Key Good Practices in Community-based Learning Experiences

DIRECT SERVICE/ENGAGEMENT:
- **PURPOSE**: allows participants to engage in responsible and challenging actions for common good with a commitment to participate by and with diverse populations
- **PLANNING**: partner agency defines its needs and is included in program creation, recognizing that evolving circumstances may change program over time
- **PROCESS**: program clarifies participants’ responsibilities and time commitment with the best interest of all involved, and has a genuine, active, and sustained organizational commitment

REFLECTION:
- **PURPOSE**: structured and unstructured opportunities for participants to reflect critically on their service/engagement experience
- **PLANNING**: gather a variety of methods to ensure discussions and activities are in-depth and include a context for effective follow-up
- **PROCESS**: reflection on experience is ongoing and includes dialogue about community issues and needs for service/engagement

EDUCATION:
- **PURPOSE**: provides a larger context and background for issues explored throughout the safe and successful engagement experience
- **PLANNING**: articulates clear learning goals for all involved and identifies key educational material connected to experience
- **PROCESS**: preparation for participants includes student training which clarifies responsibilities and risk management issues and introduces educational component; throughout experience there is supervision, monitoring, support, recognition, and evaluation to meet service and learning goals