LEARNING ASSESSMENT: VOLUNTEERISM

PART 2: Read each statement carefully. Write the correct term or concept in the space provided.

- _____ 1. The act of freely offering one's time, effort, and skills for the benefit of others without expecting payment.
- _____ 2. The Filipino value that embodies unity, compassion, and collective effort.
- _____ 3. The law promoting volunteerism as a national strategy for social and economic development.
- _____ 4. The government agency that leads the coordination of volunteer programs in the country.
- _____ 5. The personal and voluntary motivation to help others without external pressure.
- _____ 6. An organized and structured type of volunteering often done through schools, NGOs, or institutions.
- _____ 7. A spontaneous or community-based form of volunteering motivated by immediate need.
- _____ 8. A form of volunteering that focuses on leadership, advocacy, and civic participation.
- _____ 9. The type of volunteering that promotes equality, justice, and inclusion through campaigns and social action.
- _____ 10. A time-bound volunteer effort focused on achieving a specific objective or project.
- _____ 11. The Filipino law that defines the principles, mechanisms, and policies of volunteerism in the country.
- _____ 12. The act of freely giving one's time and talent to support environmental, social, or educational initiatives that contribute to national development.
- _____ 13. A national value that continues to guide Filipinos in helping others during times of need.
- _____ 14. A youth organization or initiative that promotes volunteerism in schools and communities.
- _____ 15. A major benefit of volunteerism that builds trust, empathy, and cooperation across different sectors of society.

PART 3: Answer each question in at least 5–7 sentences. Reflect on what you have learned from the module and support your answers with examples (5 points for the answer).

1. As a student, how can you promote and sustain the spirit of volunteerism in your school or community, and why is it essential for nation-building?
