KEEPING A PERSONAL JOURNAL
REFLECTION QUESTIONS EXAMPLES

Before You Begin (answer these questions before you start your service-learning)

1) Describe what you will be doing
2) What kind of social/community need will you be addressing?
3) Why do you think that need exists?
4) What would it take to resolve that need?
5) What are your expectations about
   a. The neighborhood or community where you will be serving
   b. The organization with which you will be serving
   c. The people with whom you will be serving
   d. How your service will relate to what you will be learning in class
6) What do you look forward to, and what concerns you?

Daily Reflection (answer these questions each time you serve)

1) Describe today
2) What did you do today?
3) How did your actions affect others today?
4) How do you feel about that?
5) How does what you are observing relate to what you are doing and learning in class?

At the Beginning (answer these questions after the first few times you have served)

1) What are your first impressions?
2) How do you feel about the people you are working with?
3) What is different than what you expected? (you may want to refer back to your pre-service reflections)

Mid-Semester (answer these questions when you are mid-way through your service)

1) How does your service activities compare to your initial understanding of what you would be doing?
2) What kinds of social/community needs are you addressing in your service?
3) How effective do you think you are in successfully address these needs?
4) What kinds of things serve as barriers to addressing these needs?
   a. Which of these barriers are within the control of you, the agency, and/or those being served?
   b. Which are beyond the control of you, the agency, and/or those being served?
   c. What does that mean to you?

Looking Back (answer these questions at the end of your service)

1) In what ways have you changed since you began your service (such as in your attitude, awareness, goals)
2) What do you think you accomplished?
3) What are the biggest challenges faced by the agency in meeting the needs of the people they served?
4) How did your service-learning experience affect your understanding of the topics and issues covered in your class?
5) How did the class influence your service-learning experience?