

Community Service

House Community Service and Sustainability Recognition Program

The mission of the HCSS (House Community Service and Sustainability) Program is to support student engagement in house communities to work together to develop community service and sustainability projects focused on community-identified needs, building stronger house community, modeling collaborative community partnerships and incorporating reflection.

The House Community Service and Sustainability Recognition Program is a specially designed leadership and community development program that encourages house communities to be involved in community service and sustainability projects on and off campus. Houses are also encouraged to involve faculty and staff throughout the process and spend time reflecting on their experiences as a community. House communities will be guided through the process of connecting with organizations, developing projects, engaging their house community and reflecting upon experiences. The focus of the process is learning and the development of strong house communities. House communities will be asked to complete an end of year project portfolio that creatively shares the house community's experiences of the year.

Houses or individuals within houses that are interested in having their house communities participate should complete the below information form. Based on the information 8-10 houses will be selected to participate in the program for the 09-10 academic year. The selected houses will receive support, encouragement and guidance to maximize learning and development throughout the year. There will be 2-3 meetings each semester that participating houses will need to send representatives.

If you have questions about the program you can search the website at:
<http://www.smith.edu/sao/reslife/hcsp.php> or you can contact:

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Hannah Durrant
Asst. Director of Residence Life
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Application Information

Contact Person Name:

Phone Number:

E-mail Address:

House:

In an essay form please discuss the following topics and return to Tiertza-Leah Schwartz
(tschwartz@smith.edu):

- How do you believe community service and/or sustainability projects can support the growth of a strong house community?
- Discuss how you and your community will develop relationships with community organizations.
- What do you see as the advantages of involving faculty and staff in your house's experiences?
- What initial, rough ideas do you have for projects?