



# Making an Impact on Your Community

## (45 minutes)

**Relevance:** Club presidents are responsible for ensuring that their club includes needs assessment, planning and implementation, and evaluation as part of every service project and activity.

### ***Option 1: Idea Exchange***



Idea exchanges work best with topics that participants have experience with. A training leader facilitates discussion, ensuring that all participants have a turn to speak and that no one dominates the discussion. The trainer can incorporate an activity at the end of the session so participants can apply the ideas discussed. Idea exchanges work best when seating is arranged in a U shape.

### **Learning Objectives**

- Identify new approaches your club could take to involve more Rotarians in service projects.
- Learn about ways to involve the community in planning and conducting a service project.

### **For the Trainer**

#### **Before the session:**

- Review the resources listed below.
- Review the activity options below and choose the one that will work best.
- Review slides 63-66. Decide which ones you will use, make edits or additions, and think about when you will show each one.
- Make sure you have the necessary materials: flip chart, markers.

#### **During the session:**

- Review learning objectives with participants at the start.
- Refer participants to the resources below.
- Use the discussion questions below to facilitate idea sharing among participants.
- Finish the session with one of the activities below to help participants apply the information learned.

### **Resources**

Chapter 8 of the [\*Club President's Manual\*](#): Supporting Service

[\*Communities in Action: A Guide to Effective Projects\*](#)

[\*Community Assessment Tools\*](#)

[\*Rotary's Area of Focus\*](#)

[How to Start a Service Project](#) e-learning module

## Discussion Questions

- What is your club's signature project (one your club is most known for in the community)?
- Do your club service projects make you proud?
- Do your service projects attract new or potential members?
- How does your club benefit the community?
- About how many people benefited from your club's projects last year?
- How could you tweak projects to affect more people?
- What are innovative ideas you want to try for projects?
- How can you involve more club members in service projects?
- What is a needs assessment and why is it important?
- How did your club assess the needs of the community for its most recent project?

## Activities

Choose one of the following activities:

1. Ask participants to share a local service project their club has undertaken and record the projects on a flip chart. Then have participants put a mark beside one project they are interested in hearing more about. Have the participant whose project drew the most interest answer these questions (see slide 66):
  - a. How did you know your community would benefit from this project?
  - b. How did your club decide to take on this project?
  - c. Did your club partner with another club or organization?
  - d. How long has your club been working on this project?
  - e. What lessons have you learned that you can apply to other projects?
2. Ask participants to share with the person next to them details about a service project they are proud of. While one person is taking about a project, the other should either take notes or draw a picture portraying the project. Allow each person to share for 5 minutes. After 10 minutes, the members of each pair can introduce each other's service project, either to the large group or to another pair, using the notes and/or drawings.
3. Ask participants to think about what their club is known for in the community. Then have them think about what they want their club to be known for. (For example, your club is known for the pancake breakfast but wants to be known for humanitarian service.) Have participants share their ideas with the group. Give them time to work on a plan for their club to become what they envisioned.

*Note: Allow time to cover any district or regional issues pertaining to this topic.*



# Making an Impact on Your Community (45 minutes)

## Option 2: Speedmeet



Speedmeet sessions allow for a series of timed one-on-one conversations in which participants share ideas and network. The room can be configured in a U shape or with a line of tables and chairs on both sides.

## Learning Objectives

- Network and share ideas on projects.
- Learn about other successful club projects.
- Build relationships for future collaboration on projects.
- Find five people to collaborate with on projects during the year.

## For the Trainer

### Before the session:

- Read chapter 8 of the [\*Club President's Manual\*](#): Supporting Service.
- Consider the set-up/activity from the options below that will work best.
- Encourage participants to bring business cards to the session.
- Choose the speedmeet activity below that will work best.
- Review slides 67-70. Decide which ones you will use, make edits or additions, and think about when you will show each one.
- Make sure you have the necessary materials: timer.

### During the session:

- Review learning objectives and logistics of the session with participants.
- Refer participants to the resources below.

## Resources

Chapter 8 of the [\*Club President's Manual\*](#): Supporting Service

[\*Communities in Action: A Guide to Effective Projects\*](#)

[\*Community Assessment Tools\*](#)

[\*Rotary's Areas of Focus Guide\*](#)

[How to Start a Service Project](#) e-learning module

## Discussion Topics

- Starting a project
- Conducting a needs assessment
- Signature projects
- Engaging members in projects
- Partnering with other clubs

- Evaluating projects
- Budgeting

## Activities

Choose one of the following activities:

1. **Timed speedmeet:** Arrange tables and chairs in a line or U shape and have participants sit across from one another to discuss topics (see above and slide 69). Every three minutes, participants on one side of the table will move one chair to the left or right to face a new partner, while those on the other side will remain in their seats.

The training leader keeps time and indicates when to switch partners. The trainer can announce a new topic every 15 minutes or can instruct participants to discuss any of the topics above. Consider using the last 10 minutes for participants to share the ideas they've heard and how they plan to use those ideas.

2. **Open networking speedmeet:** Set up the room up with plenty of open space to allow participants to walk around. Give each one a worksheet with a nine-square grid containing a topic in each square (see sample below). Have participants think of a question about each topic and then walk around the room seeking people to answer one of their questions.

In this speedmeet, interactions are not timed, so participants must manage their own time and try to cover as many topics and meet as many people as possible. Each person records topics covered on his or her own grid. Consider using the last 10 minutes for participants to share the ideas they've heard and their experience in networking. (Show slide 70.)

Project ideas	Needs assessment	Resources
Signature projects	Volunteers	Planning a project
Implementing a project	Partnering with another club	Avenues of Service

*Note: Allow time to cover any district or regional issues pertaining to this topic.*