Summer Service Ambassadors is a new partnership from YouthServe and Big City Mountaineers! This dynamic program aspires to bring together service-minded youth, from diverse backgrounds across the Birmingham metro region. Our mission is to provide a platform for these young leaders to deepen their connections with the community while actively addressing its needs through collaborative service projects and immersive outdoor camping expeditions.

**PROGRAM FAQS**

**Who can apply?** Any youth (ages 13-18) who are interested in service and can fully commit to participating in this program throughout summer 2024! Applicants also must view the required info session (learn more on page 3)

**When can I apply?** Between February 13 and March 16

**Where do I apply?** The application form at youthservebham.org

**When will the program take place?** June 1 to July 31, 2024

**What is the time commitment?** Summer Ambassadors must attend regular meetings, participate in at least two Service Days, and attend at least one of three Outdoor Explorations (dates TBA)

**Can I earn service hours?** Yes! This Ambassadors program offers over 50 service hours if all opportunities are taken!
1. Youth-Led Service Projects: Ambassadors will be empowered to take charge of service initiatives aimed at addressing the unique needs of the Birmingham community. These projects serve as a tangible means for the youth to make a positive impact and foster a sense of responsibility towards community welfare.

2. Regular Workshops and Planning Sessions: Much like the YouthServe Leadership Councils, Ambassadors will hold meetings. These sessions include workshops and project planning activities, providing a structured platform for skill development, idea exchange, and collaborative planning.

3. Dedicated Student Leadership: Prospective Ambassadors are carefully selected based on their dedication to service and their ability to fully commit to the program's requirements. The emphasis is on building a team of passionate, responsible, and proactive young leaders who are committed to making a difference in their community.

4. Connection to Nature & Community Building: Inspired by Big City Mountaineers, the Ambassadors program recognizes the transformative power of connecting youth to nature. While our focus is community-based service, we acknowledge the importance of fostering a sense of connection to the environment as a means to strengthen life skills, build community bonds, and promote personal growth.

5. Catalyst for Positive Impact: Like Big City Mountaineers, the Ambassadors believe that impactful experiences can catalyze personal, social, and community development. By providing a platform for caring adult volunteers with diverse life experiences to mentor and guide our youth, we aim to amplify the positive impact of our programs on the development of values and life skills.
VIRTUAL INFO SESSION

There will be a virtual information session held on **February 13 at 6pm CT**. All applicants will be REQUIRED to view this information session! The Zoom link to join can be found at youthservebham.org.

*Can't make it? Don't worry—the recording will be posted on YouthServe’s website afterwards for those who are unable to join the live session.*

APPLY BY MARCH 16!
What is YouthServe?

YouthServe is dedicated to empowering diverse youth leadership through civic engagement, service and philanthropy. Youth are given the space, tools, guidance, and opportunity to reflect on community challenges and take action to make positive change. Activities are conducted through in-school programming, after-school leadership programming, and summer service days. Over 1000 youth from more than 50 schools participate in programs annually, contributing upwards of 5000 hours to communities across metro Birmingham.

What is Big City Mountaineers?

Big City Mountaineers brings the transformative power of time spent in nature to a generation of young people who face increased barriers to outdoor access. A BCM experience helps youth better connect with themselves, with nature, with their community, and with a sense of joy. By providing free, fully outfitted, and professionally led outdoor and backcountry trips, BCM is able to give youth the opportunity to strengthen their skills, their mental and physical health, their social-emotional well being, and help them become better stewards of the planet.