

SERVICE PROJECT IDEAS

When it comes to service projects, Key Club members are dedicated. Each year, we devote more than 13.5 million hours to service. Below are many projects you can do — or get creative and spin off a project of your own. If it works well, be sure to share it!

Service projects for infants and toddlers

- [Make blankets or projects](#) for your local children's hospital [Project Linus](#).
- Knit baby [blankets, booties or hats](#) for newborns at your local hospital or in homeless shelters.
- Collect new and gently used stuffed animals and donate them to free community health clinics or shelters.
- Organize games and activities for children who are in hospitals or visiting hospitalized relatives.
- Collect baby clothes and supplies for donation to new parents.
- Hold a diaper drive and donate to a local women's shelter or home for new mothers..
- Collect, repair, clean and donate used toys to local shelters.

Don't see a project you relate to? No problem. Find more ideas [here](#).

Literacy projects

- Have a book drive for a local school. [Scholastic](#) book sales and [Betterworldbooks.com](#) are good places for find books.
- Take part in [LitWorld's Her Story Campaign](#) and give young girls in challenging communities a voice.
- Collect high school and college textbooks for [Books for Africa](#).
- Volunteer at the local library to help people read.

Find more project ideas [here](#).

Card writing projects

- Contact your local chapter of the Red Cross and ask them if your club can participate in the ["Holidays for Heroes" program](#).
- Make or buy greeting cards for kids at your local children's hospital for any holiday or occasion.
- Send signed greeting cards to club members who encounter health challenges, hardships, milestone birthdays or Kiwanis anniversary dates, etc.
- Write "thank-you" notes that can be passed out to teachers.
- Write letters or create cards for people who don't normally get them, like bus drivers, crossing guards, custodial staff, lunch and food services.

- Distribute cards to your local NICU on Prematurity Awareness Day on November 17. [March of Dimes](#) also offers an [electronic version your club could sign right now](#).

Kiwanis family programs/projects

- Purchase a [Terrific Kids](#) or [Bringing Up Grades](#) kit for a classroom, or refill items from the kits. Visit kiwanis.org/store.
- Partner with a [Builders Club](#) or [K-Kids club](#) to spruce up the school's grounds.
- Speak to a local middle or elementary school class about the importance of service and why you are passionate about it.

Helping the hungry and/or homeless

- Build a house with [Habitat for Humanity](#).
- Donate your old clothes to The Salvation Army, Goodwill Industries, Dress for Success or other worthy charities.
- Organize a food drive in your neighborhood, church or school. Then donate the food and volunteer at a local food pantry.
- Make care kits with shampoo, toothbrushes, combs, etc. to donate to homeless shelters.
- Prepare a home-cooked meal for the residents of a nearby homeless shelter or Ronald McDonald House.
- Collect grocery coupons to give to a local food bank.
- Donate art supplies, books or gently used board games to kids in a homeless shelter.
- Babysit children while their parents look for jobs.
- Organize a winter-clothes drive for a local shelter.
- Make first-aid kits for homeless shelters.
- Stuff socks with snacks and hand them out to homeless people.
- Grow extra vegetables or fruit at home or start a community garden to donate to a local food pantry.

Helping the environment/enhancing your community

- Clean up a local park, pond, river or lake.
- Volunteer at a nature camp and teach kids about the environment.
- Plant native flowers and plants along highways and in public areas.
- Paint or repaint park benches and community fences.
- Raise money to buy and install new playground equipment for a park or new plants.
- Campaign for more lighting along poorly lit streets.
- Adopt a local highway or road and clean up trash along it.
- Adopt a neighborhood and do a neighborhood cleanup.

General projects

- Shop online at [Kiwanis Warehouse to buy supplies for schools supported by the club.](#)
- Collect discarded cell phones and donate them to domestic-violence shelters.
- Collect used sporting equipment and donate to organizations such as [Level the Playing Field \(in the U.S.\)](#) or [International Alliance for Youth Sports](#), which works with the Peace Corps to deliver equipment worldwide.
- Collect used but wearable shoes and send them to [Soles4Souls](#), a charity that will find someone who needs them.
- Organize a community or school blood drive.
- Organize a car wash and donate the profits to charity.
- Volunteer to tutor kids before or after school.
 - Sponsor a bike-a-thon and give away helmets, knee pads and/or other safety gear.
- Sponsor a child living in a foreign country, either on your own or as part of a group.
- Coach a youth sports team.
- Share your talent. Give free music, art, computer, dance or sewing lessons to schoolchildren.
- Buy or build buddy benches for elementary schools so every child can find a friend.
- Work with a local Kiwanis club, the local health department and school nurse to set up an immunization day or clinic to immunize children against childhood diseases.
- Collect sleepaway camp items for [Camp Dreamcatcher, a program for children whose lives have been affected by HIV/AIDS.](#)
- Have a multi-club garage sale and donate money to a local cause.
- [Buy kits from KidKnits.org](#) so the clubs you sponsor can help women in Rwanda and Chile.
- Host a shoe party for [Sole Hope](#). Make shoes for kids in Uganda, where a foot parasite is crippling thousands of children.
- Hold a penny war. Find a charity you believe in and challenge classrooms to collect the most pennies for the cause.