

**Let SERVICE  
Light the Way...  
*the rewards are  
worth it!***



Linda Ring and Penny Eldridge  
District Service Committee Co-Chairs  
Altrusa District One Workshop 2025

# Where does SERVICE Light the Way?



to Leadership



to Better Altrusa Name Recognition



to Collaborations



to Increased Membership



to New Connections

But  
How?

# ... LEADERSHIP!

Document your project. Newcomers can follow the project guidelines as described in the past

Offer to co-host a project with someone who's done it for years – On the job training

Take someone under your wing and mentor them throughout the project

**STEP OUTSIDE YOUR COMFORT ZONE –**  
The rewards are worth it!



...Better  
Name  
Recognition

PUBLICITY

- Create an event on Social Media
- Do you belong to the Chamber?
- High School Guidance Counselor
- Other non-profits in your area
- Newspaper article



# PUBLICITY

Find this on the [SERVICE webpage](#)



## 10 WAYS TO ADVERTISE YOUR SERVICE PROJECTS



Announce it on your social media page



Create a Facebook event



Submit newspaper articles



Display flyers at local libraries & businesses



Write letters to businesses & potential donors



Place ads in local magazines



Present to other civic groups



Create & share a service calendar



Wear the Altrusa logo & a smile & tell people!

Announce it on a local radio station or podcast



# ... COLLABORATIONS

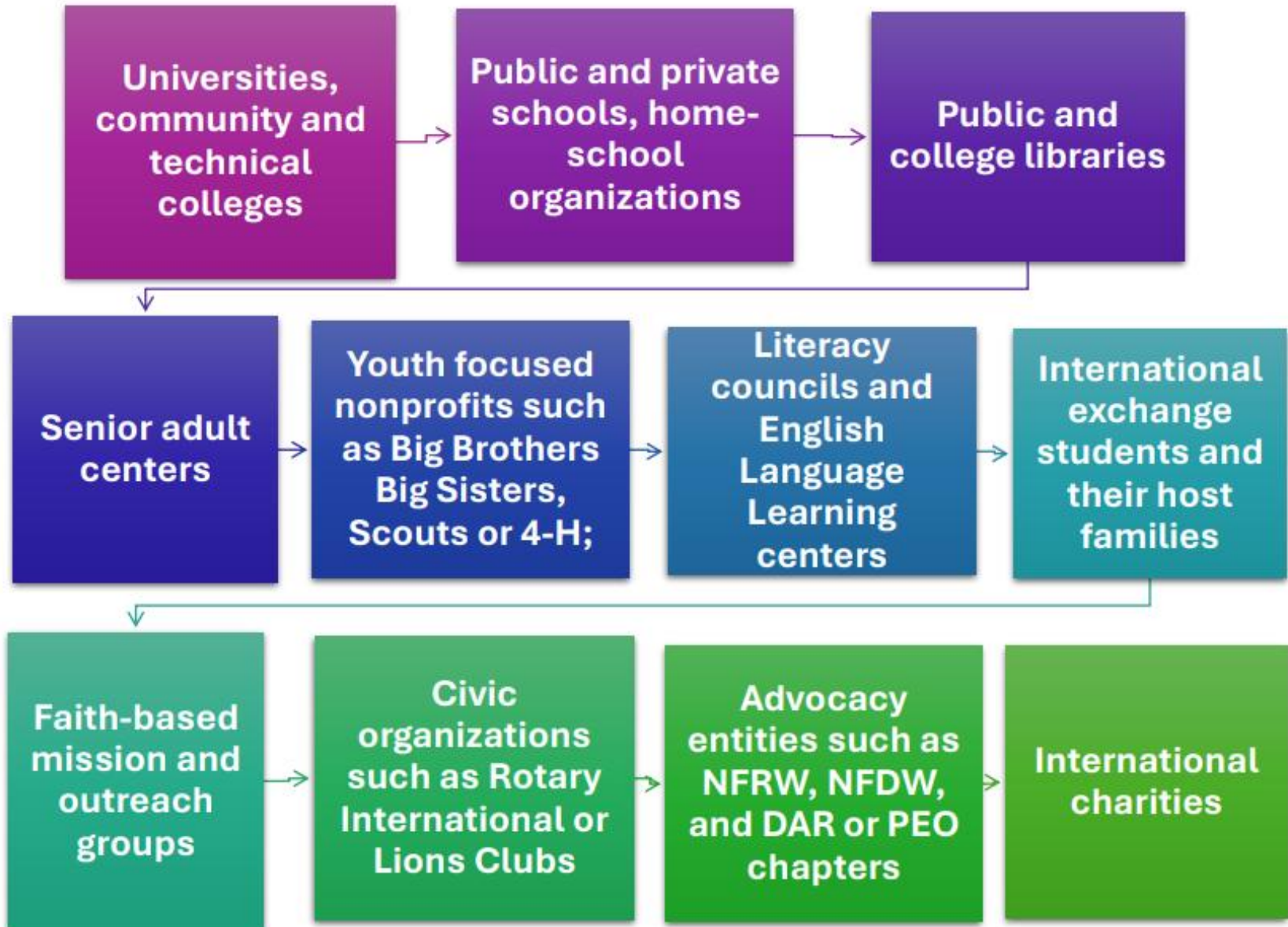
- Have an idea but not enough hands to make it happen? Ask for help!
  - Lions, Rotary, Elks, Civitans, Soroptimists
  - Breast Cancer Center employees
  - Members of other organizations
- Volunteer to help another organization
  - Manage a booth
  - Direct cars for parking at an event
  - Cut Apples for fritters/pies
  - Clean fruit for a Strawberry Fest
  - Volunteer to “shush” along cars at a holiday light display





# All clubs have potential collaborators

## Have you considered any of the following?





# ... INCREASED MEMBERSHIP

- If they have joined you to volunteer, you only have to ask them to become members.
- If not now... maybe later!
  - Keep them on your 'ask me again' list!
- If you build it, they will come!
  - And they will want to join you.



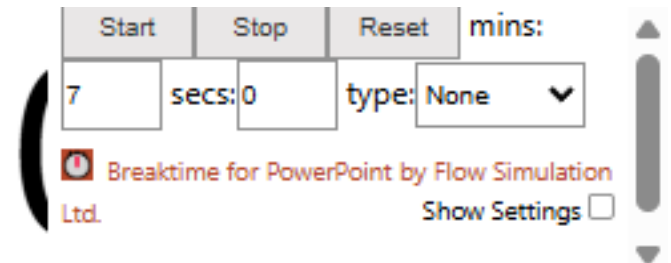
# ...New Connections Service Project Match-up



- +
  - **Purpose:** Connect with someone new, discuss service project ideas, and celebrate the heart of service!
- Each of you has a card — either a *Type of Project* or a *Community Need*.
- Find someone whose card pairs well with yours!
- Discuss for 5–7 minutes:
  - What project has your club done that connects to this theme?
  - What project COULD your club do to address this theme?
  - What worked well, or what would you try differently?
  - Dream big as if time and budget weren't an issue!
- Be ready to share one great idea or takeaway!

# MAKE A CONNECTION

- **Discuss for 5-7 minutes:**
  - What project has your club done that connects to this theme?
  - What project COULD your club do to address this theme?
  - What worked well, or what would you try differently?
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Share your ideas  
from  
Service Project  
Match-Up

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What are  
Altrusa International's  
targeted projects  
for this biennium?

# Altrusa International Literacy Challenge One Book at a Time – Part III



- Distribute 1 Million and 1 books throughout the world and/or
- Devote 500,000 literacy service hours to our communities during the 2025-2027 biennium

**How will your club contribute?**



# Days for Girls



**Help us send menstrual products around the globe!**

**More than 25% of menstruators today do not have what they need to manage their periods – that's over 500 million people worldwide.**

**At Days for Girls, we envision a world where menstruation is never a problem – period.**

**DaysForGirls.org**

**Days for Girls is Turning Periods into Pathways!**





# Days for Girls Resources



## DfG Information

Did You Know?

[Learn More](#)

Why Periods?

[Learn More](#)

Social Enterprises

[Learn More](#)

Where Does DfG Operate?

[Learn More](#)

DfG Pad

[Learn More](#)

Health Education

[Learn More](#)

DfG Facebook Page

[Learn More](#)

DfG Webpage

[Learn More](#)

## DfG Media Resources

DfG Blog

[Learn More](#)

DfG Podcast

[Learn More](#)

DfG Videos

[Learn More](#)

DfG In the News

[Learn More](#)

DfG Media Kit

[Learn More](#)

Join DfG Newsletter

[Learn More](#)

## Ways to Volunteer & Donate

Ways to Get Involved

[Learn More](#)

Ways to Give

[Learn More](#)

Altrusa CARES Campaign

[Learn More](#)

Other Ways to Support

[Learn More](#)

## Impact

DfG Annual Reports

[Learn More](#)

Impact Partners/Zones

[Learn More](#)

[Learn More](#)



# ASSIGNMENT



**GOAL #1:  
Encourage  
each club to take on  
one NEW service  
project  
this biennium.**

- Choose a NEW project to address an unmet need in your community
- Choose a quick hit project from the list of [100+ projects that can be done in one hour](#)
- Choose a project that won an award in the past

# Project Ideas shared at Convention

## Here are more ideas that are quick and easy to do!

- **Create bookmarks to go with donated books.**
- **Make sets of sight words for kindergarten classrooms.**
- **Make alphabet flash cards or books with pictures for beginning readers.**
- **Create a flyer for new parents encouraging reading to babies and add tips.**
- **Cut and pin fabric for simple book bags to be distributed with books. (Sew later.)**
- **Purchase large print magazines for senior facilities.**
- **Purchase Braille books for schools or libraries. Donate a Braille machine to a school or library.**
- **Collect and donate audio books for those who need them.**
- **Provide books to special needs campers.**
- **Collect books and provide a shelf for a small library at a shelter.**
- **Set up a book drive on Amazon to replenish books after a natural disaster.**

**Want more ideas that can be accomplished at a club meeting?**

<https://login.altrusa.org/files/2024/01/100-Service-Project-Ideas.pdf>



## Partnering makes a difference!



The project was funded by grants from the Altrusa International Foundation, Craighead County Community Foundation (CCCF) and Target. In-kind donations of bags from St Bernards Hospital, coloring sheets from Signature Bank, bookmarks from the Jonesboro Library, activity books from the Arkansas Secretary of State and refreshments from Success Credit Union and funds from their club's local foundation made the project complete.

Altrusans in Jonesboro, AR, were made aware by a counselor of the needs of children at Leadership Magnet School not being met by other community groups or agencies.

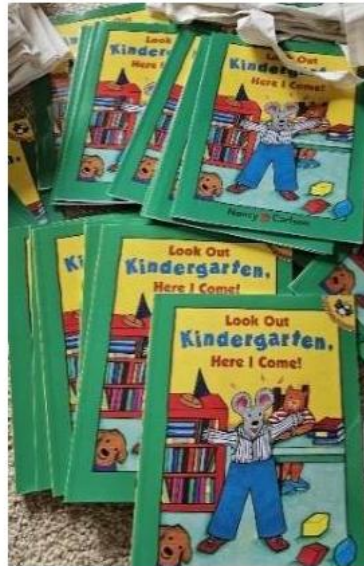
This project was designed to help improve the reading skills of the 100 second-grade students. Each time there was a school break the students were given two books, activity books and school supplies to take home.

### The books were:

- How to Catch a Turkey and How to Catch a Monster (Thanksgiving)
- Snowman Magic and How to Catch a Class Pet (Christmas)
- Doug the Pug and the Kindness Crew & Earth Day from the Black Lagoon (Spring Break)
- Giggle Giggle Quack and The Magic School Bus Plants Seeds (Summer)



## Literacy begins with our young ones!



Hutchinson, KS, Altrusans decorated 25 swag book bags and enclosed the book *Look Out Kindergarten, Here I Come* just in time for McCandless Grade School's Kindergarten Round-Up.

Altrusa International of Stillwater, Oklahoma, Promotes Literacy to Local Children by reading Christmas stories and giving books to Morrison Elementary's Pre-K students in December.



## Altrusa International of Fayetteville, AR, Inc. Projects for Scholars in Kenya and Tanzania

At a club meeting, members used paper, paint and markers to produce learning posters for teachers in a village in Kenya, who had few instructional materials.

The club's book donations helped stock the small library at the East Meru Community School in a remote village in Tanzania.





## Share books on those special days!

Mexico, MO, Altrusans read to students at McMillan School in honor of Earth Day.



Sikeston, MO, Altrusans participate in "Read Across America" and read *Ten Black Dots* to a Kindergarten Class

7:25 AM Thu Apr 3

facebook

Search



Altrusa International Bentonville / Bella Vista

Just now · 🌐

We love children's books of all kinds!! It's fun to see bi-lingual books! Celebrate Our World is our unique District Eight international service project. We celebrate the diversity of children in our community and will place these books where they will be enjoyed!! [Altrusa Service](#)



## Altrusa International of Bentonville/Bella Vista, AR, Inc.

### Bilingual Book Donations

Members of Altrusa Bentonville/Bella Vista provide bilingual books as one of their “Celebrate Our World” projects. The books were donated to Decatur Elementary School, where half of the youth are ELL (English Language Learners) students.



Altrusa International of Mexico,  
MO, Inc.

## ELL Movie Day

For several years the club has hosted a movie event at Mexico Cinema III for Altrusa ESL Movie Day. Hispanic children from public schools' English Language Learners classes, with teachers and families, were treated to free movies, with popcorn and soda furnished by the theater and Altrusa.

Each child leaves with a book and a smile!

This event is made possible by the generosity of the theater owner who is a past member.

Staying in contact with those past members is important!







**Digital literacy** is about a person's ability to use the internet, to use, access, evaluate, and communicate across digital platforms.

**Digital literacy** involves:

- Consuming
- Creating
- Communicating

**Digital literacy** is about knowing how to use digital technology safely and responsibly.

Recent research points to a growing need to equip children with the skills necessary to **use digital technologies safely and appropriately** and recognize when they might be in danger online.

## Financial Literacy Programs Make a Difference!

- A basic financial education encourages **better money management skills**, strong budgeting and spending habits.
- It promotes **fiduciary confidence** which can be passed down to children.
- Being financially literate makes people **less susceptible** to financial scams.
- Those with a higher level of financial literacy are **more likely to cope** with financial crises.
- Financial education helps to increase the likelihood of **becoming financially responsible**.

**Volunteers can tailor workshops** to address specific needs, ensuring participants gain practical insights. For example, sessions might focus on understanding financial statements or managing debt.

**Interactive methods** such as case studies and hands-on exercises make workshops more engaging. A workshop might include a simulation of real-world budgeting scenarios. Tools like Google Sheets for collaborative budgeting exercises provide practical experience in digital financial planning.





## Altrusa International of Hot Springs Village, AR, Inc. Pill Bottle Project



Collaborating with Matthew 25 Ministries, hundreds of **donated pill bottles** were distributed, along with needed medical supplies to hospitals and clinics in the Dominican Republic, Ghana, Haiti, Honduras, and several other countries. A local bank held a community collection box.



**Sorting 504 pill bottles** contributed by club members and the community. Imagine the fun game and social time this could be!



**Altrusa International of  
Mexico, MO, Inc.  
Clean Water in Malawi**

A donation was made to the *LifePumps Project* through the Columbia, Missouri, Lions Club to contribute to the availability of clean drinking water in Malawi, Africa.

# Sharing ideas from within District One

**Imitation is the  
highest form of  
flattery  
- Oscar Wilde**



# Mamie L. Bass Projects 2025

- **Fostering Family Hope – Central CT**
  - Fostering Family HOPE (FFH) has ongoing **needs for luggage as foster children transition into and out of homes.** FFH agrees that luggage and backpacks are a much better vessel for foster children’s belongings. The children are already in distress and providing them with a suitcase provides some dignity and self-esteem.
- **Foster Family Christmas Party – Carroll County, NH**
  - Altrusans provide a **holiday party for all foster families in Carroll County, NH.** All children from foster families as well as their parents are invited for an afternoon of fun activities, food and drink. Santa attends each year and gives an age-appropriate book to each foster child. There is hot cocoa, hot and cold snacks and a variety of activities to engage the children for several hours.
- **Altrusa Meals To Go – R.O.C.K – Meredith, NH**
  - “Meals to Go” program was launched to **alleviate food insecurity in the families within our school district.** Since then, the committee, the entire club membership, and volunteers from the community at large have prepared and packaged well-balanced meals for vulnerable families every month of the school academic year.



# Letha H. Brown Projects 2025

- **Books of their Own – Sanford/Springvale**
  - The Sanford-Springvale Altrusa Club is passionate about literacy, especially among the youth in our community. We wholeheartedly adopted this project because it not only achieved our desire of getting books into the hands of children, but it enabled us to connect with five other community-focused organizations. In addition, it allowed us to increase the visibility of Altrusa with a club project that involved most, if not all, of our membership. The icing on the cake was our ability to **give books to children which they selected and could reread at home with their family.**
- **Furry Tales - Seacoast**
  - *Furry Tales* **provided 58 bags, each containing a book, stuffed animal from the story and a blanket for each child to cuddle with.** These bags were delivered to the Children’s Head Start Program at Community Action Partnership of Strafford County (CAPS) in Dover, New Hampshire. Literacy impact lives.
- **A Book for Everyone- Getting Out There, Greater Biddeford-Saco**
  - The Greater Biddeford-Saco club takes great pride in its efforts for literacy. We continue to grow the ways we can serve the community one book at a time. 2024 was a much better year to “Get out There” as the Maine weather was cooperative. We **gave away a little over 3000 books and logged 500 hours in literacy service.** Our club has grown, and the new members want to be front and center at the book giveaways. They are excited about the literacy mission.



# ASSIGNMENT



## **GOAL #2:**

**Every club submit  
at least ONE project  
for District Awards  
each year of the  
biennium!**

- Select a project for award submission early!
- Use the Awards application as a guideline for planning
- Take notes as the project evolves
- Work together with other club members on the writeup
- Share the writeup with your district

# Where to find ideas?

## International Website / Resources

[\(https://login.altrusa.org/service/\)](https://login.altrusa.org/service/)

- 100+ Service Projects that can be accomplished in one hour
- Showcase Projects
- International Service Project Database



The screenshot shows the Altrusa International website. At the top left is the Altrusa International logo with the tagline "Leading to a Better Community". Below the logo is a photograph of a diverse group of people standing in a room, many holding books. A banner in the background reads "SPRINKLE KINDNESS". Below the photo is a blue bar with the word "Service" in white. At the bottom of the page, there is a section titled "ON THIS PAGE" with a list of links: "International Service Awards | Days for Girls Toolkit | Altrusa SOS Toolkit | Service Project Database | Service Project Toolkit | International Service Program Development Committee".

ALTRUSA International | Leading to a Better Community

Service

ON THIS PAGE

International Service Awards | Days for Girls Toolkit | Altrusa SOS Toolkit | Service Project Database  
Service Project Toolkit | International Service Program Development Committee

# Where to find ideas?



- District DSBs highlight projects
  - From the CLUBS page, choose District and look for News/Events
- Club Newsletters
  - Some clubs post their projects and newsletters on webpage





ANY  
QUESTIONS?





*Thank You*