

GIVING BACK

Creating Caring Communities

Promoting Volunteerism



- INTRINSIC/EXTRINSIC VALUE
- SELECTING OPPORTUNITIES
- CREATING A CULTURE WITHIN YOUR OWN FAMILY
- LEADERSHIP
- EXAMPLES THAT SHINE

“Happiness doesn't result from what we get, but from what we give”

Meg Domino, PhD, MCHES, 10-14

Ben Carson

START WITH YOUR END GOAL



THINK OF YOUR FAVORITE VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

What made your experience memorable?

What made the experience successful for you?

Why is volunteerism, giving back meaningful to you?

BENEFICIARIES



TARGETED GROUP

VOLUNTEERS THEMSELVES

**IMMEDIATE OR LARGER
COMMUNITY**

Intrinsic Value



SELF SATISFACTION

SOCIAL CONFIDENCE & COMPETENCE

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT/LEADERSHIP

CONNECTEDNESS & MATURITY

GRATEFULNESS & HAPPINESS

OPTIMIZED HEALTH

Additional Benefits



INCREASES MOTIVATION & AMBITION
WE ALL NEED HELP SOMETIMES
VALUE OF APPRECIATION
WAY TO BRING FAMILIES TOGETHER
UNIQUE CONNECTEDNESS
(NOT SPORTS, SCHOOL, PEERS)

What are you looking to achieve
with your family?



FAMILY CULTURE OF CARING

**SOMETHING BIGGER THAN/OTHER THAN 'SELF'
CHARACTER**

BUILDING PHILANTHROPIC SPIRIT

EXPERIENCE CONNECTIONS

APPRECIATION/GRATEFULNESS

GRACE & HOPE

REALIZATION OF ABILITY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

FAMILY TRADITION

FAMILY & GROUP VOLUNTEERISM

- **FAMILY VOLUNTEERISM**
 - GETS REPEATED
 - CONTINUED INTO ADULTHOOD
 - SPILLS INTO OTHER FAMILY TRADITIONS
- **YOUTH GROUP VOLUNTEERISM**
 - ENGAGING – A MUST-DO FOR MANY
 - CONNECTION TO PEERS THROUGH GIVING TO OTHERS
 - OFTEN ENDS WITH PROGRAM INVOLVEMENT
 - LESS OFTEN SPILLS INTO FAMILY, OR TRADITIONS

Added BENEFITS to GIVER



PRODUCERS vs CONSUMERS

ENTREPRENEUR-SHIP

NOT EVERY EXPERIENCE IS FOR 'US'

NOT ALWAYS ENTERTAINING OR COSTLY, FANCY FAR

LEADERSHIP

SOCIAL CONNECTEDNESS - INTRODUCTIONS

EYE CONTACT - HANDSHAKE

POISE - ABILITY TO ADAPT

PRESENCE - COMMITMENT

SENSE OF PURPOSE-DEDICATION

Things to Consider to Make it MEANINGFUL



SOPHISTICATION LEVEL
DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE
CONNECTED TO ABILITIES/INTERESTS
GRASP OF CONCEPTS

TIME-LIMITED, ONE-TIME, REPEAT

ENJOYMENT FACTOR & VARIETY



Develop a PLAN

*Decide as a family why
you each would
willingly take part*

Start with a Motto:

*“We make a living by
what we get. We make
a life by what we give”*

- **Brainstorm – all family members**
 - Why is this valuable to us?
- **What are we willing to commit?**
 - Time, \$, effort
- **What are our interests? Abilities?**
 - Age, gender, talent, passions
 - How can we include/not burden everyone in the family
- **Do we need to prepare anything**
 - Make contact with agency, set a date
 - Get materials
 - Being personally prepared

Pick ONE that appeals to everyone



School House Apartments:

- Cooking apple pies
- Decorating the packaging
- Writing a personal note
- Delivering to and socializing

Make it a Tradition

Next time it is someone else's turn to choose!!

Activities and Actions

MEANINGFUL CONTRIBUTIONS

YOUNGER CHILDREN

- Kids Care Club
- Food pantry
- Mother's helper
- Read to younger child
- Visit with elder buddy
- Make a family a meal
- Dog walk/pet sit
- Color a card/nature gift
- Lemonade for a cause
- Birthday gift/donation

OLDER CHILDREN

- Soup Kitchen
- Malta House
- Elder Buddy
- Animal Shelter
- Meal/deliver/visit
- Help a teacher set-up...
- Tutor for free
- Blankets, books, bikes
- Midnight run (NYC)
- Summer volunteering

Make a Connection!



Philanthropy with a TWIST

EDUCATIONAL

NATURE-ORIENTED

FAITH BASED

YOUTH GROUP

- Local non-profits (research them)
- NCCF
- Youth Services
- YMCA
- Chamber of Commerce
- Washington Carver Center
- Nature Centers
- Elder Centers/Staying Put
- Event-related efforts (Mikey Czech, MMRF, etc)
- Cross-cultural /international
(Skype)



International Experience

Integrating educational and philanthropic elements into travel

Find one that already exists

Humanitarian Outreach

Indigenous

Eco-Tourism

Social & Environmental

Conservation (USA)

- Preparation element – shots, visa, fundraising
- Cross-cultural experience – language, history
- Finding things for everyone to take part in
 - read to babies
 - play with children
 - Photography
 - Teach and work in field
 - Micro-Finance
- Talk about ups and downs, wonder and fears – scrap-book
- Continue the experience from home
 - revisit – reconnect by Skype,
 - make personal connection, gift
- Honoring everyone's interest
 - Vacation experience within
 - Travel and safari
 - Entrepreneur experience

How to Encourage Youth to Volunteer



RESEARCH IT

ASK THEM – FEEL SPECIAL

HAVE SOMEONE ELSE ASK THEM

RECOGNITION

BE A GOOD MODEL

Make it fun – repeat it – talk about it.

Common Barriers to Success

What can diminish the experience?



OVER SCHEDULING

UNFAMILIAR CIRCUMSTANCES

AGE-DIFFERENCE/INTEREST OF KIDS

NEED TO MAKE IT BIG

LACK OF A PLAN

GIVING UP

A Few Ground Rules



TEAM EFFORT – FAMILY CONSENSUS
NO QUITTERS OR COMPLAINERS
TECHNOLOGY-FREE
BE CONSCIOUS OF REWARDS
SWITCH IT UP – VARIETY
EVALUATE THE EXPERIENCE TOGETHER

LITTLE BITES – Start Small



ONE-SIZE does not fit all

Need not be weekly, monthly

Don't force it, but don't forget it

If your aim is to strengthen family, keep it in the family

Don't Strive for PERFECTION

Remember your END GOAL

Promoting the EXPERIENCE gives them the basics

You will know when you SUCCEED



WHEN THEY TALK ABOUT IT LATER
(EVEN IF THEY GIVE YOU GRIEF)

WHEN THEY WANT TO RETURN

**WHEN THEY WANT TO REPEAT
OR MIX IT UP**

“oh, yeah, mom and dad are having us bring our favorite (unopened toys) to some kids who really need them” (your younger kids)

“We did these really cool projects as kids that really made me think about what I want to do with my life, and the importance of ‘paying it forward’” (older kids)