**Service Learning Paper – Sociology 1306 – Social Problems**

Your participation in Collin County Community College’s ***Service Learning* *Program*** is designed to involve you in volunteer community service that addresses local needs and, at the same time develop your academic skills, sense of civic responsibility, and commitment to the community.

Since the goal of the organization you have chosen is to directly address and attempt to alleviate perceived social problems in the community, the “hands-on” experience you receive should provide a deeper understanding of the problem and those it affects *and* the practical difficulties (i.e., resource mobilization; local politics) these organizations face.

In your paper you will (1) describe the social problem the organization is attempting to deal with. What are the parameters of the problem (i.e., statistics establishing the extent to which it exists; who is most directly affected, etc.)? Next, (2) describe the organization. What is the organization’s budget? Where do they get their funds? How many people are employed and/or work as volunteers? Next, you will (3) describe the work that you carried out during your 15 hours of service. Then, you will (4) examine the various ***tactics and strategies*** that have been used to organize, mobilize resources, and engage in direct action to affect meaningful change. Last, (5) taking into account *opposition forces and political context*, you will assess the extent to which the problem is being alleviated and the prospects for the future.