

# Miss Louisiana & Miss Louisiana's Teen COMMUNITY SERVICE INITIATIVE

Miss America's Community Service Initiative is an integral part of the interview phase of competition, supporting one of the branded elements of Miss America as outlined by the "Four Points" of the crown. The "Four Points" are Style, Scholarship, Service and Success. Your Community Service Initiative is specific to the **SERVICE** point of the crown.

The Community Service Initiative allows you, as a participating contestant, to showcase and deploy your interests and creativity, to outline a plan or effort to engage within your local community or state existing programs. You may also design your own program for your community or state.

**This ONE page submission in 12 point, Arial Style FONT only, should include the following:**

- A description of your Community Service Initiative or interest
- Why you chose this particular initiative
- How you've partnered or will partner with local/state communities to create momentum
- Any social media or marketing strategies that support your Community Service Initiative
- Any activities you have planned or participated in with respect to your Community Service Initiative

You may use bullet points within your essay.

To be submitted via link at [misslouisiana.org](http://misslouisiana.org) under forms & resources.

**Name and Local Title**  
at Top Left of page

Sally Smith  
Miss Pecan Pie

### **Children at Risk**

Currently, 2.4 million students in America are diagnosed with a learning disability such as ADD, ADHD, Dyslexia, and Autism and receive special education services in our schools. Genetics and poor prenatal care are two of the main causes of learning disabilities. The symptoms of a learning disability may increase if a child is surrounded by certain circumstances such as child abuse and a lack of early childhood education.

A learning disability can put great strain on a person in both his child and adult life. Slower learning speed, self-esteem issues, social awkwardness, and bullying all affect these children. I have seen first-hand what a child with a disability goes through. It is difficult for them to make acceptable grades due to self-esteem issues and constant frustration. People often give up hope on those who battle such disabilities without giving them a true chance.

A disability may not be easy to overcome, but with the right motivation it is possible. I would like to help children learn to work around their disability and reach their true potential. My plan to help eliminate the problem facing numerous children in the world is to prevent children with learning disabilities from losing hope within themselves.

The resolution is simple:

- Educate Parents – Parents need to be educated on various topics such as prenatal care, the importance of early education, symptoms of learning disabilities, and the appropriate actions to take while raising a child with a learning disability.
- Educate Schools – Schools need to take a more proactive role by recognizing the symptoms of a learning disability. With so many children being diagnosed with these disabilities, it is important that schools determine the disorder early to ensure a student does not fall too far behind in school.
- Educate Corporate America – Businesses fail to give people with a learning disability a chance because they automatically assume the employee will be unable to perform certain tasks. However, those with learning disabilities think differently than those without a disability, and they bring many new, creative ideas to the table.
- Educate Students – It is important for students to be aware of their disability and how to manage it. They need to be reassured that their disability does not define them. Instead, they should focus on their abilities rather than their disabilities.

I believe the Miss Louisiana Organization can help me achieve this goal. Miss Louisiana enables titleholders with numerous opportunities to work with children throughout the year. The title of Miss Louisiana would allow me to reach children who need the most encouragement in order to produce self-confident and well-rounded members of society.