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BUILDERS CLUB ELIMINATE WEEK

After seeing the success of [Trick or Treat for UNICEF](#) and hearing all of the positive feedback, one thing stands clear: Builders Club members are passionate about [The Eliminate Project](#) and saving lives around the world. This year, we're giving Builders Club members a chance to show their support with their very own project: Eliminate Week. [Builders Club Eliminate Week](#) is a special week of spirit days and fundraisers to be held the week leading to Mother's Day, May 6–10, 2013. The project is a great way to raise funds for The Eliminate Project—and also teach members about planning, budgeting and other hands-on leadership skills.

Eliminate Week has two main components that should be fun for your Builders Club to put together.

1. Spirit days.

Combined with an assembly to educate the whole school about The Eliminate Project, a week of fun spirit days such as silly hat day, dress like a super hero day, or 80's day will get students revved up about the cause. Some spirit days have the potential to raise funds from sponsors too. For example, students could celebrate "Blue Friday" and receive donations from businesses for every student who wears blue on the special day.

2. A fundraising cart.

A decorated cart or wagon stocked with snacks and carnations is a great way to raise awareness and funds for The Eliminate Project. After Builders Club members receive permission to set up the fundraiser, they'll also learn about budgeting, planning and leading a project.

Be sure to check out the new landing page on the website for up to date news:

www.BuildersClub.org/EliminateWeek. In our next issue we'll share an easy-to-use guide for your club to help plan your events.

Building Up Builders Club



Recruiting new members doesn't just happen in August. Keep the momentum going throughout the year! Here are a few ways to keep the door open—and the club inviting—for new Builders Club members.

Projects

The best way to recruit members is through service projects at school. When other students see how much fun Builders Club members are having, they'll be interested in joining your club. After an event, make an announcement about having a (spring) semester call out meeting. This will make potential members more comfortable about joining later in the year.

Name recognition

No matter who we are or how old we are, we all love to see or hear our names. If you make agendas for your meetings, take time to mention new members. Say new members' names out loud at meetings and recognize them with a special treat or membership pin if you don't host a new member ceremony.

Buddy system

Friendship is one of the main reasons students stay in a club. To boost your club's fellowship factor, try implementing a buddy system where everyone has a partner. This could make taking attendance at meetings more fun. Most importantly, if you have any new members, it could instantly give them friends within a club and make them want to stay.

Additional incentives

Sometimes, just having your friends within a club just isn't enough. Try adding in additional incentives such as a point system where members can earn points by attending meetings and doing service projects. At the end of the year, members can cash in their points for prizes and treats.

New Year's resolutions: Continue the chain reaction

In the [December issue of the BC Wire](#), we talked about creating New Year's resolutions with our members that can really make an impact. Here are some tips for starting a movement—and keeping it going throughout the year:



Write it down

Ask each club member to choose a resolution—and put it in writing. Encourage students to think about resolutions that are in line with [Builders Club's core values](#).

Round them up

Ask a club officer to collect each member's resolution.

Engage the club

Once all of the resolutions are collected, do something fun with them, like creating a flipbook that you can refer to during your meetings to see if students are keeping up with them.

Make them real

Offer an incentive program for students who continue to follow through on their resolutions. At the end of

the school year, recognize students who reached their goals with a few “grand prizes.”

Teens for Jeans

Did you know that in the United States there are 1.7 million homeless teens? The No. 1 item homeless teens request from shelters is a pair of jeans. DoSomething.org is teaming up with teen clothing store Aeropostale for its sixth annual Teens for Jeans program to help fill that need. During the past five years, DoSomething.org has helped to collect more than 2.5 million pairs of jeans. Find out how your club can get involved at www.dosomething.org/teensforjeans.



1.7 MILLION TEENS ARE HOMELESS

The #1 item they request from shelters is a pair of jeans and you can help

Valentine's Day

Who says tweens are too old for Valentine's Day? Try these ideas with your club.

Show your love

Jennifer Robb of the New England district wrote on the [Builders Club Facebook page](#) looking for a project to give back to victims of Hurricane Sandy. After some ideas were thrown around, one of the final ideas was to host a carnation sale during the holiday week with the title “Showing love after Hurricane Sandy.” Think of the possibilities. Your club members could “show your love” to so many different organizations just simply by selling carnation flowers.

Dance with seniors

Why not host a Valentine's Day dance at your local nursing home? Or scale back the project by making decorations to spruce up the place. Try handing out these adorable [Swedish fish treat bags](#) as mentioned in the last BC Wire.





From books and articles to videos and personal interactions, different things inspire us every day. Every month, a few of those inspirations will be gathered here in the Idea Oasis.

ARTICLE [The Effects of ebooks on young readers](#)

Kids age 6-17 and their parents [share their views on reading](#) in the increasingly digital landscape and the influences that impact kids' reading frequency and attitudes toward reading.

PROJECT [One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish](#)

What is your club doing for Dr. Seuss's birthday in March? After going on an adventure through storytelling, kids will start to work up quite the appetite. Try a [simple and cute idea for a snack](#) that just takes some blue Jello in individual cups with a few Swedish Fish inside and you have yourself a Seussical piece!

PROJECT [Need more service project ideas?](#)

Coming up with new and easy-to-implement service projects can be quite the task. There are [great websites](#) all over the internet created for just that situation! Don't forget about teaming up with K-Kids or Key Club for a project.

Have you stumbled across any good articles, projects or videos lately? Send them to Nicole Harris at nharris@kiwanis.org to be shared with the rest of Builders Club.



Mark your calendar and plan to check out these upcoming Kiwanis webinars:

[January 15: Developing leaders](#)

In order for your Kiwanis club to be successful you need leaders. Learn how to identify and develop leaders for your Kiwanis club.

[Click to register.](#)

[February 5: Fulfilling SLP sponsorship](#)

Sponsoring a Service Leadership Program club, such as Key Club or K-Kids, is a bigger responsibility that just writing a check or sending one advisor to their meetings. Learn the ten basic obligations of SLP sponsorship, as well as tips for making the most of these responsibilities.

[Click to register.](#)

[February 12: Kiwanis One Day -- New ideas for public awareness and growth](#)

This day is a day of service, not fundraising. It is a day to help make our communities a better place for us all. Use this day to also make your community more aware of who, what and why we are Kiwanians – and proud to be members. Don't keep us a secret...

[Click to register.](#)

*Reminder: 2012–13 [Builders Club contests are now available on the website](#)



"Our chief want is someone who will inspire us to be what we knew we could be." —Ralph Waldo Emerson