Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF: It's almost here!

October is right around the corner, and the fun is about to begin.

Is your club ready to join Kiwanis-family clubs around the globe for Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF 2013? The donations collected by your Builders Club will help eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus from the face of the Earth.

By now, hopefully, your club has selected its project for Trick-or-Treat, and you're ready to turn your plan into action. The next steps are:

1. **Set a goal.** After you determine your project, estimate what you'll raise then subtract your expenses. This is your fundraising goal. Motivate club members by sharing the number of lives they'll save.

2. **Get your supplies.** Do you have everything you need to host your fundraiser? Consider asking for donations from local businesses or even large chain stores. If you still need boxes, there’s still time to order them.

3. **Market your event.** Print out Trick-or-Treat labels or make your own displays, letting everyone know about the upcoming event and how they can donate.

4. **Submit your donations and get recognized.** Send your donations to the Kiwanis International Foundation along with The Eliminate Project gift form. If your club submits US$250 in donations for Trick-or-Treat, your club will earn a banner patch. Learn about other recognition opportunities.
The club renewal center is open

A new school year means it's time to register your Builders Club to ensure students have the updated materials they need for a great year.

- Send your US$150-per-club sponsorship fee to the Kiwanis International Office.
- Register your clubs at the Builders Club renewal center to prompt the mailing of program kits to your club. Kits include member pins, officer pins, cards, handbooks, certificates, posters and advisor resources.

Being a leader means being prepared. Get everything ready for another great Builders Club year. Renew now! And make sure the club advisors' contact details are current so they'll receive the email updates they need from Kiwanis International too.

The Kiwanis member services team can answer your questions and send additional supplies if you need them. Just call 1-800-KIWANIS, ext. 411 (USA and Canada), or email memberservices@kiwanis.org.

Keep youth safer with new guidelines

Kiwanis International's updated Youth Protection Guidelines go into effect October 1. Here's how you can prepare the adults who work with your Builders Club.

- **Kiwanis advisors:** Please familiarize yourself with these guidelines and share them with your faculty advisor. One big change is that all Kiwanis advisors must have a cleared background check. A check done through the school or host site will satisfy this requirement.
- **Faculty advisors:** Be sure your Kiwanis advisor knows the school's policies for adults working with youth.

Work together to ensure the safety of your members and yourself! To learn more about the Kiwanis Youth Protection Guidelines, visit www.kiwanis.org/youthprotection, or access the recorded webinar about the guidelines. By tuning in, you'll gain a better understanding of your responsibilities, develop best practices for working with youth and know how to protect yourself and others from risky situations. The Kiwanis member services team can also help: 1-800-Kiwanis, ext 411, or memberservices@kiwanis.org.

It's time to recruit

The beginning of the school year is the perfect time to recruit new members to your Builders Club. Encourage your club to hold a membership drive. Here are some tips for success.

1. **Remember: people join people.** It's likely most club members joined because they were asked by a friend. Encourage members to share their experience with friends and ask them to join.
2. **Establish goals:** How many members does your club need to accomplish its service goals for the year? Help your club set a realistic goal and then brainstorm how to get there.
3. **Do it!** Take action. Try these ideas: Hang posters, pass out fliers, make announcements about meetings, invite students personally, hold an ice cream social, do a mini service project during lunch (such as making bookmarks for the school library or a senior center). Be visible and show the school how exciting it is to be in Builders Club.

Food bank advocates win national challenge
Fostering a love of service in young students is one objective of Kiwanis’ Service Leadership Programs. When one Florida teacher showed students how their classroom lessons can impact real world issues, a story of initial disappointment, unwavering commitment and ultimately ecstatic success unfolded.

Joseph L. Carwise Middle School teacher and Top of the Bay, Florida, Kiwanis Club member Cindy Bowen began to offer Service Learning 101 as an elective course for members in 2009. This year’s lessons were put into action when the students entered a contest to advocate for a favorite cause.

First semester, a group of the students chose to support the Food Emergency and Services Team (FEAST) Food Pantry, conducting an annual school-wide food drive.

"The Carwise Middle School Builders Club students have made a huge difference in the fight against hunger in Northern Pinellas County, Florida," says Walter Anderson, FEAST Food Pantry’s executive director. "Over the past four years, they donated thousands of cans of food. Last fall, their food drive brought in over 3,000 items just as we were running out of food." Read the full story about how the Builders Club won a big prize to help FEAST Food Pantry.

Dates and deadlines

- **September/October**: Renew your club!
- **September**: Water quality month
- **October 31**: Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF
- **November**: Kiwanis Family Month

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** What critics don’t understand about gamified education
Gamification is the idea of applying typical elements of game playing to other areas of activity. Check out this article that clarifies what this means in education.

**VIDEO** Book domino chain
Check out the creative way that the Seattle Public Library promoted it's summer reading program while setting a world record.

**GRANT OPPORTUNITY** $500 Do Something Seed Grant
Is your club working to start a community action project or program? Do you need money to put your ideas into action? A $500 Do Something Seed Grant is given out every week to help young people implement their great ideas! Learn more.

"I don't know what your destiny will be, but one thing I do know: The only ones among you who will be really happy are those who have sought and found how to serve." — Albert Schweitzer
Have you stumbled across any interesting or inspiring articles, projects or videos lately? Send them to Abby James at ajames@kiwanis.org to be shared with the rest of Builders Club.

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.

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