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October 2013

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### Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF: Now's the time to make a difference!

Trick-or- Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF is our most important fundraiser of the year. It's the perfect opportunity for your Builders Club to make a difference in the lives of women and babies around the world as we work together to eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus. Just US\$1.80—less than a bag of Halloween candy—provides a series of three doses of vaccine, which protects a mother and her future newborns. Here's how your club can take part:

1. **Forgot to order boxes?** Don't worry! You can print out [Trick-or-Treat labels](#) or make your own displays to let everyone know about your club's activities or events and opportunities to donate.
2. **Have fun and save lives.** Babies with tetanus will never have a chance to go trick-or-treating. We can change that. Encourage your club members to raise money by collecting donations while trick-or-treating or [find new ideas and inspiration](#).
3. **Send in your funds.** When your fundraising is done, send a check or money order (payable to the Kiwanis International Foundation) and your completed [gift form](#) to:  
 The Eliminate Project: Campaign Office  
 Kiwanis International Foundation  
 3636 Woodview Trace  
 Indianapolis, IN 46268, USA  
 ATTN: Trick-or-Treat  
*Write your club name or club number on the memo line of the check*
4. **Get recognized.** If you submit US\$250 in Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF donations before Dec. 31, 2013, your club will earn a banner patch.



Thank you all you and your club are doing to help women and babies around the world. We need every Builders Club to help Kiwanis Service Leadership Programs reach our US\$3 million goal to save and protect more than 1.6 million moms and babies. Visit [www.TheEliminateProject.org/trickortreat](http://www.TheEliminateProject.org/trickortreat) or contact [campaign@theeliminateproject.org](mailto:campaign@theeliminateproject.org) for more information.

## It's family time

November is Kiwanis Family Month. What does your club have planned? There are so many things you can do in November to celebrate the shared values of the entire Kiwanis family. Plan a joint service project with members of your sponsoring Kiwanis club, or nearby K-Kids and Key Clubs. Promote The Eliminate Project. Invite a new member into your club. Get the word out about all the amazing work you do every day for your community and the children of the world.

## Spice up your meetings

Check out these tips and spice up your club meetings.

- Start the meeting with a quick **icebreaker activity**. [Here is a great resource](#) to get you started, or search the web for "icebreakers for youth."
- Plan a **simple service project** for each meeting, or brainstorm an ongoing project that members can contribute to at each meeting.
- Find **engaging guest speakers**.
- **Brainstorm with club officers**. Who knows better what members will find exciting than their peers?



## Play with your food

With the holidays approaching, everyone is planning a food drive. So, haul out the boxes, make an announcement and... WAIT! Let's mix it up a bit. Sure, we want to help feed the hungry, especially at this time of year. But can't we make our projects a little more exciting? Check out these ideas:

1. Connect with a food bank to find out what its needs are, then set a deadline for collections. **Divide the school into teams**. This could be by homeroom, or first period class. Figure out what makes sense for your school.
2. **Challenge each team** to build something creative with the food they collect. For example, teams could create towers, robots or landmarks. Then add in some competition: Have students compete for the tallest tower, wackiest robot or most realistic rendition of a landmark. Use your imagination to come up with a contest idea that will engage the entire school.
3. **Ask school staff or Kiwanis members to serve as judges**. Members can brainstorm judging criteria and contest rules. For example, you may allow a certain amount of cardboard or other support materials for each sculpture. Remember, the food will be donated after the contest, so be sure to emphasize keeping all of the packaging in perfect condition during construction and deconstruction.
4. **Have a prize ready for the winning student, group or class**. Or give multiple prizes for different categories such as most creative or most food used.
5. Finally, **members get to deliver the food** to feed people who really need it. What an exciting journey that food has made!

Don't forget to publicize your contest with:

- **Announcements** leading up to the start of the contest.
- **Fliers** outlining contest rules and showcasing prizes.
- **Daily updates** during the collection and building period (such as a countdown to "judgment day").

## Check it twice

The school year is well under way! Here's a checklist to help you make sure your club is up to date:

- Get your stuff! Renew online and get your club's program kit. Review these materials when they arrive. Kiwanis advisor: Don't forget to pass materials along to the faculty advisor.
- Set your budget for the year.
- Plan your club's calendar including a meeting schedule and goals for the year.
- Review club bylaws.
- Complete elections and committee appointments. Train club officers about their roles and responsibilities. Hold club officer installation.



For more details about each of these refer to the advisor handbook (two copies arrived in your program kit—one of the Kiwanis advisor, one for the faculty advisor). You can also check out the [advisor resources section](#) of the Builders Club website.

## Dates and deadlines

<b>Now</b>	<a href="#">Renew your club!</a>
<b>October</b>	<a href="#">Bullying prevention awareness</a> month
<b>October 23</b>	<a href="#">National Save Day</a>
<b>October 31</b>	<a href="#">Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF</a>
<b>November</b>	Kiwanis Family Month
<b>November 4–8</b>	<a href="#">Key Club week</a>
<b>November 23</b>	<a href="#">Family Volunteer Day</a>
<b>November 28–29</b>	Kiwanis International office closed for Thanksgiving

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From books and articles to videos and personal interactions, different things inspire us every day. Every month, we share a few of those inspirations in the Idea Oasis. Here's what's new this month:

### ARTICLE [The art of managing middle school students](#)

“Squirrels. That is what they remind me of. We were all that age once and we were all just like squirrels! Have you ever watched a squirrel? Zoom, freeze for two seconds, flick tail and repeat. Read the [full post](#) for tips on keeping middle school students engaged.

### VIDEO [Builders Club \(Building leaders\)](#)

Don't forget about this great member recruitment resource: the Builders Club (Building leaders) video.

### SERVICE PROJECT

There are many people who could do with a little cheering up during the holiday season. Greeting cards are a great way to do that. Here are a few ideas you can share with your club.

- [Send Kids the World](#): Send Kids the World features kids with life threatening illnesses and injuries and enables you to reach out to them and send them encouraging postcards from all around the world.
- [Holiday Mail for Heroes](#): Each year the American Red Cross collects holiday cards for veterans, military families and active-duty service members. Learn how you can [get involved](#). Thanks
- [Become a Senior Angel](#): Create a more age-integrated society and positive attitudes toward aging and the lifecycle by providing members with positive contacts with a senior. Through regular correspondence, members will let them know they are remembered and cared about.

**“What wisdom can you find that is greater than kindness?” —Jean Jacques Rousseau**

Have you stumbled across any interesting or inspiring articles, projects or videos lately? Send them to Abby James at [ajames@kiwanis.org](mailto:ajames@kiwanis.org) to be shared with the rest of Builders Club.

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

**Recorded webinar:** [Youth protection guidelines and you](#)

Are you working with youth as a Kiwanian? If the answer is yes, you need to know Kiwanis International's Youth Protection Guidelines. Develop a better understanding of your responsibilities, best practices for working with youth and how to protect yourself and others from risky situations.

**October 22:** [Building membership one relationship at a time](#)

The key to growing our clubs? Building relationships in the community. Learn how to develop those relationships...by talking about the why, how and what of Kiwanis. [Register here.](#)

**October 29:** [Keeping score: Club improvement](#)

Every game has a score—it's how we know whether we're moving toward our ultimate goal. How does your Kiwanis club know whether it's becoming a vibrant, dynamic and indispensable part of your community? Learn what your club needs to know to keep score. [Register here.](#)



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