

100 HOURS OF COMMUNITY IMPACT

2018 is the 100th anniversary of Rover Scouting (now Explorer Scouts and Scout Network for us in the UK). To celebrate, we're inviting you to make a difference in your local community. Through the ages, community impact has been an important part of Scouting. Whether working individually, or as a team, 100 hours of community service can make a real impact. It should also be a meaningful experience for you, and hopefully enjoyable too.

WHAT IS COMMUNITY IMPACT?

Community impact is voluntary work done to benefit others. It is often done near to home, so that your local community benefits from your work. It's essential to look into the needs of your local community to make sure the work you do will make a positive difference.

There are so many benefits to participating in community impact work, both for you and for others. For example:

- it gives you the chance to help others and improve your community
- it's a great way to meet new people and make friends
- it gives you skills for life
- it's excellent work experience and a good opportunity to learn more about particular jobs
- it strengthens your CV and/or Personal Statement

WHAT ARE THE NEXT STEPS?

First off, you'll need to decide what cause you'd like to support. Is there a cause or a group of people you are particularly passionate about?

It's important to identify the need within your community, and to consider the issue within a local, national and international context. It may be useful to speak to charities that focus on your chosen issue. Scouts work with a number of charities through A Million Hands (amillionhands.org.uk).

What skills would you like to gain? Many community service activities can help you gain skills, ranging from teaching to construction to budgeting, and more. If there is a particular skill you'd like to learn for your future (or just out of personal interest) you may want to see if there is a community service activity that helps you learn that skill.

SOME SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES

- participate in a charity race
- organise a charity auction
- help register people to vote
- help deliver meals and gifts to patients at a local hospital
- organise some games and activities you might do in Scouting for children in hospitals or who are visiting hospitalised relatives
- coach a youth sports team
- organise a reading hour for children at a local school or library
- teach computer skills to the elderly
- organise a family day for residents of a retirement home and games they can play with their relatives
- create dementia friendly signage for your community
- create a place of reflection for people to spend time
- become a Dementia Friend
- carry out an access survey to highlight areas in the community that might not be as inclusive as they could be
- run an activity with a younger section about a certain part of the Programme



- start an allotment in your community
- help create a new walking trail at a nature centre or park
- participate in the clean-up of a local river, pond, or lake
- build and set up a birdhouse
- volunteer at a soup kitchen
- collect and donate non-perishable food to a food bank
- prepare a home-cooked meal for the residents of a nearby homeless shelter
- repaint community fences
- plant flowers in bare public areas
- organise a campaign to raise money to buy and install new playground equipment for a park
- produce a local newsletter

