



Metropolitan Volunteer Program
Student Fees Advisory Committee Program Questionnaire FY2027
Director: Jordan Porter
Assistant Director: Allen Cao

Questionnaire completed by (Jordan Porter, MVP Director, mvpdir@central.uh.edu):

1. Please provide in brief terms: your unit's mission, goals that support your mission, and a justification of your unit's student fee allocation in terms of benefits for students.

Mission: The Metropolitan Volunteer Program (MVP) at the University of Houston aims to create and provide service opportunities for students by collaborating with campus and community partners to address social issues and build lasting relationships between the University and the Houston community, while developing engaged student leaders committed to lifelong community service and social responsibility.

Accomplishing Our Mission: The Metropolitan Volunteer Program (MVP) accomplishes our mission by providing the diverse student body of the University of Houston with unique, flexibly scheduled, and accessible service and awareness opportunities that fall under the following social issue areas: Children & Education, Environment & Sustainability, Health & Wellness, and Hunger & Homelessness. MVP is made up of four committees, each led by a Chair and focused on one of the specific service areas mentioned above. Through the work of the committees, our volunteers are able to connect with these 4 different social issues and others, enabling them to engage with the issues that matter most to them. With the Chair's passion and expertise in the service area, meaningful and intentional dialogues are created through our service events. For example, if a student is studying education, we can directly connect them with tutoring or other education-related opportunities. Similarly, when groups request our assistance for volunteer/service events, we have a wide range of partnerships for specific service areas that we can connect them to. MVP continues to hold service as a core value of the organization, and we aim to ensure that students have access to opportunities that make a tangible and sustainable impact within the UH campus and local community. Within MVP, we offer co-chair positions for dedicated MVP members to take a step into a leadership position where they are able to get hands-on experience with our planning process.

Justification: MVP offers a large variety of service opportunities to UH students, faculty, and staff throughout the year. During FY 25, MVP hosted a total of 109 volunteer events, a 7% increase from the previous year's 102 events, reflecting the organization's continued growth and engagement across campus. Unique attendance across all events reached 1,611 individuals, with a total attendance of 2,306, demonstrating strong participation and sustained interest in MVP's service opportunities.

2. Please discuss the means that you are utilizing to evaluate your success in achieving the DSA strategic initiatives, as well as action steps in contributing to the retention of students. Where data exists, discuss any assessment measures and/or learning outcomes used to evaluate program success. Please provide the method for collecting this data.

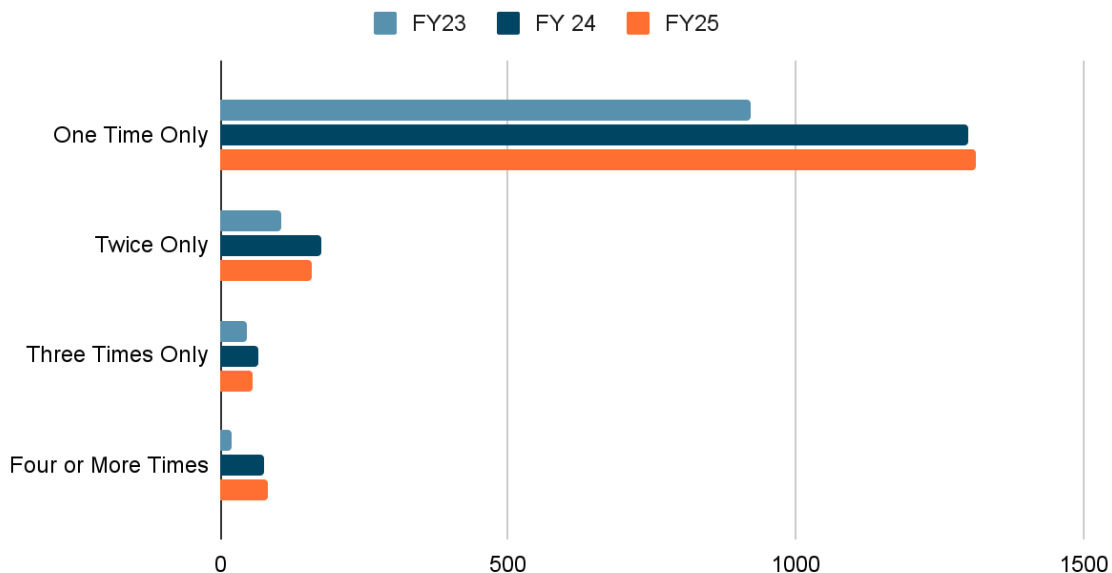
Attendance: MVP evaluates its success in achieving the Division of Student Affairs (DSA) strategic initiatives through a combination of quantitative data collection, qualitative feedback, and alignment with key departmental goals such as student engagement, leadership development, and community connection.

To measure impact, MVP tracks event attendance and volunteer participation through registration data collected via Get Involved and sign-in forms at each event. This data allows us to monitor both unique and repeat engagement, identify participation trends, and assess which service opportunities most effectively attract and retain students. In FY 25, MVP hosted 109 volunteer events, drawing 1,611 unique participants and totaling 2,924 instances of attendance.

In addition to participation metrics, MVP utilizes post-event surveys and reflection activities to assess student learning outcomes related to civic responsibility, leadership, and personal development. These surveys provide insight into how students connect volunteer experiences to broader social issues and personal growth, aligning with DSA initiatives that emphasize student success, belonging, and holistic learning. MVP also contributes to student retention by fostering a sense of community and purpose. Through consistent service opportunities and leadership roles within the organization, students develop transferable skills, meaningful relationships, and a stronger connection to the University of Houston. These experiences encourage continued involvement and promote persistence toward graduation.

MVP had a total attendance of 2,924 at all of its events in FY 25, with 1,533 unique individuals attending our programs. Our tracking for events in FY25 indicated that our volunteers logged 5,750 volunteer hours in the Get Involved platform through our events. We found that a high number of individuals have volunteered with MVP multiple times, indicating that our retention is high, in line with the previous year. For FY 25, we had 1,413 one-time volunteers, 160 people volunteered twice, 55 volunteered three times, and 82 volunteered four or more times. Please see the chart below.

Points scored



Our tracking showed our most popular events were Be the MVP and our two Volunteer Fairs, which had a combined total of 1,213 attendees. Over the years, we have found that many students want to participate in service-based events, but are unable to go off campus for an extended time or don't have transportation. To maintain our impact while including students unable to make it off campus, we began hosting on-campus service events, such as Service Nights. During these events, students would spend an hour creating service projects on campus, which were then donated to our community partners. Projects included care packages for local animal shelters and hygiene kits for both unhoused individuals and low-income schools. Last year, 304 students participated in Service Nights, representing an increase from 291 participants the previous year. This growth reflects continued student interest in accessible, on-campus service opportunities. Service Nights play a key role in MVP's engagement strategy by providing flexible, high-impact volunteer experiences that accommodate diverse student schedules while supporting community needs.

3. Please discuss any budget or organizational changes experienced since your last (FY2026) SFAC request, their impact on your programs, and your reason for implementing them. SFAC recognizes that some programs did not receive the funds that they requested, that some programs were impacted by additional expenses after the conclusion of the budget cycle, and that some programs may be ahead of or behind their self-generated income projections.

MVP received a 2% Base Budget reduction for FY26. This budget reduction has impacted our ability to provide sufficient quantities of food for our signature events, such as Volunteer Fairs. For this fiscal year, we will either purchase food for attendees for fewer events or get cheaper, less substantial food, like snack items, instead of the more substantial food we have been able to provide in the past. We will additionally need to order fewer promotional items and event giveaways, which enhance event experiences.