Community Partner Questions for Considering Service-Learning

Use these questions to explore the potential role for service-learning for your agency.

1) What are some direct service activities in which IU students could participate that would meet a genuine need of your agency?
2) How many service-learning students could your agency accommodate in these activities each semester?
3) How many hours would you like for a service-learner to serve at your agency each week? Does your agency have a minimum hour requirement for service-learners or volunteers? What are the hours of operation in which direct service-learners would be working at your agency?
4) Would service-learners need to complete a background check? Is there a cost? If so, who covers this cost?
5) What kind of orientation would you provide for these service-learners? Who would provide this orientation? Where would it take place? Is there a regularly scheduled time? If so, during what hours?
6) Who would supervise these service-learners on site?
7) What are some needs of the agency that could be met by student projects or research?
8) If the course instructor requests that an agency representative visit the class to introduce the agency and the project or to visit at the end of the semester to view final projects, who at your agency would likely be the contact?
9) What would you like the service-learning faculty member to know about your agency before sending students there? How would you impart this information to the faculty member?
10) What expectations would you like the faculty to set with their students before they arrive on site?
11) How will you help the students to learn about your agency and the needs of the population your agency serves?
12) How do you plan to communicate with the faculty member about the students’ performance? Will it be initial, periodic or on-going?
13) How do you intend to create a true partnership with the service-learning faculty member? What makes this relationship a true partnership? How can this be established, nurtured and maintained?
14) How will you help students be responsible and professional at your agency?
15) What will you do if the students are not professional or do not meet agency expectations?