At the Pace Center for Civic Engagement, we help students live a meaningful life. We empower students through meaningful service to discover what moves them and realize the full potential of the Princeton student experience.

At its heart, service is the act of helping others. We know meaningful service goes beyond that. It’s a learning experience that leads to personal development and positive community impact. This approach means that students are often learning service; i.e. understanding the context of an issue and place and becoming more aware of themselves and their role in communities.

**Valuing community voices**
*Why are community voices so important?*
As allies and advocates we must stand with communities. With open minds we can learn from the knowledge they share with us. Listening to community voices is crucial to building bridges and having a positive impact.

**Purposeful action**
*How can we make a difference now and in the future?*
When we discover what moves us, we can find a life path that values service and enables us to grow from community builder and leader into an active citizen. Doing something meaningful leads to caring and taking action now and later in life.

**Expanded worldview**
*How can we see the world in new ways?*
Community interaction forces us to shift our perspective. It expands our understanding of the root causes of societal issues and helps us develop a more purposeful sense of responsibility to the larger good.

**Personal development**
*How can we grow and transform?*
Working with others exposes us to new ideas and challenges us to stretch beyond our own vantage point. Such transformation gives us the chance to take action, show initiative, be creative and resourceful, achieve a deepened sense of empathy, and grow confidence.

**Inspired learning**
*What lessons can we learn outside the classroom?*
Active engagement enhances civic and societal knowledge, the understanding of public issues, and a greater awareness of the context and complexity of issues. To be meaningful, service must include reflection, questioning, and learning.