

PLANNING WHAT COMES NEXT ACTION KIT

YOU'RE ABOUT TO ORGANIZE A SERVICE PROJECT AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR WORLD – WAY TO GO!

You made a big difference in your community! Now it is time to celebrate, and tell more people about your project so that they can follow your example. Keep going - your community needs you!

This action kit, created by Disney's Friends for Change and YSA, will help you build upon your project to make an even bigger difference!



1

THINK BIG

Your service project is just a beginning. How can you keep your project going and be a Friend for Change all year round?

- What would you need to make this project help even more people and organizations?
- How can you help more people learn about the issue you worked on and what they might do to help?
- Are there spin-off projects that you can think of to help your issue, or did your project help you to become more aware of other problems in your community?
- What could you do so that the impact of your project lasts long after your project ends?
- What are kids in other states or even in other countries doing to make a difference on this issue in their communities?



5 WAYS TO PLAN WHAT COMES NEXT

2

GREAT JOB!

Let people know how much you appreciate all their work!

- Send handmade cards, with a photo of the project.
- Have a party and celebrate the great job you did together. Ask the Mayor or another public official to come and give out Friends for Change certificates to all who participated with you.
- Nominate volunteers for awards like the President's Volunteer Service Award. Or, create your own awards to acknowledge something special: "For inviting many others to help" or "For smiling even when the work was hard".
- Be sure to thank any businesses that may have helped you with their donations of supplies, food, or employee time.

TIP:

As you are looking to continue, expand and keep your project going, think about what went really well. Ask your friends, family, neighbors, and the organizations you helped to share their ideas about how you could make an even bigger difference!

3

SHOW ME!

It's important to let others know how you did your project, to share your results, and give them ideas how they can get involved. Be creative!

- Make a video about how to organize a service project like yours. Plan to show it at school assemblies, neighborhood meetings, and even the City Council!
- Find out when the chapters of service organizations like Rotary or Lions Clubs meet and ask if you can make a presentation about your project. They will welcome you!
- Tell a local reporter about your project so that s/he can inform the public about what you were able to do.
- Make it a family tradition: Celebrate birthdays by serving together and invite your friends and their families to join you.

TIP:

Go viral! Share your project story with other kids everywhere by using social media, or by setting up and maintaining a special website about your project.



NOTES AND PROJECT IDEAS



4

COVER YOUR COSTS

Now that you have some experience in doing your project, you know what you need to make it bigger and even more successful. To expand what you achieved:

- Start looking for grant opportunities and apply early! You can write a very strong application because you already have your first project results to share.
- Ask any businesses that may have donated money or supplies to you to let other stores know you are continuing your project, and that you need their help, too.
- Think about how you can save money when continuing your project by re-using materials instead of buying new ones, or by borrowing supplies that you may not need to buy.

TIP:

Find out if there are young people or even youth organizations in other communities trying to change the same issue you are working on. Let them know what you are doing and see if there are ways that you could join your efforts together.



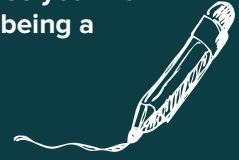


5

SO WHAT? NOW WHAT?

Now you know what it takes to make your community better and you are ready to make an even bigger mark.

- While your project was a huge help, the issue you worked on needs continuing support. Reach out to public officials and encourage them to become Friends for Change, too, by developing policies to really make a change for good.
- Find out about jobs and careers connected to the issue you worked on. Talk to people working in that field and find out how they prepared for the careers they have.
- Keep reading and learning about the issue you are interested in: follow blogs, read the news, talk to people who share your interests and volunteer to help them with their work!
- The possibilities are endless! Think of new ways to impact your issue – or use your new skills and project planning experience to tackle a new issue – and keep on being a Friend for Change!



We know you're working hard to make a positive lasting change in your world! Thanks for all you do and for inspiring others to take action, too!

NOTES AND PROJECT IDEAS

