A guide to...

Service in the Summer

New York District of Circle K International
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Introduction

Now that the weather is beautiful and that Fall term seems far away, why not celebrate by serving your community! Whether you are at home, at school or abroad for the summer, there are plenty of opportunities to help the communities that you become a part of during your break. Throughout this guide, you will encounter some service project ideas as well as some awesome ways to connect with other K-family organizations during the summer months! As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Enjoy!

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Beach Clean-up

Have a beach day! Come down to a local beach and help keep the environment beautiful!

Supplies:
- Garbage Grabbers
- Trash Bags
- Large Vehicle (if transporting off-site)
- Sunscreen
- Water
- Snacks
- Other beach supplies to relax after!

Planning Timeline: Up to 2 weeks (depending on county requirements and donations)

Planning Steps:
1. Contact your desired location to learn their procedure for trash collection and removal
   - Is there a group already dedicated to this? If so, can you help this group for a day?
   - Is there a place to leave collected trash? If so, where is it? Is it off-site?
2. Find a group of volunteers
   - Exchange contact information
3. Agree on date for event
   - Agree on alternative rain date
4. Organize transportation to and from site
5. Acquire supplies
   - Explore the possibility of donations
6. Confirm details of event
7. Enjoy a productive day at the beach!
Charity Walks

Supplies:
- Yourself!
- Transportation to the event
- T shirts
- Art supplies (optional)

Timeline: 2-3 weeks before the event

Planning Steps:
1. Locate a charity walk in your area
2. Create a team
3. Create matching t shirts or use pre made matching shirts
4. Arrive at the event early
5. Volunteer or walk
6. Enjoy the fellowship!
Community Garden

Supplies & Gardening Tools:
- Land
- Seeds
- Lumber/Fencing
- Watering Can
- Dirt/Fertilizer
- Miracle-Gro
- Planting Pots
- Weed Killer/Bug Repellent
- Shovel

Planning Steps:
1. Contact local town hall for information regarding a community garden
   a. If one already exists: contact coordinator and ask how you may be of help
   b. If one does not exist: organize a meeting of interested people
2. Form a planning committee
3. Identify necessary resources
4. Find a sponsor (possibly Kiwanians)
5. Choose a site
6. Prepare and develop site
7. Organize garden
8. Communicate!
9. Harvest/donate and enjoy

Timeline: 1 week to get started, 5-6 weeks of maintenance and harvesting
Craft Donation

Organize an event of fellowship as well as blanket and pillow-making to help local shelters prepare for the fall!

Supplies:

- Crafting equipment (sewing machines, knitting needles, etc.)
- Scissors
- Fabric and yarn
- Stuffing for pillows if desired
- Crafty volunteers!
- Drinks and Snacks
- Movies

Timeline: up to 1 week

Planning Steps

1. Find volunteers who enjoy crafting and/or would love to learn!
   - Make sure volunteers without experience will have crafting equipment available on the day of the event.
2. Find shelter to accept these items
3. Pick a date and location to host this event
4. Purchase snacks
5. Purchase crafting equipment and fabric/yarn and needed
   - Sewing and knitting skills are not necessary! Blankets and pillows can be made by cutting and tying fabric together (Click here to learn how to make fleece tie blanket)
6. Enjoy fellowship and creating items together!
Picnic for a Cause

Supplies:
- Picnic food & drinks
- Plates, cups, utensils
- Tables and/or cloths
- Games

Timeline:
- 1-2 weeks - leave more time if advertising to larger audience than home club members, if park permit is needed, etc.

Planning Steps:
1. Choose a location! Typically an open area in a local park is good for this type of event. Depending on how many people you’re expecting and the typical amount of people who use the park, you may want to reserve the space (this may be free, may not be).
2. Decide who’s bringing the food, drinks, plates, cups, utensils, etc.
3. Decide on admission cost
   Keep in mind the cost of running the picnic, how much you want to donate to charity, and the financial means of the people attending.
4. Promote the picnic
5. Day of: Make sure to set up admission table, food table, and have a good time!
Produce Collection

Visit markets and collect “ugly” yet usable produce to help incorporate healthy foods into meals for low-income families!

Supplies:
- Farmer’s Market and/or Grocery Store
- Large Vehicle (for transportation of produce off-site)
- Boxes and Bags

Timeline: Up to 3 weeks (Depending on size of market and organization in your area)

Planning Steps
1. Determine if there is an organization in your area dedicated to this cause.
   - For example, Rochester, NY has Flower City Pickers!
   - If so, all you have to do is gather a group of volunteers and collaborate with that group!
2. If not, don’t worry! Identify potential markets to receive donations from and give donations to.
3. Find a group of volunteers.
4. Find recipients and determine which days are available for drop off.
5. Contact all markets and see if they are interested.
   - If so, set a date to collect produce.
6. Organize transportation and supplies
7. Arrive at market on the day of event and collect produce.
8. Drop off produce to recipients the same day.
Yard Sale

Supplies:
- Things/donations to sell
- Table
- Sign to advertise sale
- Jar or somewhere to keep the cash
- Water and food, to sell as well

Timeline: Up to two weeks -- enough time to have an adequate amount of things to sell and to spread the word of the sale.

Planning Steps:
1. Decide where to have the yard sale.
2. Ask around and see who has things he or she would like to donate for the yard sale.
3. Spread the word -- disperse flyers around neighborhood, on social media, and possibly take out an ad in the newspaper.
4. Decide who will be setting up, cleaning up, and running the sale i.e. make shifts
5. Day of, arrive at venue and set up table. Make sure to be friendly to increase likelihood of selling things!
Finding K-Family Partners

Want to get involved with the K-family during summer break but don’t know where to start? Refer to these helpful links below to contact other local K-family organizations!

- New York Circle K Club Locator
  - [http://nycirclek.org/join/](http://nycirclek.org/join/)

- New York Kiwanis Club Locator
  - [http://www.kiwanis-ny.org/clubloc.htm](http://www.kiwanis-ny.org/clubloc.htm)
  - Contact local clubs to find Aktion, K-Kids and Builders clubs in your area!