Pre-Project/Application Checklist

☐ Attend a Rich-Collins CLIF information session.

☐ Brainstorm an initial project idea that you believe would make a significant & measurable impact upon the local greater Waltham community.

☐ Connect with the Department of Community Service staff to learn more about potential community partners that could align well with your project idea and to review community needs.

☐ Conduct research about the community climate and current resources available in this area to accurately assess whether there are unmet community needs.

☐ Contact community partner(s) to establish an initial start-up meeting to determine partnership fit.

☐ Select your main community partner for your Rich/Collins CLIF application. Approach community partner about project. Request them to fill out the Letter of Support for your application.

☐ Identify possible staff mentors & arrange initial start-up meetings with these individuals.

☐ Set initial parameters for project impact, target population, & scope. Identify specific & measurable outcomes for your project that meet unmet community needs.

☐ Brainstorm/design an evaluation & assessment process to measure your project’s outcomes.

☐ Outline potential challenges and obstacles that could impede you from leading this project. Consider the costs, human resources, & time needed to make this project independent/sustainable.

☐ Determine how you will engage Brandeis peers in this project & what marketing tools you will use.

☐ Create a plan about how you will educate Brandeis & the local community about your work.

☐ Form a potential working support group to help run the program during the project period.

☐ Research potential costs for all components of your project (logistics, assessment, etc.)

☐ Create a well-designed & effective budget for your project needs. Put in Budget proposal form.

☐ Attend resume workshop or set up meeting with the Hiatt Career Center to prepare resume.

☐ Double check and turn in Budget Proposal, Letter of Support, Application, & Project Action Form.
Part 1

☐ Set-up regular meetings with your community partner and staff mentor.

☐ Participate in regular leadership training with your program cohort on a monthly basis.

☐ Finalize your project timeline to align with your community partner’s needs and your SMART goals.

☐ Design processes that you will utilize to train your working group & volunteers in key components (risk management, community population information, professionalism, tracking hours, reflection).

☐ Schedule regular meetings with DCS staff to touch base about your initiative and address concerns.

☐ Recruit and select volunteers.

☐ Train volunteers. (Risk management, community contextualization, professionalism, etc.)

☐ Have all volunteers complete volunteer waivers and return to Department of Community Service.

☐ Create a process to track all volunteer hours to submit via SAGE.

☐ Reminder volunteers to track hours.

☐ Plan any transportation logistics.

☐ Purchase supplies for project in consideration with your budget.

☐ Plan reflection and appreciation activities for all volunteers.

☐ Implement project in accordance to your project timeline.

☐ Implement education initiatives for the community.

☐ Start planning for end of year symposium presentation.
Part 2

☐ Send a formal thank you note to your community partners

☐ Send a formal thank you note to your staff mentor.

☐ Send a formal thank you note to the Rich/Collins donors.

☐ Host reflection and appreciation activities for all volunteers.

☐ Evaluate your project, using your evaluation and assessment plan.

☐ Meet with the Hiatt Career Center to discuss how to add this experience to your resume.

☐ Share all evaluation data with your community partner, volunteers, and DCS staff.

☐ Prepare for and present at the end of year Rich/Collins symposium.

☐ Talk with DCS Staff if interested in applying for 2nd year of funding (will have to reapply).