



**Metropolitan Volunteer Program
FY 2027 Student Fees Advisory Committee
One-Time Request #2**

FY2026 One-Time Request #2 – Cesar Chávez Day of Service

The Metropolitan Volunteer Program's (MVP) FY27 One-Time Request is as follows:

MVP believes that this request will allow us to more effectively meet the needs of the city of Houston and the Third Ward community. If approved, these funds will provide students with the opportunity to continue engaging with MVP throughout the school year and to learn how to create positive, sustainable change in our community.

MVP hosted Cesar Chavez Day of Service for the first time in March 2024. This event provided students with the opportunity to unite around a common theme of service and its impact, celebrating the work of Cesar Chavez. As one of the most diverse campuses in the United States, UH is uniquely positioned to highlight its legacy and connect it to the lived experiences of our students and the surrounding community. As a nationally recognized day of service, this event allows MVP to strengthen a culture of service at UH, while also connecting students to broader community impact. Campuses such as the University of Texas at Austin also observe this day, offering students opportunities to engage in service on and around their campus. As a first-time event, MVP did not have dedicated funding for Cesar Chavez Day of Service. Instead, each committee contributed budget savings and sought outside donations for food and beverages. MVP's budget savings were used to provide transportation on one UH shuttle to the service site, which supported nearly 100 students in attendance. Due to the strong turnout, many students participated in the on-campus service site. If this request is granted, MVP hopes to expand the event to include a second off-campus service site, requiring two UH shuttles, while also increasing food offerings and providing a themed event giveaway to enhance the student experience.

The Cesar Chavez Day of Service aligns closely with the Division of Student Affairs' mission and values by creating an environment where students find belonging and purpose through service. By honoring the legacy of Cesar Chavez, students are connected to one another and to their community in a way that strengthens the value of community at UH. The event ensures care by making service accessible to all students through transportation, food, and supplies, while empowering them to step into leadership roles and engage in meaningful service that fosters awareness and personal growth. Collaboration is at the core of the program, as MVP collaborates with community partners and UH departments to bring the event to life. Expanding the program to additional service sites reflects MVP's innovation, ensuring that students' evolving interests are met. Finally, through transparent budgeting, planning, and reporting, MVP demonstrates integrity in carrying out its mission and in stewarding university resources.

Nationally, Cesar Chavez Day of Service is recognized across multiple institutions, but few campuses have developed a large, student-led program tied directly to the event. The University of Texas at Austin observes the day with service opportunities, but these are typically department-led or offered through registered student organizations. By contrast, the University of

Houston stands out with a University-Sponsored Organization that builds a signature event around this nationally recognized day. MVP's approach ensures that service is not only accessible but also tied directly to cultural identity, community partnerships, and long-term student engagement. This positions UH as a leader in integrating heritage-based service events into the broader student experience.

Summary of Expenses:

Transportation	\$1,080.00
Food and Beverages	\$787.50
On-Site Service Supplies	\$350.00
Marketing	\$400.00
Promotional Item	\$800.00
Subtotal	\$3,417.50
UH Admin Fee (6%)	\$205.05
Total	\$3,622.55

The Metropolitan Volunteer Program thanks you for your thoughtful consideration of our request.