

# HOW TO ENSURE YOUTH SERVICE AND VOLUNTEERISM PROGRAMS LEAD TO LIFE-LONG ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP.

Research tells us that we can ensure youth service and volunteerism programs lead to young people engaging as life-long changemakers and citizens by:

- 1 Connecting volunteer or service projects to **YOUNG PEOPLE'S INTERESTS**.
- 2 Ensuring the work young people do meet **REAL NEEDS** and that young people are given the opportunity to **TAKE MEANINGFUL ACTION**.
- 3 Ensuring **STRONG COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS** and that young people connect with decision-makers.
- 4 Ensuring respectful **INTERGENERATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS AND MENTORSHIPS** are prioritized.
- 5 Ensuring young people are **MEANINGFULLY ENGAGED IN THE LEADERSHIP AND DECISION-MAKING** structures of the organization(s) with whom they are working.
- 6 Ensuring that programs integrate **TIME FOR REFLECTION** and that these conversations are linked to systematic issues and long-term action.

