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# CREATING LONG-TERM PROJECTS

## WHY CREATE A LONG-TERM COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT?

Many clubs are looking for a way to have a bigger impact on a specific issue, and one option is to form a partnership with an organization. Just like any relationship in your life, communication is essential in making the relationship work.

## STEPS TO CREATE A SUCCESSFUL PARTNERSHIP:

1. 4-H Members Identify a Community Need
  - Ex: Improving the living situation of residents in the local nursing home
2. Youth and Adults Engage In Conversation with Potential Partner
  - Indicate the club's intention of forming an ongoing relationship with their organization
3. Identify Needs Between the Two Partners
  - 4-H Members - looking for ways to improve the quality of living for elderly people
  - Nursing Home – looking for people to visit their residents, play games with them, help them with art projects, and assist in the gardens
4. 4-H Members Decide Activities
  - Appropriate activities for youth
    - i. Time of day
    - ii. Accessibility
    - iii. Age of members
    - iv. Financial resources of members and club
    - v. Ability of members
  - Fits into the club's plan of activities
  - Interests the members
  - Targets the initial purpose of community service
5. Youth and Adults Continue Conversations to Finalize Logistics
6. Evaluate the Activities & Communication Efforts Throughout
7. Continually Identify New Needs that Arise

## ENVISION THE IMPACT OF LONG-TERM PROJECTS

### **Nursing Home – Activities on Site**

- Summer – tend to flower beds, go on walks and hikes, play outdoor games, collect insects
- Fall - play bingo, collect leaves, make flower presses, take photos, present 4-H fair projects
- Winter – create door hangers, lead campfire songs, play indoor board games, watch movie
- Spring – plant garden, create window decorations, make family trees, have a senior spring dance

Continued...

## ENVISION THE IMPACT OF LONG-TERM PROJECTS

### **Nursing Home – Activities at Club Meetings**

- Members collect supplies for residents – gloves, socks, personal toiletries, etc...
- Club applies for a grant to plant trees near the nursing home
- Members create birthday bags for residents
- Members create holiday cards
- Members give presentations about something they learned about older generations
- Invite a resident to be a guest speaker and talk about their experience during a significant American event or period of time