

Community Service Organizations

Service League members promote these Chicago organizations through direct contributions and volunteer activities:

The **Chicago Commons Association**, successor to the Mary McDowell Settlement Project, fosters lifelong learning through education and maintains a wide range of programs for all ages.

The **Hyde Park Neighborhood Club** is a community center serving the Hyde Park-Kenwood area, where children of all ages from diverse backgrounds enjoy fun and educational activities including out-of-school time in a warm and safe environment.

St. Martin de Porres House of Hope is a shelter for homeless women and their children. Services include food and shelter; health care; an intensive substance abuse program; educational, vocational, and life-skills training; employment and housing placement; and outreach services for residents after they leave the shelter.

The **Hyde Park and Kenwood Hunger Program's Open Kitchen** serves free lunches to around 100 to 200 people every Monday through Friday at the Kenwood United Church of Christ. Service League members assist with food preparation and service on the fourth Friday of the month.

The **Delta Literacy Project** provides adults with one-on-one tutoring in reading and math.



Festive luncheon at the Annual Benefit and Bazaar at the Quadrangle Club.



Volunteering at the Greater Chicago Food Depository.



Conversation and refreshments follow members' meetings.



University of Chicago Service League
www.ucserviceleague.org

The University of Chicago Service League is a group of community-minded women who support local community service organizations, meet monthly October-April for general interest programs (open to men) followed by tea and conversation, and meet in a variety of scheduled Special Interest Groups.

The Service League was founded in 1895 by University of Chicago faculty wives to foster interest in and to give financial support to the University Settlement House, to study sociological questions, and to promote social activities.

Service League members have supported the programs of the Settlement House founder, Mary McDowell, and her successors in myriad ways. Through the years the League has supported local organizations with both contributions and volunteer service.

Members serve on the boards of the Chicago Commons Association and Hyde Park Neighborhood Club, prepare food at the Hyde Park and Kenwood Hunger Program, teach at St. Martin de Porres House of Hope, and tutor adults in the Delta Literacy Project.

The **Fall Benefit and Bazaar**, our most important and popular fund-raising event of the year, supports the League's community service organizations. This annual celebration on a November Saturday includes a bazaar, luncheon, and short program. Orchid lovers relish the fact that the attractive centerpieces are for sale.

Special Interest Groups address the diverse interests of the members. The following sections meet in members' homes or elsewhere in the community:

The **Book Discussion Group** meets on the first Tuesday evening of the month to discuss current and classic books, fiction and nonfiction.

The **Contemporary Civics Group** discusses important issues of the day on the second Wednesday morning of the month.

The **Dining Out Group** meets bi-monthly for lunchtime restaurant outings.

The **French Group** meets on the second Tuesday afternoon of the month for intermediate-level conversation.

The **Games Group** meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month to play various games chosen by members.

The **Movies Group** meets on the second Thursday of the month at the Hyde Park Art Center to view and discuss films.

The **Music Group** plans programs in various venues including libraries, schools, churches, and members' homes.

The **Needlework Group** meets on the second Tuesday evening of the month and represents a range of skills including knitting, quilting, and needlepoint.

The **Spanish Group** meets every Thursday for conversation, reading novels and periodicals in Spanish and visiting museums and restaurants.

The **Twice-Read Books Group** meets on the third Tuesday of the month to revisit and share perspectives on old favorites.

The **Walking Group** meets on Tuesday mornings, weather permitting.

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These **professional services** are available to our members at reduced rates:

Computers. George Rumsey offers members a half-price rate for his computer classes in the Hyde Park Bank Building. This includes popular software programs such as Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint, Photoshop, eBay, and social media courses. See more at www.computer-resource.com.

Physical Activities. Mary Rogel offers members weekly Qi-gong exercises for a nominal fee in the Hyde Park Bank Building. Call 773-955-9643 for details.

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Membership

For information about membership in the Service League, please contact the membership co-chair:

- Nadine Foster, 773-363-5732,
ServiceLeagueMembership@gmail.com

The University of Chicago Service League is a registered 501(c)(3) organization. Dues and donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.