The Active Citizen Continuum

Member
Not concerned with their role in social problems.

Volunteer
Well-intentioned but not well-educated about social issues.

Conscientious Citizen
Concerned with discovering root causes; asks why?

Active Citizen
Community becomes a priority in values and life choices.

Pre-Break Transformation
Prepare students for on-site experience and provide initial education about site-specific social issues.
- Education, orientation, and training
- Pre-break direct service
- Preflection: goals and expectations
- Icebreakers and group building

On-Break Transformation
Encourage participants to look critically at the root causes of social issues and challenge them to evaluate the role they have in the community.
- Strong direct service
- Ongoing education
- Community involvement
- Daily reflection tied to direct service and social issue education

Post-Break Transformation
Help participants find avenues for continued community involvement and support their efforts to take action locally.
- Organize or join small groups of thoughtful, committed citizens
- Continued education
- Reflection about reorientation process
- Post-break direct service, advocacy, and philanthropy
- Life choices that benefit the community