Opportunities for Classroom Integrated Service-Learning Projects

1. **Jane Addams Week of Service**
   In December, service opportunities will be available for students interested in the life and work of Jane Addams and her pioneering work with settlement houses in Chicago during the progressive era. Students will be able to explore the work of Jane Addams and her commitment to support of immigrants, peace-making, and social supports for families.

2. **Martin Luther King, Jr. Month of Social Action**
   During the month of January, teachers and students can celebrate the legacy of Dr. King by participating in social action projects. The Civic Engagement and Service-Learning office collaborates with Chicago Cares and other organizations that offer action projects during January. CPS provides curriculum that enables classrooms to explore the organizing strategies of Dr. King.

3. **Cesar Chavez: Si Se Puede**
   In collaboration with the Governor Office and the Cesar Chavez Foundation, CPS works to develop service projects at schools that honor that life and legacy of Cesar Chavez. Projects should take place during the month of March, with a celebration day at the end of the month. Curriculum, project ideas, and other resources are available to assist teachers with projects.

4. **Chicago Youth Service Day/CPS Community Peace Makers Initiative**
   The Service-Learning Initiative works with DePaul University and a coalition of ten organizations planning service projects in April. Schools are invited to have at least one group of students volunteering during Chicago Youth Service Day. Teachers may organize their own service project or participate in the Community Peace Makers Initiative. All students will gather for a Chicago Youth Service Day Peace Rally in April.

5. **Adopt-an-Ecosystem**
   Teachers can link up with one of several environmental organizations that help students adopt a local ecosystem (park, river, beach, forest preserve) and preserve and enhance it. Curricular resources, field experience coordination and staff support are available from each organization in the initiative.

6. **Housing and Homelessness**
   Teachers and their students involved in a partnership with the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless can develop service project ideas ranging from serving meals, to light rehab work, to hosting special days for children. Curriculum is available to enable students to explore the issues of homelessness. Coalition staff is available to make presentations at schools. Students can participate in lobbying efforts on behalf of the homeless in Springfield. Classrooms can schedule a speaker from the Coalition who has been or is currently homeless.

7. **Hunger and Poverty**
   Teachers can engage their students in study and action around the problem of hunger and poverty. The Greater Chicago Food Depository has several opportunities available at its site to host students for service and study around the issues. CPS also makes curriculum available for use in the classroom.
Additionally, teachers can link with countless local food pantries around the city, participate in hunger walks, Hunger Day activities, participate in the Race Against Hunger, etc.

8. Public Media
Each year WTTW/Channel 11 conducts fundraising drives in September, December, and March. Students in communications, journalism, or other courses can link their studies to a service opportunity at WTTW. Students can learn about the importance of public media, get a tour of the WTTW operation, and provide a critical community service.

9. Election Year Service
Upcoming elections are a great way to introduce students to civic engagement. Students can serve as election judges, election observers, register voters, conduct get out the vote campaigns, develop voter education guides, etc. CPS has curriculum available to enable students to understand the dynamics of the electoral process and get ready to vote (or encourage others to vote).

10. Saving Lives through Blood Donation
LifeSource and American Red Cross are prepared to work with CPS high schools across the city to help schools sponsor blood drives. Resources are available to teachers to help link a blood drive to classroom study. Students are encouraged to take the lead in marketing and hosting a blood drive. Remember, only students who organize the blood drive are eligible for service-learning hours.

11. Chicago Cares
Chicago Cares has dedicated staff members who are ready to connect your curriculum integrated project idea with a viable community organization in the city. Chicago Cares provides the knowledge and experience to provide the critical links between the school and the community.

12. Recycling Clubs
Resources are available to help teachers develop recycling clubs at their schools to improve the amount of paper, glass, and plastic recycled within Chicago Public Schools.

13. Junior Achievement
Classrooms can participate in the High School Heroes program through which students learn about community credit issues and then prepare and implement lessons for pupils at nearby feeder elementary schools.

14. Race Against Hunger
Students learn about the problem of global and domestic hunger then plan a community race to both raise awareness and funds for hunger action around the world.

15. Intergenerational Connections
Professional development, curricular resources, and connections to senior facilities are available through the Service-Learning Initiative for teachers interested in connecting their studies with service opportunities with senior citizens.

For information about any of these initiatives contact the Service-Learning Coach at your school or email jmmarshall2@cps.edu or ccsalgado@cps.edu, or call 773/553-6391 or 773/553-6392.